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## Report of Federal Legislative Committee

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attorney renders and of those instances in which one definitely needs a lawyer's advice.

In closing, your Committee would like to express its opinion that if the Bar Association is able to curb the unlawful practice of the law, it will have done a great service to the public. The work in curbing this practice is not a selfish venture, but is an effort to save the public large amounts which are lost through faulty preparation of wills, deeds, contracts, and other legal instruments which are being drawn daily by persons who are not trained in the drawing of them. We should avail ourselves of this opportunity to render a valuable service to the public.

#### Report of Committee on Legal Ethics, by Frank E. Holman

During the year a great many oral decisions have been given, chiefly covering inquiries regarding insertion of cards by lawyers announcing the opening of offices and the beginning of practice. The younger members of the bar have shown a commendable attitude and desire to conform to the canons of professional ethics.

Upon the request of interested lawyers or upon complaint by other lawyers, the Committee has rendered a number of written opinions, most of which have involved the questions of "indirect advertising." During the course of the year it has been necessary to refer only two matters to local Administrative Law Committees for action.

Your Committee has had before it during the year only one complaint regarding legal fees. It has one matter pending and undecided involving a charge of "heir-hunting."

#### Report of Federal Legislation Committee, by Roy A. Redfield

There has been no occasion to call the Committee into actual session. Such business as was transacted was accomplished by correspondence.

The only matter referred to this Committee had to do with a proposal to make uniform the rules relating to admission of practitioners to the bar of the federal courts. A voluminous file was transmitted to the Chairman, containing recommendations as to this matter which were mainly negative. The view expressed therein was that there was so much difference in circumstances among federal courts in various parts of the country that it would be wisest not to attempt any uniform rules which should apply to all, but to leave the matter as it now is, under the control of the judges presiding in the respective districts.

This matter was presented to the members of this Committee and the literature forwarded to each. The matter was considered by every member of the Committee, and each member wrote his own opinion in a letter to the Chairman. The result of this canvass by mail was the unanimous opinion of the members of this Committee that the admission of attorneys to the federal bar should best be left to the discretion of the presiding judges in the respective districts.

The result of this action has been previously reported to the Board of Governors.

Your Chairman has discussed with the President of the Washington State Bar Association about whether it would be desirable for this Committee to initiate any projects or investigations of its own. Mr. Munter felt that the duty of the Committee would be fully performed if we were content to pass only on matters referred.

Report of Committee on the Retirement of Judges,  
by Alfred J Schweppe

In December of 1946 the Committee on the Selection of Judges circulated the bar with a postcard ballot, covering mandatory retirement of judges at the age of seventy-five. The ballot resulted as follows:

Total vote cast.....	942
In favor .....	753
Opposed .....	144
No opinion .....	45

The Committee on the Selection of Judges, which circulated that ballot, suggested a proposed constitutional provision carry compulsory retirement into effect in connection with an appropriate retirement plan to be established by the Legislature. That Committee accepted the view previously expressed by the State Judicial Council (to which the subject had earlier been referred for consideration) that the result could not be attained by legislation, but could only be carried into effect by constitutional amendment.

Our information is that it was the view of the Judicial Council that since Article IV of the state Constitution, relating to the judiciary, sets certain limitations on eligibility to the office of judge of the Supreme or the Superior Court, *viz.*, that a judge must have been admitted to practice law in the courts of record in this state (Article IV, Section 17), that he cannot hold any other office or public employment (Article IV, Section 15), and that he shall not practice law in any court (Article