

## Periodical Digest Service

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# Marquette Law Review

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

### Periodical Digest Service

In co-operation with the Commerce Clearing House, Inc., of Chicago, the MARQUETTE LAW REVIEW offers to the time pressed law student and practitioner the entire issue of the REVIEW in digest form.

This is possible by the above company's publication of a loose-leaf volume entitled *The Periodical Digest Service*. This *Service* includes a digest of the leading articles, case and book reviews of the one hundred foremost law publications of the country. The system is similar to other digests in that it presents in brief the subject matter of the articles and case reviews, but differs from all others in that it enters a field heretofore unexplored, that of the law periodical. The service not only is a time saver, but it is also a key to a broad field of legal literature not ordinarily available to the lawyer or student. It renders opportunity to reach in minutes what some person has spent laborious hours of research to prepare.

The *Service*, which has been installed in the Law School Library, commences with the February issue of the present volume of the REVIEW, and will continue henceforth indefinitely.

### Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools

The Association of American Law Schools convened for its twenty-fifth annual meeting at the Hotel Stevens, Chicago, on December 29-31, 1927. Marquette University Law School was represented by Dean Clifton Williams, and Professors John McDill Fox and Willis E. Lang.

This association of law teachers, as stated in the words of its retiring president, Professor Oliphant of Columbia University,—“occupies a position more potent in determining the future trend of legal thought than that of any other like number of men in the country.” It is this body of men, the teachers of the lawyers and judges of tomorrow, whose position is outstanding among the factors which can alter men's thinking and action on legal matters.

The meeting, which consisted of four sessions, was in general devoted to the reading of papers on legal subjects, changing the Articles of Association, with the intent of advancing the standards of legal education, and the routine of electing officers, appointing committees, and hearing committee reports.

Of the papers read, President Oliphant's, on “A Return to *Stare Decisis*,” precipitated a lively and scholarly discussion. The address, contrary to the impression which the title ordinarily conveys, presented an interesting and entirely new aspect of the doctrine of *stare decisis*. Other papers delivered were on “The Law and Scientific Method,” by Professor Cohen of the University of Michigan Law School, “The Law Institute and the Law Teacher,” by Professor H. F. Goodrich of the same school, and “Law Schools and Legal Clinics” by Charles M. Hepburn, professor of Law at Indiana University.

Of actual constructive work accomplished at the meeting, the requirements as to the number of volumes and the nature of the books to

be included in the libraries of all schools belonging to the association were defined, and two proposed changes in the Articles of Association were adopted. These changes, as best could be made out from the minutes of the sessions, which did not record in final amended form the phrasing of the articles, were as follows:

In place of Article 6, Section 2, which formerly read:

It shall require of all candidates for its degree at the time of their admission to the school either the completion of two years of college work or such work as would be accepted for admission to the third or junior year in the college of liberal Arts of the state university or of the principal colleges and universities in the state where the law school is located.

was substituted the following section:

It shall require of all candidate for *any* degree at the time of the commencement of their law study the completion of one half of the work *acceptable* for a bachelor's degree granted on a basis of a four year period of study by the state university or the principal colleges or universities in the state where the law school is located.

In the place of Article 6, Section 5, which formerly read:

Students who enter with less than the academic credit required of candidates for the law degree by Section 2 of this Article, must be twenty-one years of age and the number of such students admitted each year shall not exceed 10 per cent of the average number of students first entering the school during each of the two preceding years.

was substituted the following:

Students with less than the academic credit required of candidates for the law degree by Section Two of this Article, may be admitted as "specials" provided,

- a. They are at least *twenty-three* years of age
- b. There is some good reason for thinking that their experience and training have specially equipped them to engage successfully in the study of law, despite the lack of the required college credits, and
- c. The number of such "specials" admitted each year shall not exceed 10 per cent of the average number of *regular* law students admitted by the school as beginning law students during the two preceding years.

The Association is intent upon raising the standards of legal education in America, and its work, combined with the profound respect for, and observation of, its standards by the member law schools is certainly doing much to accomplish its aim.