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Montana Bar Association Activities

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MONTANA BAR ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES*

At the last annual meeting of the Montana Bar Association held at Helena, July 25th and 27th, the members indicated their interest in a Legal Institute Program by attending in large numbers the sample legal institute that was held the afternoon and evening of July 25th. There has been a strong committee appointed to plan a legal institute program that can be carried out in Montana by making speakers available for local bar meetings who will discuss problems of interest to lawyers in their everyday practice. The members of this important Committee are Horace S. Davis, Chairman, H. J. Coleman, Arthur F. Lamey, Sterling M. Wood, all of Billings, and Ralph J. Anderson of Helena.

The Citizenship Committee of the Montana Bar Association, composed of Lester H. Loble of Helena, Chairman, George E. Snell, Billings, Charles Davidson, Great Falls, Russell E. Smith and J. C. Garlington, Missoula, is active. A Citizenship Manual of the Montana Bar Association is being prepared for distribution to the district judges and their committees who will have charge of observances of Citizenship Week to be designated by the Supreme Court and already designated by the Legislative Assembly of Montana, by the approval of House Joint Resolution No. 3, as the third week in May.

Work is being done to educate the members of the bar concerning the need and benefit of bar integration. It is hoped that before much more time has elapsed the great majority of the lawyers in Montana will realize the need for unification and move to bring this about. The plan that is greatly preferred by advocates of bar integration is to accomplish unification by and under rules of the Supreme Court which has been the most satisfactory method adopted by other states.

The Montana Bar Association has cooperated in every way possible with the Committee on National Defense of the American Bar Association and is making its services and the service of its members available to draftees and others in the administration of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940.

Many proposed changes in the statutes of Montana which were intended to clarify existing laws have been submitted to the Legislature through the Montana Bar Association. In each instance bills were prepared and given to the Judiciary Committee of the State House of Representatives for consideration and action.

*This statement has been furnished by Wesley W. Wertz, Secretary of the State Bar Association.