

# Washington Law Review

---

Volume 9 | Number 3

---

10-1-1934

## Proceedings of the 46th Annual Convention of the Washington State Bar Association Held at Tacoma, Washington, on August 3rd and 4th, 1934

anon

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.law.uw.edu/wlr>



Part of the [Legal Profession Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

anon, Editorials, *Proceedings of the 46th Annual Convention of the Washington State Bar Association Held at Tacoma, Washington, on August 3rd and 4th, 1934*, 9 Wash. L. Rev. 157 (1934).

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.law.uw.edu/wlr/vol9/iss3/4>

This Editorials is brought to you for free and open access by the Law Reviews and Journals at UW Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Washington Law Review by an authorized editor of UW Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [lawref@uw.edu](mailto:lawref@uw.edu).

ernors of the Washington State Bar to hold their sessions next year with the meetings of the Institute.

The Review takes this opportunity to add to that of the bench and bar, its whole-hearted support to the work of the Institute.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 46th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF  
THE WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION HELD  
AT TACOMA, WASHINGTON, ON AUGUST 3rd  
AND 4th, 1934

Three hundred and eighty-six lawyers and judges answered President O. B. Thorgrimson's call to order when the Forty-sixth annual meeting of the Washington State Bar Association was held at the Winthrop Hotel in Tacoma, Washington, on August 3rd and 4th, 1934. After a brief but gracious address of welcome by E. N. Eisenhower, President of the Tacoma Bar Association, and a response to the welcome by Alan G. Paine of the Spokane Bar, the convention settled down to enjoy one of the most successful and highly interesting meetings in its history

First in the order of business, Bert C. Ross, of Seattle, gave the treasurer's report, which was followed by the address of President Thorgrimson, who gave a general accounting of his stewardship in office, and outlined in brief some of the achievements of the various committees which were selected to make reports on special matters assigned to them.

John S. Robinson, chairman of the committee on Admissions to the Bar, then spoke on the subject investigated by his committee, describing the methods used in examining applicants, the number of questions asked, the gargantuan task of correctly grading the papers, and concluded his remarks with a comparison of the results of the late July bar examinations held in this state with those held in other states throughout the Union.

The report of the committee on Federal Legislation was read by Harry Jones, Chairman, in which there were reviewed some of the more important recent acts of Congress, including Federal Practice, Procedure and Jurisdiction, Interstate Commerce, regulation of the Securities Exchange Act, Labor legislation, Communications Act of 1934, Amendments to the National Bankruptcy Act, Agricultural Relief, and Taxation.

The report of the committee on the Selection of Judges and Activities in Connection Therewith, delivered by Elias A. Wright, Chairman, then followed, provoking from the members of the bar

one of the most lively discussions of the entire convention. The plan recommended by the committee proposed the appointment of Supreme and Superior Court judges, for terms of six and four years respectively, by a judicial commission consisting of ten members. The debate which followed resulted in a motion to refer the matter to the Board of Governors and Bar Committee on the Selection of Judges, for the purpose of framing the plan in the form of a bill, and referring the proposed bill to a referendum vote of the members of the bar.

The address of Charles A. Beardsley, of Oakland, California, entitled "The Functioning of an Integrated Bar" proved to be the highlight of the entire convention. The fearless and eloquent speech of Mr. Beardsley described the evolution of the Integrated Bar in California, its successes and disappointments, the disciplinary measures adopted to "clean the dirt from the gears of the legal machinery," the cooperation it was receiving from the Supreme Court of California, and the raising of the legal qualifications for the practice of law in that state, as a result of the activities of the Integrated Bar.

There followed next the report of the Committee on Unauthorized Practice of the Law, by Ewing D. Colvin, of Seattle, Chairman, in which he surveyed the activities constituting unlawful practice of law throughout the state by real estate, general insurance, bank and trust companies, and of notaries public, justices of the peace, and collection agencies, and devising ways and means of stopping such unlawful practice.

Lane Summers of Seattle, Chairman of the Committee on Free Legal Aid then submitted the report of his committee, which outlined the accomplishments of its members in offering gratuitous legal service to the poor and needy in communities throughout the state, and a plea for cooperation from members of the bar in carrying on this laudable program.

The proceedings of the first day of the convention were then concluded, followed by the annual bar banquet at the Hotel Winthrop in the evening.

The second day of the convention was commenced by the report of D. V. Morthland, of Yakima, Chairman of the Committee on Discipline and Disbarment. This gave rise to a heated discussion by the members present, in which they expressed their dissatisfaction in the matter of the recent reinstatement of a disbarred attorney. A motion was passed in this regard, authorizing the filing

of a petition for a rehearing in the case, in behalf of the Integrated Bar.

George Donworth then submitted the report of the committee on Law Enforcement, recommending the centralization of the police power by the state, and the abolition of many minor local enforcement agencies.

Alfred J. Schwappe of Seattle, made a short talk on the work of the Judicial Council.

The final committee report, and perhaps one of the most important was made by Tom S. Patterson, Chairman of the Legislative Committee. This report recommended the preparation and submission at the next Legislature of a new code for Justice Courts, embodying many new reforms in the number, qualifications, jurisdiction, and recall of justices of the peace; the abolition of the office of constable; an amendment creating a Washington State Patrol composed of local police officers drafted by executive order, and a return to the whipping post as a form of punishment for second felony offenders, and for crimes committed with force or violence. The recommendation of the whipping post as a form of punishment, evoked much comment from the floor, and resulted in a motion to submit the question to a referendum vote of the members of the bar.

Before adjournment, President Thorgrimson announced the appointment of Elmer Hayden of the Tacoma Bar as the president for the ensuing year, and after a short speech of acceptance by Mr. Hayden, the meeting was adjourned. Visiting members were then conducted through a garden tour of the Lake region, followed by an afternoon of golf and a buffet supper in the evening at the Tacoma Golf and Country Club.

---

## NOTES AND COMMENTS

### LIABILITY OF BANK ISSUING LETTER OF CREDIT WHEN GOODS FAIL TO COMPLY WITH DOCUMENTARY DESCRIPTION

The decision of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals (Ninth Circuit) in the case of *Continental National Bank v. National City Bank*<sup>1</sup> has reopened the question which received much attention in the legal and commercial periodicals following the writing of the opinions in *O'Meara v. National Park Bank* and

---

<sup>1</sup> 69 F (2d) 312 (1934).