

Washington Law Review

Volume 28

Issue 4 *Annual Meeting of the Washington State Bar Association*

11-1-1953

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W. Paul Uhlmann

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Recommended Citation

W. P. Uhlmann, *State Bar Journal*, *Report of the Committee on the Selection of Judges*, 28 Wash. L. Rev. & St. B.J. 272 (1953).
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.law.uw.edu/wlr/vol28/iss4/9>

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE SELECTION OF JUDGES

By W Paul Uhlmann

Other than an interim appointment, the only judge appointed by Governor Langlie since September 1, 1952, was Henry W Cramer, of Seattle, Washington, who was appointed July 6, 1953, to the Superior Court for King County to fill the vacancy created by the recent death of Judge Chester A. Batchelor. Your committee, and we are sure the Bar also, appreciate the cooperation of the Governor in making this appointment from a very recent list prepared by the King County Committee and cleared through your committee.

Following the 1952 meeting of the American Bar Association and at its suggestion, the Board of Governors of the Washington State Bar Association delegated to your committee the additional duty of assisting the American Bar Association in making recommendations for federal judicial vacancies. Accordingly, your committee has been working with the chairman of the American Bar Association's standing Committee on Federal Judiciary, Mr. Howard F Burns, of Cleveland, Ohio, and committee member Loyd Wright, of Los Angeles, California, particularly, in regard to the vacancy in the United States District Court in Tacoma. The duties of your committee in this phase of its activities seem to be generally two-fold: first, in advising the American Bar Association committee of qualified attorneys whose names originate with our committee or within this state, and second, in advising the American Bar Association committee with respect to names submitted by such committee. You will be interested in knowing that according to Mr. Burns the Washington State Bar Association was the first, and as of last December, the only state Bar Association to comply with this suggestion of the American Bar Association and thus provide for a direct liaison between the American Bar Association and the State Bar Association in the matter of said judiciary appointments.

The work of your committee has of necessity been carried on between its members throughout the state by correspondence and telephone, and your chairman wishes to express his appreciation of the fine cooperation on the part of the committee members.