

AMERICAN BUSINESS LAW ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE 1955 ANNUAL MEETING

The 1955 annual meeting of the American Business Law Association was called to order at 9:30 a.m. September 8, 1955, in the Tower Room of the Memorial Center at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, by President Joseph L. Frasca, Professor of Business Law in the School of Business of the University of Colorado.

An informal social hour was held in the same room and on the adjoining terrace the preceding evening; President and Mrs. Frasca were the cordial hosts.

The annual meeting having been called to order, the Vice-President, Professor Milton B. Dickerson of Michigan State University, and the Secretary-Treasurer, Professor Cornelius W. Gillam of the University of Washington, were introduced.

Dean Delbert J. Duncan of the School of Business of the University of Colorado gave the address of welcome, following which the members introduced themselves and messages of regret from Messrs. Bergh, Goldberg, Hewitt, Lavine, Lazar, Mayers, Sembower, Walstein Smith, and Robert E. Stone, who were unable to attend, were read.

President Frasca then made his report to the members, emphasizing our professional problems of teaching and curriculum, the challenge and the nobility of business law as a field of scholarship and professional dedication.

Professor Russell Decker of Bowling Green University read a paper on "Government Regulation of Business as It Should Appear in the Business Law Curriculum" and lively discussion followed. Professor Robert D. Myers of the University of Toledo presented a paper entitled "Business Law as a Management Tool," and Professor Dwayne Oglesby of Texas Technological College spoke on "To Make Summer Dollars Grow: Use Insurance Adjusting."

Before the meeting was recessed for luncheon in the Persian Dining Room of the Memorial Center President Frasca announced that the Association would prepare and distribute to the members copies of the papers, outlines and charts presented at the meeting, and that a list of the members in attendance would be distributed during the afternoon meeting (which was done). The members voted thanks to Vice-President Dickerson for his work in preparing the program, which was generally regarded as most interesting and successful. The printed program leaflets were done in the colors of the host institution, and the hope was expressed that this practice might become traditional. President Frasca announced that he had appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of Messrs. Decker, Lusk, Roberts and Tanner, and a Committee on Constitutional Revision consisting of Messrs. Zvetina, Chairman, and Kendrick.

Following luncheon Professor Robert E. Kendrick of David Lipscomb College presented a paper on "Legal Problems Involved in Motion Picture Censorship," and discussion followed. Professor William J. Robert of the University of Oregon then read a paper on "Remedies Available to Conditional Vendors and Chattel Mortgagees," and Professor Sheldon C. Tanner of Pennsylvania State University read a paper on "Teaching Business Law by Closed Circuit TV" and made further remarks on the problem

involved in development of a pre-law curriculum in business administration. Each of these papers was received with keen interest and stimulated considerable discussion.

Messrs. Harter and Dickerson reported, respectively, on the successful Southern and Michigan regional meetings held in Biloxi, Mississippi, November 18-20, 1954, and in East Lansing, Michigan, June 11, 1955. Full reports of these meetings are being included in the permanent records of the Association.

The business meeting followed. The minutes of the 1954 annual meeting (including the business meeting) and the Secretary-Treasurer's financial report were read and approved as read. The question of engaging a suitable person with legal training to survey the business law curricula of American institutions of higher learning, which had been left unresolved at the 1954 meeting, was discussed again; a motion that no action be taken on this question was seconded and passed. It was moved, seconded and passed that the Secretary-Treasurer be granted an honorarium toward his travel expense to attend the meeting, inasmuch as his University was making no contribution toward this expense, that the honorarium be granted for the instant occasion only and the question reconsidered at the next annual meeting in the light of the circumstances then prevailing, and that the amount of this honorarium be equal to the round-trip first-class rail fare, including lower berth and tax, from the Secretary-Treasurer's home city to the city in which the meeting was held.

The Nominating Committee reported its nominations as follows: for Secretary-Treasurer, Cornelius W. Gillam, for Vice-President, Wesley C. Harter, for President, Milton B. Dickerson. It was moved, seconded and carried that nominations be closed and the Secretary-Treasurer be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees, who were declared duly elected to their respective offices.

The Committee on Constitutional Revision reported its recommendation that the Constitution be reappraised and proposals for its amendment drafted, and that the adoption of suitable bylaws be considered before the 1956 annual meeting.

The Secretary-Treasurer reported for the Committee on the Establishment of a Journal, consisting of himself and Professor William Zelermyer of Utica College, Syracuse University, who could not be present, which had been appointed by President Edward A. Smith at the 1954 meeting. Plans were outlined for the occasional publication of the BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN BUSINESS LAW ASSOCIATION under the editorship of the members of the committee, the BULLETIN to be distributed at first in mimeographed form with the support of the College of Business Administration of the University of Washington, with the hope that it might develop into a printed journal if permanent financial support could be found and if the quality of the contributions should warrant. It was proposed to include in the BULLETIN the texts of papers presented at the annual and regional meetings, minutes of the meetings, financial reports of the Association, news items of interest to the membership, lists of members attending the meetings, and similar items, as well as articles written especially for the BULLETIN. It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee be instructed to proceed along these lines.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Secretary-Treasurer be instructed to write appropriate letters of thanks to the Presidents of the Universities of Colorado and Washington, expressing the Association's gratitude for the hospitality and support of those institutions.

Professor Paul C. Roberts of the University of Illinois reported for the Committee on the C.P.A. Examination, whose activities would continue as before.

The business meeting was recessed for dinner, and reconvened at 9:00 a.m. on September 9, the following morning, following an informal breakfast meeting of the officers and officers-elect.

The Association's annual banquet was held in the Persian Dining Room of the Memorial Center at 6:30 p.m. Guests of honor were Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Brotzman, Vice-President, and Dean of the Faculties, Walters Farrell Dyde of the University of Colorado and Mrs. Dyde, and Dean Delbert J. Duncan of the School of Business of the University of Colorado. President Frasca introduced the guests and the officers of the Association and their wives, and Mr. Brotzman, a Boulder attorney, chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the Colorado State Senate, and candidate for the governorship of the state in 1954, spoke on "The Lawyer Legislator."

The business meeting reconvened at 9:00 a.m. the following morning. There was some discussion of the possible desirability of redefining the terms of office of the officers of the Association as provided for in the Constitution, to make it clear that the officers should serve from annual meeting to annual meeting notwithstanding the constitutional provision that they should hold office for one year from their election. The President referred this matter to the Committee on Constitutional Revision.

The Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to inquire into the rumored passing of Professor Alfred W. Bays and to express appropriate sentiments to his survivors should the death of this distinguished scholar and teacher be confirmed.

The possible desirability of establishing another category of membership for the benefit of retired members, who might thereby be relieved of the obligation to pay dues, was discussed and referred by the President to the Committee on Constitutional Revision.

The time and place of the 1956 annual meeting was discussed at some length. A large majority of the membership favored holding future annual meetings shortly before Labor Day, and there was unanimous agreement that such meetings should be held in university facilities insofar as possible and that the place of the meeting should be systematically rotated between East, Midwest, South and West.

The business meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. and was followed by an interesting panel discussion, "Suggestions to Authors and Would-Be Authors." Professor Essel R. Dillavou of the University of Illinois acted as moderator, and participants were Mr. Harry H. Bingham of Richard D. Irwin, Inc., Mr. Frederick Martin of West Publishing Co., and Mr. Herbert Waentig of McGraw-Hill Book Co. Professor Otto W. Hedges of the University of Detroit then presented his interesting and instructive paper, "Twenty-Five (Plus) Years of Teaching Business Law."

The new officers were formally installed. Retiring President Frasca announced the appointment of two additional members to the Committee on Constitutional Revision, Messrs. Gillam and Roberts, and asked the Committee to report at the next annual meeting of the Association. Its recommendations are to cover generally the Constitution of the Association and such bylaws as may be proposed, and such specific matters as redefinition of the officers' terms of office, additional classes

of membership, the manner of and responsibility for determination of the time and place of future meetings, and such other matters as the Committee may deem worthy of attention. The Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to prepare copies of the Constitution in its present form and to distribute them to the members of the Committee as a basis for their deliberations.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed that the Association appoint a delegate and alternate delegate for a five-year period to the Council for Professional Education for Business, that Joseph L. Frascona be appointed as such delegate for five years from September 9, 1955, and that Milton B. Dickerson be appointed alternate delegate for the same period.

A resolution expressing the warm gratitude of the members for the gracious hospitality of President and Mrs. Frascona was passed by acclamation, and the 1955 annual meeting of the American Business Law Association was adjourned at noon.

Many of the members stayed for luncheon in the Persian Dining Room and a tour of the campus immediately afterward. President and Mrs. Frascona organized a picnic supper on Flagstaff Mountain which a number of the members and their families enjoyed greatly. Several of the members participated in a tour of Rocky Mountain National Park the following day.

Some twenty-eight members, in addition to their families and guests and guests of the Association, attended all or part of the 1956 annual meeting. A list of the members in attendance has been placed in the permanent records of the Association. It was universally agreed that the meeting was one of the Association's most successful; the recreational attraction of the Colorado Rockies and the many kindnesses of our hosts made the occasion as attractive for the members' families as for the members themselves, and a good time was had by all. Mrs. Frascona arranged and conducted a delightful auto tour of nearby scenic areas on Thursday, September 8, arranged for the supervision of children so that parents might participate in this and other activities, entertained the wives and children of the members on several occasions, and made the trip to Colorado as enjoyable for family groups as for scholars, teachers and practitioners. This happy combination contributed much to the success of the meeting.