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The Board of Governors Wants You to Know That—

anon

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The Board of Governors Wants You to Know That—

At the recent midyear January examinations 33 members were successful in passing the tests conducted by the Board of Law Examiners, and they were, accordingly, recommended for admission by your Board of Governors. The ceremony of their formal presentation to the court took place before the entire fifteen judges of the King County Superior Court, in connection with which Presiding Judge Hugh C. Todd delivered a splendid and helpful address to the group thus being admitted.

The Board of Governors is glad to welcome these additions to our professional ranks and is also pleased to be able to print elsewhere in this issue Judge Todd's address in full.

Admissions on Motion

We feel that the members of the Bar generally would be quite surprised to know the number of applications for admissions to the Bar of this State on motion where the applicant has been practicing in some other State.

In each such case the Board makes all reasonable efforts to ascertain his previous record and history.

In this connection the Board has recently recommended to the Supreme Court that the rules for admission on motion be amended so as to require the applicant to have had a residence within this State for at least ninety days preceding the filing of his application with the Board.

We understand that in some states there is a residence requirement of at least six months.

The purpose of such a requirement is to enable the Board to obtain more direct first hand knowledge as to the character and fitness of the applicant.

Prospective Meetings of the Board of Governors

The Board of Governors' meetings for the ensuing months between now and the date of the annual convention have been fixed as follows:

May—No meeting
June 12th at Kelso-Longview
July 10th at Seattle.

The purpose of the Board in holding a majority of its meetings at various places throughout the State, rather than at Seattle, is to enable the local administrative committees as well as the lawyers generally in the various communities to have the opportunity of discussing with the Board the various local problems with which they may be confronted; and in turn the Board derives a distinct advantage from an exchange of views with local attorneys as to questions of policy regarding the administration of the Bar organization generally.

Annual Convention

At its last meeting the Board accepted the invitation of the

Whatcom County Bar Association to hold the next annual convention in the City of Bellingham.

The date of the meeting is August 12th, 13th and 14th.

We trust that this meeting will not only be well attended but that the various committee chairmen will bear in mind to have their committee reports prepared in ample time.

The Board is not yet able to announce the details of the program or names of speakers.

Lawyers' Directory

In response to a quite general demand from lawyers throughout the State the Board decided at its January meeting to publish a new directory for the lawyers of the State, there having been none published since the year 1933.

We trust that the form of this directory will meet with your approval. It is the hope of the Board that this directory will be published annually. Its present publication was delayed in order to include therein the recently admitted members of the Bar who have just successfully passed the January examinations.

In anticipation of the publication of a new directory about a year hence the Board would be glad to receive any suggestions as to changes in the form or contents.

District Governor Elections

This year there are to be elections for members on the Board of Governors of the First and Fifth Districts.

Mr. Ross and Mr. Paine, members of the present Board from the First and Fifth Districts respectively, have each announced that they do not intend to seek reelection.

It is important that the choice of candidates to this position receive careful consideration by every lawyer in his District. Under the law nominating petitions must be on file in the Secretary's office on or before May 31. The date of the election is prescribed by rule (See Rules and Regulations for nomination and election procedure, pages 13 and 14) for June 15.

State Referendum on President's Proposal Regarding United States Supreme Court

The President's proposal regarding the change in the personnel of the Court was made in his message of February 5th. On February 12th the Board of Governors at its monthly meeting recognized a widespread demand for a referendum among the lawyers on this important question, and accordingly submitted the following question by mail ballot to each lawyer in the State:

"Are you in favor of increasing the personnel of the United States Supreme Court as proposed by President Roosevelt in his message to Congress of February 5th, 1937?"

In response to this the vote received was as follows:

Against	1601
For	370

Total votes received	1971
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The results of other similar referenda throughout the United States brought down to date of March 2nd are found in the American Bar Association Journal issue of March, 1937, at page 225, and as of that date all were opposed to the President's proposal.

An Outsider's View of the Accomplishments of Our Association

It is with pleasure that we call your attention to the very laudatory article on the accomplishments of the Washington State Bar written by Mr. Herbert Herley, the Editor of the American Judicature Society, and found in the issue of February, 1937, beginning at page 187.

We print the following excerpts therefrom:

"The Editor of this Journal has probably read more bar president's addresses than any other living person. It is his opinion that President L. R. Hamblen's address to the Washington State Bar assembled for its 1936 meeting is precisely what such an address should be. Most such addresses are well worth reading by every lawyer; this one is perfect in form and contents."

"Attention is directed to the fact that the address dealt with seventeen lines of activity and probably only three of them would have been available five years ago, and in a great majority of the states only one—legal education—would have been the subject of presidential comment. In Washington eleven years ago there might have been reference to legal education, and perhaps a perfunctory reference to discipline, but all the other sources of interest have emerged since, and most of them quite recently.

"Of the matters directly within state jurisdiction most progress has been made in legal education, unauthorized practice and bar integration. And the first two of these, like most of the other interests, are bound up with bar integration."

"He further expressed the opinion, now shared by many, that the time approaches when inclusive organization and self-governing powers will be achieved by the profession in every state."

REMINDER—SAVE THESE DATES

The Annual Meeting of the Washington State Bar Association will be held at Bellingham on August 12-13-14. Headquarters for the meeting will be at Bellingham Hotel. More complete details of the program will appear in our next issue.