

# Washington Law Review

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Volume 19 | Number 4

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11-1-1944

## Annual Meeting

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### Recommended Citation

William J. Madden, State Bar Journal, *Annual Meeting*, 19 Wash. L. Rev. & St. B.J. 221 (1944).  
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.law.uw.edu/wlr/vol19/iss4/5>

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# STATE BAR JOURNAL

*Published Quarterly by Washington State Bar Association*

EXECUTIVE OFFICES 655 DEXTER HORTON BUILDING  
SEATTLE 4, WASHINGTON

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## ANNUAL MEETING

The Washington State Bar Association held its annual meeting at Tacoma, Washington, on the 29th of September. In conformity with wartime conditions the events were compressed into a one-day session. More than four hundred lawyers from all parts of the state attended to make one of the most successful annual meetings that the association has had in recent years.

Awards of Merit from the Army and Navy were received by Mr. Mark M. Moulton, president of the association, who thereafter delivered the principal address of the morning session and one which was enthusiastically received by the gathering. The Honorable E. V. Kuykendall, president of the Superior Court Judges Association, conveyed the greetings of his group to the audience. Mr. S. Harold Shefelman of Seattle then gave a well-reasoned analysis of pending and recent legislation touching the post-war program of the federal government. Mr. Shefelman discussed the procedure which might be anticipated in the liquidation of government owned property and the problems of reconversion. After a report of the Legislative Committee, the proceedings were adjourned until after a luncheon which was given by the Tacoma Bar Association.

The afternoon session was given primarily to the reports of the various committees. Mr. Alfred J. Schweppe discussed the progress which had been made by the Statutory Code Recompilation Committee. A discussion of the measures being taken to combat the unauthorized practice of law was led by Mr. E. N. Eisenhower and a statement of the action which had been taken during the year by the Obituary Committee was made by Mr. C. F. Riddell. A principal address was then given by Mr. Otto B. Rupp, having as its subject "Stare Decisis in the United States Supreme Court." A joint session of the Washington State Bar Association and the Superior Court Judges

Association was held later in the afternoon and addressed by the Honorable Mr. Justice Sidney Smith, judge of the British Columbia Court of Appeals on "The Law of the Sea."

The annual bench and bar dinner, held that evening, was addressed by the Honorable Arthur B. Langlie, governor of the state of Washington, Mr. Tracy E. Griffin and Justice Roger J. Traynor, of the Supreme Court of California.

Mr. Frank E. Holman of Seattle was elected president of the association for the ensuing year and Mr. R. V. Welts of Mt. Vernon and Mr. F. A. Kern of Ellensburg were installed on the board of governors.

WILLIAM J. MADDEN, *Editor*,  
*Washington State Bar Journal*.

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### THE LAWYER'S CHALLENGE

*(Address of President Frank E. Holman)*

In accepting the presidency of the Washington State Bar Association at the annual meeting in Tacoma, I stated that a profession of the law is necessary to any ordered society, and particularly necessary in any form of society based upon representative and constitutional government—that if some cataclysm wiped out the whole of the legal profession overnight, a new group of lawyers must come into being so that the processes of ordered society might continue. The lawyer is the defender of the life, liberty and property of the citizenry, even as against the government or sovereign itself. No person may represent another in the courts except he be a lawyer, and without the lawyer the citizen in the protection of his rights would be without adequate advice and representation.

The lawyer's challenge ordinarily is and has been that of representing his client honestly and ably. It is, of course, always recognized in the ethics of the profession that zeal for a client's cause must not lead the lawyer to forget the basic obligation of every lawyer to uphold the integrity and the dignity of the law. From time to time events so develop in the field of government that the lawyer as an individual and lawyers as a class are brought face to face with movements or programs seeking to change the fundamental principles and processes of government. Then the lawyer's obligation transcends the matter of clients, and he faces the challenge of fearlessly and unselfishly rallying to the defense of our form of government as such. Many times these movements or programs get started without any recognition of their significance and for a time both private and public thinking are confused. Sometimes the events preceding a crisis in our affairs as a nation arise wholly within our own country. Sometimes, and that is particularly true now, foreign events and foreign influences have a direct impact on our national life and the future course and character of our government. The lawyer today, therefore, is under the double duty to advise himself not only with respect to domestic issues, but with respect to international problems. In both these fields the lawyer and the organized bar, in the whole history of the country, have never faced challenges of greater significance.

The lawyer cannot adequately meet these challenges without functioning through organized bar associations. In local and state affairs