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NEWSLETTER of the American Society for Legal History

Editor: Charles T. Cullen
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NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

Nominations of New ASLH Directors

A committee under the chairmanship of Professor Daniel J. Meador of the University of Virginia School of Law has been appointed to select candidates for the five directorships that will become vacant on December 31, 1974. The terms of Professors Joseph W. McKnight (Southern Methodist University School of Law), Covey T. Oliver (University of Pennsylvania Law School), Kathryn T. Preyer (Wellesley College), and Dr. John D. Cushing (Massachusetts Historical Society), will expire; the other directorship has not been filled since the resignation of Professor Arthur A. Maas in 1973.

Members are urged to communicate their suggestions to the committee, accompanied with biographical sketches of their nominees, and a statement concerning their qualifications to serve as directors. The committee will report its nominations to the secretary of the ASLH in October, and the election will be held in November 1974. Send nominations to Professor Meador, University of Virginia, School of Law, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903.

Committee Appointments for 1974-1975

President Herbert A. Johnson has announced the following appointments to committees of the Society:

Publications

Arthur R. Hogue, Indiana University, Chairman
Lawrence A. Harper, University of California (Berkeley)
Kathryn T. Preyer, Wellesley College
Hiller B. Zobel, Boston College Law School

Honors

John D. Cushing, Massachusetts Historical Society, Chairman
Paul A. Freund, Harvard Law School
Joseph W. McKnight, Southern Methodist University School of Law

Documentary Preservation

Leo Herschkowitz, Queens College, City University of New York,
Chairman

Documentary Preservation (cont'd)

H. Bartholomew Cox, National Archives
 Herbert T. Silsby, II, Silsby and Silsby
 Richard B. Morris, Columbia University

Membership

Milton M. Klein, University of Tennessee (Knoxville), Chairman
 James W. Ely, Vanderbilt University School of Law
 R. Randall Bridwell, University of South Carolina Law School
 John W. Pratt, State University of New York at Stony Brook
 Dorsey D. Ellis, University of Iowa College of Law
 Richard J. Schoeck, Folger Shakespeare Library
 Janet S. Loengard, Moravian College
 Jon Sutherland, San Diego State University

1974 Program Committee

Joseph W. McKnight, Southern Methodist University School of Law,
 Chairman
 Arthur R. Hogue, Indiana University
 Sue Sheridan Walker, Northeastern Illinois State University
 Charles R. Donahue, Jr., University of Michigan School of Law
 Kathryn T. Preyer, Wellesley College

1974 Local Arrangements

Maxwell H. Bloomfield, Catholic University, Chairman
 Mary F. Berry, University of Maryland
 Gerard W. Gawalt, Library of Congress
 Harold D. Langley, University of Maryland

1975 Program Committee

Hugh F. Bell, University of Massachusetts (Amherst), Chairman
 Simeon L. Guterman, Yeshiva University
 Richard Hellie, University of Chicago
 Morris S. Arnold, Indiana University School of Law
 John R. Aiken, State University College at Buffalo
 William H. Harbaugh, University of Virginia
 Jonathan Lurie, Rutgers University (Newark)
 Ralph V. Turner, Florida State University

Standing Committee on Conferences and the Annual Meeting

Charles M. Gray, University of Chicago, Chairman
 Sue Sheridan Walker, Northeastern Illinois University
 L. Kinvin Wroth, University of Maine Law School
 Lawrence M. Friedman, Stanford Law School
 Stanley I. Kutler, University of Wisconsin
 John S. Scarborough, University of Kentucky

Planning Committee on the American Revolution Bicentennial

Harold M. Hyman, Rice University, Chairman
 Henry J. Bourguignon, Department of Justice
 George M. Curtis, III, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
 Gerard Gawalt, Library of Congress
 Stanley N. Katz, University of Chicago Law School
 Richard B. Morris, Columbia University
 Catherine M. Tarrant, Houston, Texas

1974 Nominating Committee

Daniel J. Meador, University of Virginia Law School, Chairman
 Henry N. Ess, 3rd, Sullivan and Cromwell
 Morton Horwitz, Harvard University Law School
 Vernon Snow, University of Nebraska (Lincoln)

Life and Sustaining Memberships

The president of the ASLH proposed to fix life membership dues at \$300, and the Board of Directors recently approved this proposal by an overwhelming majority. Those who have become or are in the process of becoming life or sustaining members are:

Professor Dorsey D. Ellis, Jr.
 Professor William H. Harbaugh
 Dr. Paul J. Matte
 B. G. Ramsey, Esq.
 Whitney North Seymour, Esq.
 Professor Jon Sutherland
 Will Wilson, Esq.
 Professor Edward Martin Wise

Panel Discussion on Teaching Legal History

There will be an informal meeting of persons interested in the teaching of legal history at the Society's annual meeting in Washington this fall. Scheduled for 1 p.m. on November 1, the discussion will be organized around a panel composed of Stanley Katz, Morton Horwitz, David Flaherty, Wythe Holt, and Kitty Preyer. All persons now teaching legal history are urged to attend and possibly exchange syllabuses and bibliographies, as well as pedagogical ideas. For further information contact Professor Wythe W. Holt, Jr., University of Alabama, School of Law, Box 1435, University, Alabama 35486.

Pacific Coast Branch of ASLH Organized

The Pacific Coast Branch of the ASLH has been organized and their first newsletter has appeared. Professor Morris D. Forkosch of Gonzaga University School of Law has been elected 1974 president, and Professor John L. Roche of the University of San Diego Law School has been chosen secretary-treasurer.

The Pacific Coast Branch membership includes all ASLH members who are located in the states covered by the Pacific Reporter 2d, published by the West Publishing Company. A special committee has submitted by-laws for adoption by members of the branch, and a conference is being planned for this fall. Professor Philip D. Supina, Gonzaga University, Department of History, Spokane, Washington 99202, has been named chairman of the conference committee which has the task of choosing a date and place for the fall meeting.

CONFERENCES

The Conference on Aspects of New York Legal History

The conference was held at Queens College of the City University of New York on March 29 and 30. Approximately forty legal historians attended the sessions to discuss the 18th and 19th century legal history of the state. Joseph H. Smith (Columbia University School of Law), Douglas Greenberg (Lawrence University), Milton M. Klein (University of Tennessee), Philip Stebbins (Pennsylvania State University), and Herbert A. Johnson (Institute of Early American History and Culture) delivered papers. Bruce Wilkenfeld (Hunter College) and Edward Pessen (Graduate Center, City University of New York) commented on the papers. In connection with the meeting a special exhibit of legal documents and court records was displayed in the Paul G. Klapper Library at Queens College, and the participants in the conference were taken on a tour of the Historical Documents Collection. The meeting was organized by Leo Hershkowitz, director of the Historical Documents Collection and professor of history at Queens College.

English Plea Rolls (Post Script)

A checklist of Plea Roll Research in Progress, which was conceived as a follow-up of the Conference on the English Plea Rolls sponsored last spring by the ASLH and Northeastern Illinois University, has now been completed. The checklist has grown to include all persons working in British legal manuscripts. Those wishing a copy are asked to send \$2.25 to Sue Sheridan Walker, Department of History, Northeastern Illinois University, Bryn Mawr at St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60625.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowships and Grants

Professor George C. Rogers, Jr., editor of the Papers of Henry Laurens, has been appointed Visiting Research Fellow at Merton College, Oxford, for the Hilary and Trinity Terms of 1975. He plans to spend the time working on a biography of Laurens.

Herbert A. Johnson has been named recipient of a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies which will enable

him to take a leave of absence as editor of the Papers of John Marshall during the academic year 1974-1975. Dr. Johnson will spend the year working on volume two of the Holmes Devise History of the Supreme Court, which he is co-authoring with George Haskins.

Canadian Society Organized

The Canadian Society for Legal History was formally organized in 1973 and plans its first annual conference at the Learned Societies in Toronto on June 5-8, 1974. During the meeting, papers will be read on June 6 by Margaret A. Banks on "Sources, Tools, and Techniques of Legal Research-- Their Use for the Historian," and S. R. Peck, "A Lawyer's Use of History."

The purpose of the Canadian Society is to "promote the study of common law and civil law jurisdictions in Europe and North America together with comparative studies." Membership is \$2 per year, or \$5 for a three year term. The president is Professor Louis A. Knafla, History Department, University of Calgary. The address of the society is The Canadian Society for Legal History, York University Law Library, 4700 Keele Street, Downsview, Ontario M3J 1P3.

Survey of Teaching Legal History

A "Report on the Teaching of Legal History in American Law Schools," Nov. 20, 1973, has been submitted by Joseph H. Smith, Chairman, Legal History Section, Association of American Law Schools. The 66-page report contains the legal history and Roman law courses or seminars presently offered in American law schools. The name of the course is given as is the name of the professor teaching it, and a description of the offering in most instances. Copies may be obtained by writing Millard H. Ruud, Executive Director, Association of American Law Schools, One Dupont Circle, Washington, D. C. 20036.

International Law

The American Branch of the International Law Association and the American Foreign Law Association hold monthly luncheons together at the Lawyers Club, 115 Broadway, New York, New York, to hear comparative and international law speakers. For information contact James P. Beggans, Jr., 295 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10017.

COMMUNICATIONS

Research in Progress

Members of the ASLH have been slow to respond to past editors' pleas for information in this category and your new editor has

observed a continuation of this trend. I am including the following items from the newsletter of the Canadian Society for Legal History for your information about research being done in that country, but also as a suggestion of the kinds of things you should be submitting for inclusion in our newsletter if you indeed want this kind of information disseminated:

B. J. Halevy, York University Law Librarian, is working on a bibliography of Canadian law. Other members of the Canadian Society and their projects are: R. C. B. Risk, law and economy in mid-19th century Ontario; J. A. Clarence Smith, medieval teachers of civil and canon law; Robert Tittler, biography of Sir Nicholas Bacon (submitted for publication), and his article on Bacon as head of chancery from 1558 to 1579 is in U. of Toronto Law Journal, Winter 1973-74.

An ambitious project under the general editorship of Dr. J. H. Baker has been proposed by which an attempt would be made to film all available manuscripts, wherever situated of i) Year books, ii) law reports down to 1700, and iii) readings delivered at the Inns of Court. The filmed material will probably be made available on microfiche. . . . The General Editor of the project would welcome comments and suggestions in relation to these proposals. Communications should be addressed to: Dr. J. H. Baker, Librarian, The Squire Law Library, Old Schools, Cambridge, England.

Ottawa University Press will soon publish a bilingual "General Introduction to Private Law in Canada."

Max Planck Institute has published the first volume of a handbook on European legal history. Handbuch der Quellen und Literatur der neueren europaeischen Privatrechtgeschichte covers the medieval period. Volume two covering early modern history will be published later this year. Write the Institute at 6 Frankfurt/Main, Freiherr-vom-Stein-Str. 7, West Germany.