Milwaukee Bar Association Legal Clinics

Wm. Klatte
The Wisconsin State Bar Association Convention

Fifty years ago the Wisconsin State Bar Association was organized. This year will witness a semicentennial celebration to commemorate the spirit and aim of the Association's founders and of those who have carried along the work to its present high position.
The convocation will be held in Madison on June 20, 21, and 22. It will have its headquarters at the Lorraine Hotel.

On Wednesday, June 20, at 2:00 P.M. Governor Zimmerman will speak. At three o'clock, Frank T. Boesel, President of the Association, will give his address "Professional Ideals as Exemplified by the Founders of the State Bar Association." At eight o'clock in the evening, Glenn Frank, President of the University of Wisconsin will address the members.

On Thursday, in the morning session reports will be received and discussions had. In the afternoon, Silas H. Strawn, president of the American Bar Association, will address the meeting on "The Three Departments of Government." At the banquet, in the evening, at the Lorraine Hotel, T. Adam Bede, will speak on "The pursuit of Happiness."

The committees of the convention will make their reports, election of officers will be had, and the numerous functions planned will be carried to further completion.

The members of the bench and bar of Wisconsin are cordially invited to attend the convention and participate in its commemoration of the event of the formation of the state-wide association and of the ideals of its founders and participants.

Milwaukee Bar Association Legal Clinics

The so-called legal clinics which have recently been held in the moot court room of the Marquette University Law School were the outgrowth of an idea suggested some years ago to make it possible that a lawyer who had found occasion in his practice to make a thorough study of some special subject or phase of the law, give the benefit of such a study to his fellow members of the bar. The matter had been under discussion for some time. It was revived by Benjamin Poss when he became president of the Milwaukee Bar Association, and he quietly arranged for the clinics which have been held this past year.

Five such clinics have been held. All, excepting the first one, began at seven o'clock on designated Monday evenings. The general plan was for the speaker to take up one hour in presenting his subject, and to take approximately one-half hour for questions and discussion, either during the course or at the close of the lecture. The attendance has been very good, ranging from fifty to seventy attorneys, including the younger members of the bar as well as the veterans. While it might be supposed that the clinics held a greater appeal for the younger lawyers, it appeared, nevertheless, that the older practitioners were attracted almost as numerously as the younger ones. It was the inten-
tion of the executive committee and president to carry on these clinics even though only ten or a dozen men attended, but fortunately the idea proved popular enough to draw larger audiences. It is the present intention of the Association to continue another series of such clinics.

The speakers and their respective subjects in the course just ended were as follows: Monday, February 13, 1928, J. G. Hardgrove, on "Reduction of Trial Issues Under Wisconsin Practice"; Monday, March 5, 1928, Dean Clifton Williams, on "Some Problems Connected with 'Home Rule' in Cities Under Wisconsin Statutes"; Monday, March 26, 1928, Mr. Nathan Glicksman, on "Incorporation in Wisconsin"; Monday, April 16, 1928, Mr. Walter H. Bender, on "The Law of Eminent Domain and Special Assessments as Related to Milwaukee's Contemplated Public Improvements"; Monday, April 30, 1928, the Honorable Christian Doerfler, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, on "Personal Reminiscences of Practice of the Bar of Milwaukee County."

Wm. Klatte, Secretary

Justice Eschweiler Presides at Moot Court

The question relative to the value of the moot court as a factor in legal education is gradually being settled in favor of the affirmative at Marquette. On Thursday, May 3, the Honorable Franz C. Eschweiler, Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, presided over what proved to be an extremely beneficial practice court session. An actually adjudicated tort action was retried by two firms of student "attorneys," whose careful preparation of the case, coupled with the presence of Justice Eschweiler presented a valuable lesson to both the participants and audience. A genuine court room atmosphere pervaded the moot court from the time of the raps of the gavel and "Hear ye—" of the bailiff to the adjournment.

On the whole, Marquette enjoyed one of the most successful years of court practice work in its history. The sincerity of the student body in the trial of the cases, and the benefit of the years of trial experience of the Dean who presided, really accomplished what some authorities have asserted cannot be attained.

Right of the Trial Judge to Comment on the Evidence

The inconsistency between the practice of the Federal courts in permitting the trial judge to comment on the evidence in his charge to the jury, and the practice of the state courts, wherein the lips of the judge are sealed in this matter, has given rise to much discussion among the members of the legal profession as to the merits of the two methods, and whether one or the other should be abolished and a