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Montana Bar Association Activities

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The Law School enrollment during the present year reached 212, the largest in its history. Substantially all the students enrolled are veterans. To meet the needs of returning veterans the School of Law will continue to operate for another year on a four-quarter basis with a full schedule for beginners in the summer and autumn quarters.


MONTANA BAR ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES*

The sixtieth annual meeting of the Montana Bar Association was held August 14, 15, 16, 1947, at Great Falls, Montana. Highlights of the program included Tom C. Clark, attorney general of the United States; Carl B. Rix, Milwaukee, Wis., president of the American Bar Association; Loyd Wright, Los Angeles, member of the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association; and a debate on the Taft-Hartley labor bill between Lee C. Pressman, Washington, D. C., former general counsel for the C.I.O., and Robert D. Morgan, management specialist, Peoria, Ill.

Tom J. Davis, Butte, Montana, president of the Montana Bar Association and former president of Rotary International, presided. Mr. Davis, in the opening address, recommended greater participation by members of the legal profession in the field of public relations, to enable the public better to judge the standards of the legal profession.

Mr. Rix urged attorneys of the nation to take a greater part in the foreign policy and asserted that, never before in history, has there been such a rapid development of foreign policy, emphasizing the part the United States must play in the establishment of peace and the restoration of people to a normal life. He declared that the maintenance of free courts is essential to protect the civil rights of people and that government must not be permitted to take away such rights. The American Bar Association president expressed optimism of the progress being made in the establishment of the principles of free government in foreign lands, including Latin American nations and far eastern countries. If progress can be maintained, Rix predicted, some 1,600,000,000 people will be living.

*This article has been contributed by John Harrison, secretary-treasurer of the Montana Bar Association.
under democratic principles as compared with 400,000,000 under totalitarian rule.

Messrs. Pressman and Morgan, presented by James T. Finlen, Jr., Butte, the Montana delegate to the American Bar Association, in turn flayed and lauded the Taft-Hartley labor bill. Pressman termed it "a full employment bill for lawyers" and contended it "establishes severe discrimination against labor and necessarily will encourage discord and industrial strife." Morgan countered with the statement that "the Taft-Hartley Act is a good law. It preserves and re-emphasizes the essential rights of labor to organize and to engage in concerted activities for legitimate purposes. It also creates some duties and standards of conduct on the part of labor organizations, their leaders, and members, and provides the same machinery for enforcing those duties as for protecting the rights."

Other speakers Friday were Associate Justice I. W. Choate, of the Supreme Court of Montana; William R. Taylor; J. W. Speer, former mayor of Great Falls and Montana Bar Association president; Joseph J. McCaffery, Jr., Butte; George Y. Patten, Bozeman; Leo C. Graybill, Great Falls; and Marshall Murray, Kalispell.

Saturday's program commenced with a breakfast at which Loyd Wright conducted an institute on the activities of the American Bar Association. "The eyes of the nation are upon the West," said Mr. Wright and warned that Montana and the West generally should prepare now to deal with problems that would result from the tremendous influx of population and industrial expansion that seems inevitable. At the institute, Carl B. Rix told of the nation-wide train tour, to last two years, carrying historical documents that will be conducted from the East in the near future under the sponsorship of the American Bar Association.

Attorney General Tom C. Clark declared that the "economic giants that are preventing competition" must be broken up. He compared the nation's largest corporations in size and power with the state of Montana and stated "we must prevent such organizations from becoming super-states themselves. Montana is a great state—but there are some 50 corporations in America that have more taxable wealth," and "two have more employees each than Montana has population." Speaking of communism, Clark rated it as "a stronger and more active totalitarian front than we have seen ever before in our history" but declared that "none of the basic freedoms guaranteed by our constitution and the bill of rights will be abridged" while I am your attorney general. "There will be judicial trials but no political persecutions.” Clark in reaffirming his stand against the employment of
communists in public service, said that he believed there are not many now in public service. "We have a right to require of government employees a belief in the institutions they profess to serve; communists and 'fellow travelers' cannot meet this test," he stated.

Other speakers Saturday were David R. Mason, Montana State University professor of law; E. N. Genzberger, Butte; P. Lewis Brown, Butte, U. S. district judge; William F. Browning, Great Falls; and W. Guy Banister, special agent in charge, F.B.I., Butte.

Officers elected for the ensuing year include Marshall Murray, Kalispell, president; John Harrison, Helena, secretary-treasurer; and eighteen vice-presidents for the various judicial districts of the state of Montana.