

This summary of BASF activities was written circa 1955, and included in the general correspondence files for that year. Author is unknown.

THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SAN FRANCISCO

The Bar Association of San Francisco was founded as a voluntary organization of attorneys practicing in the San Francisco Bay Area. It became a non-profit corporation under the laws of California on December 1, 1949. By its Articles of Incorporation its specific and primary purposes are:

" To further the honor, dignity and public usefulness of the legal profession; to increase the profession's effectiveness in promoting the sound administration of justice; to act in the interest of maintaining a skilled, humane and independent judiciary; to aid in making available a library for the use of San Francisco lawyers; and to cultivate social intercourse among members of the Association. The general purposes are to serve the welfare of San Francisco lawyers by such means as from time to time may be appropriate and to provide an organization for collective action or expression in matters germane to the aforesaid purposes."

Its present Officers and membership of 2200 attorneys continue to effect a program of service to the public and the profession in conformity with these stated purposes.

Membership in the Association is voluntary. Any attorney, in good-standing in the profession is privileged to join by payment of annual dues. Dues for active members range from \$2. to \$24. per year depending on the member's term of membership.

The By-Laws of the corporation, as revised in May, 1953, provide for five Officers and ten Directors, elected by the general membership in January of each year. The By-Laws also provide for an annual meeting in January, and regular meetings in May and November. However, The Bar Association has periodic luncheon meetings and evening forums for the general membership.

From membership dues the Association maintains an extensive and attractive lounge for luncheon, cocktails, meetings and group dinners. In the club-rooms there is a television set, radio, piano and public-address system available to the members.

INTRODUCTION

The Bar Association of San Francisco was founded in 1872 to serve the welfare of both the legal profession and the community.

Initially the emphasis was placed on service to and standards for the profession. In recent years, the trend of all state and local Bar Associations has been toward the improvement of public relations and an increased participation in community affairs.

In conformity with this policy, the major effort of the Bar Association of San Francisco during the past year has been to enhance the prestige of the profession by educating the citizenry to the benefits and practices of the law. The Bar Association directly contributed to an increased understanding of law by conducting legal panels open to the public, sponsoring television and radio programs and distributing pamphlets on branches of law the public most frequently encounters.

In addition to these phases of its program, the Association has continued to actively provide tangible legal service to those in need. Specifically, free counsel is provided in criminal cases, bankruptcy proceedings and general civil matters through assistance to the legal aid program. A referral service is open to those desiring the name of an attorney to handle a legal problem.

The Bar Association has participated in civic activities by endorsing and soliciting for worthy local organizations, and by advising the public of its stand on important local issues.

The Association continued to serve the profession by the maintenance of professional standards, a continuing education program and an attorney's placement bureau.

For its own members, a variety of legal and social activities were provided: monthly meetings and forums, opportunity to participate in various committee activities and an active social program.

The "Brief-Case", a bi-monthly magazine coordinates all of the activities of the Bar Association of San Francisco and its affiliates, the Barristers' Club and the Queen's Bench.

LEGAL AID COMMITTEE

At the time of the formation of the new Legal Aid Society of San Francisco in 1953, the Barristers' Club engaged in an extensive drive among San Francisco lawyers for the solicitation of both membership and funds for this organization. A Legal Aid Committee was formed, and this Committee classified the various city law offices according to location and size. The Committee then organized ten team directors, each of whom in turn arranged for ten solicitors. Each solicitor was then assigned the task of visiting ten or more attorneys or law firms located in a compact area near his own office. In this way, nearly 1500 San Francisco attorneys were personally contacted by the Barristers Club Committee. Several of the members of the Committee are now on the board of directors of the Legal Aid Society, and the Committee continues to be active during those times when the Legal Aid Society conducts membership renewal campaigns.

within the past year. When bankruptcy proceedings appeared advisable, Legal Aid referred the clients to the Bankruptcy Panel of the Bar Association.

During the last year, the Legal Aid caseload has increased, and the organization has been able to enlarge its staff and quarters. The Board of Directors of Legal Aid has been enlarged to include prominent lay members of the community.

The Director of the San Francisco Legal Aid Society works closely with the California State Bar Committee on Legal Aid, and the National Legal Aid Association. During this past year, on his recommendation, the National Association assisted two counties near San Francisco to open Legal Aid Societies. This has relieved the burden on the San Francisco Society, to whom persons from other counties had been coming for advice.

Cooperation between the Bar Association of San Francisco and the Legal Aid Society has always been close. The Bar Association has referred many persons who requested the name of an attorney, but who were indigent as to the Legal Aid attorneys. In many other instances, the Legal Aid Society has referred applicants, coming originally to it to the Bar Association Referral Panel and to the Panels on Federal defense and Bankruptcy.

In addition to this close relationship over the proper assignment of cases between the two organizations, the Bar Association of San Francisco has endorsed and supported the Legal Aid Society. The Association's present President is on the Board of Directors of Legal Aid. He has indicated a willingness to have the Bar Association cooperate with the Legal Aid's coming finance drive. This drive will seek to increase the number of individual lawyers financially supporting the work of the Legal Aid Society. As in the past, individual Bar Association members will solicit the profession for assistance to the worth-while services of the Legal Aid Society.

PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE OF STATE
BAR DELEGATES

Under the By-Laws of the State Bar of California every local Bar Association may appoint a proportionate number of Delegates and alternates to the Conference of State Bar Delegates. In 1955 the Association is privileged to have 42 delegates and 42 alternates. The delegates and alternates were appointed by the Association in March, 1955. Since that time there has been a campaign to encourage all members of the Association to propose Resolutions to the Board of Directors for consideration. Upon Board approval these Resolutions will be submitted to the Conference of State Bar Delegates in September, 1955.

To date two resolutions have received Board approval. One involves a proposal to eliminate a section of the Probate Code which provides for Court appointment of three appraisers in Probate proceedings if the Executor requests it. This practice has fallen into disuse in most counties in California and the resolution would make the law conform with present practice. The other resolution provides for a uniform retirement plan for Superior Court Judges; uniform retirement age and pension plan. These resolutions will be submitted to the Conference of Delegates in September, at this time the Conference will determine whether the resolutions are appropriate for presentation to the State Legislature.

In addition, the Delegation is privileged to hear and vote upon proposed resolutions from other local Bar Associations.

Although this is not a direct participation in State Legislation it serves to maintain a vigilant Bar. In addition, action of the Conference is followed by the public on hotly contested legislative subjects.

In March, 1955 the State Bar of California sponsored public hearings on a recommendation to add more rigid disciplinary provisions to the Business and Professions Code to provide for discipline in the case of an attorney who invokes the Fifth Amendment. Members of the Association participated in the hearings. Local daily newspapers and The Recorder published full reports of the various views expressed at the meetings.

SPEAKERS BUREAUS

The Bar Association of San Francisco, Barristers' Club and Queen's Bench have active Speakers Bureaus to provide speakers for local civic and fraternal organizations. The subjects included everyday law of interest to laymen; preventive law; and appeals for civic and governmental groups, such as the United Crusade, Civil Defense, Blood Donor Service, the Legal Aid Society.

Within the last year Queen's Bench has had the most active Speakers Bureau. A panel of ten women attorneys have been available for speaking engagements. In many instances the Queen's Bench member would team with a member of Barristers' Club to provide a panel discussion.

The following is a list of some of the engagements of the Speakers' Bureau since January, 1955:

"YOUR HOME IS YOUR CASTLE" by Mrs. Mildred W. Levin in which legal problems of property owners were discussed and audience questions answered.

"YOU BE THE JUDGE" by a husband-wife team of attorneys, Eugenia and Leslie MacGowan, in which the audience shared in a pot-pourri discussion of cases.

"THE MAN IN YOUR LIFE --- LEGALLY SPEAKING" by Miss Brawner Johnson which covered community property, divorce, insurance and other situations of practical interest to women.

"A LADY LOOKS AT THE LAW" by Miss Tommy F. Angell, a lecture on American Institutions and Government with special emphasis on the jury system and the differences between American procedure and that of continental law. This was so well done that Dr. Hugh S. Baker of San Francisco State College had an outline prepared of this talk and the students in his class were examined on the subject matter presented by Miss Angell.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

The Barristers' Club has formulated and retained as a standing committee this committee for the purpose of studying the functioning of all agencies in San Francisco dealing with the administration of justice, determining their needs and problems, and making constructive suggestions to improve the administration of justice in San Francisco. The committee is presently divided into three sub-committees for the purpose of studying the specific problems for which the sub-committee was formed. These sub-committees are the Police Department, the selection and tenure of judges, and the federal courts and agencies.

The work of the Police Department Sub-committee has received special emphasis this year as a result of the charges and reports by local newspapers and citizens of graft, corruption and inefficiency in the San Francisco Police Department. The Sub-committee is presently making two studies, first, the organizational structure of the San Francisco Police Department and how it compares with the organization of police departments in other major cities in the United States and second, the need and advisability of forming a Citizen's Crime Commission as has been done in some cities and which is being advocated by certain local civic organizations.

BLOOD DRIVE COMMITTEE

Since the Korean conflict began, the Barristers' Club has had a standing committee for the purpose of conducting a blood drive among attorneys. This committee has been successful in arranging for special transportation and arrangements with the established agencies which have been collecting blood donations for the use of servicemen. As this need ended with the cessation of hostilities, the same blood drive committee organized a special blood bank to provide for whole blood for the use of the members of the Bar Association of San Francisco. This has been highly successful and the blood bank presently exists and is used by the donors within the club when necessary.

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

The Legislation Committee of the Barristers' Club is a standing committee which meets once a month and has more than twenty-five members. In addition to the regular meetings of the Committee as a whole, it has a number of sub-committees which meet at the call of the sub-committee chairman.

The work of the Committee follows two primary courses of action. First, the study of existing laws and the making of recommendations that certain legislative amendments be made or that new laws be enacted, and, second, the study of legislative changes suggested by other persons or organizations and making recommendations as to the adoption, modification, or rejection of these proposed legislative enactments.

The former function of the Committee is accomplished by actually drafting the proposed new law or amendment with an accompanying statement of the reasons to support the change and presenting the proposal to the Conference of State Bar Delegates. The Conference meets annually at the State Bar Convention and if the proposal is approved there, it becomes a part of the legislative program of the State Bar of California.

The latter phase of the work of the Committee is accomplished by going on record by resolution after the Committee has completed its study as being for or against a proposed statutory change or suggesting certain modifications in the proposed change.

The problem of "wire tapping" was one of the subjects considered by the Committee during the past year. This included a study of the present laws of California and other states and of bills introduced in this field at this year's session of the California State Legislature. This project was culminated by the preparation of a memorandum for the Judiciary

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

This is one of the Barristers' Club standing committees. Its principal function is to cooperate with the Continuing Education Committee of the San Francisco Bar Association (the chairman of the Barristers' Club committee is a member of the Bar Association committee) and with the Administrator of the State Bar Continuing Education Program in the planning and sponsoring of the lecture series given each Spring and Fall. The members of this committee also aid the Administrator in stimulating attendance at the semi-annual lecture series by such means as telephone and personal contact with the lawyers in San Francisco. In cooperation with the Junior Bar Conference the Barristers' Club recently sponsored a week-end repeat of last Fall's Statewide program.

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

Since the California Bar Examination is now given twice a year, new attorneys are admitted to practice before the California Courts on a semi-annual basis. The admission ceremonies are held before the California Supreme Court in both Los Angeles and San Francisco. In San Francisco, the Barristers' Club has a representative present at each admission ceremony to aid the new lawyers in going through the formalities of becoming admitted. In addition, the Barristers' Club makes all necessary arrangements for the admission on the same day of all the new attorneys to practice before the United States District Court for the Northern District of California and before the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Judicial Circuit. A Federal Courts Admissions Committee is appointed, and this committee cooperates with the Federal Court officers and judges in the arrangement of a suitable program. On the day set for the ceremonies the members of this committee aid the new attorneys in the preparation of their petitions for admission, and make the formal motions before the Courts to secure their admittance to practice.

TAXATION COMMITTEE

The Taxation Committee of the Barristers' Club is one of the club's most active committees. It affords the young tax practitioner and others interested in keeping up with developments an excellent opportunity to become familiar with the different aspects of the tax field. The committee holds periodic luncheon meetings; some of these meetings are devoted to the discussion by the committee members of current problems; others are addressed by speakers with respect to subjects of tax significance. In addition to studying existing law, the members of this committee are kept abreast of significant changes in the law.

MOOT COURT

Moot Court arguments are a traditional law school custom. The Bar Association of San Francisco assists the State Bar of California in arranging annual Moot Court Competitions between law schools of California.

A Committee of Bar Association Barristers selects a question, prepares a record on appeal, chooses qualified judges who are prominent members of the local Bench and bar, and arranges all details of the competition leading to the selection of a Northern California semi-final winner, and a final State-wide winner.

In 1954-55 participating schools in Northern California were University of San Francisco, Boalt Hall and Stanford. The case on appeal concerned a question of negligence and involved interesting questions of procedural and substantive law.

In May of 1955 arguments for the Northern California semi-final rounds were held between Boalt Hall and Stanford: Boalt Hall being victorious; and between Boalt Hall and University of San Francisco: Boalt Hall again emerging the victor. Final arguments between the Northern California winner and Southern California winner will be held at the State Bar Convention in San Francisco in September, 1955. The final competition is always one of the major attractions of the convention.

Moot Court Competitions enable law students to participate in actual courtroom atmosphere, to prepare the students for actual appearances in court. It is significant that all arguments are well attended by local attorneys and students.

A copy of the Records and Briefs are attached.

COURTS BUILDING COMMITTEES

San Francisco is the only major city in the State and in the United States that does not have a separate courts building. Many public-minded citizens have realized this for some years. But it took the untiring efforts of one of San Francisco's leading Judges, the Honorable Timothy I. Fitzpatrick, and many leading attorneys in the city to initiate a campaign for action.

The campaign was commenced in the Fall of 1953 by a Judges-Lawyers Courts Building Committee, with the cooperation and support of the Bar Association of San Francisco, Queen's Bench and Barristers' Club. The initial meetings were held to study various proposals for building costs, fund-raising measures, etc. The Committee determined that a separate building was the only solution, and made a report to the San Francisco Forward Committee, Public Buildings Subcommittee, stating the need, costs and proposed plan for such a building.

In the spring of 1954 a special Judges-Lawyers Finance Committee was formed, members being selected from the Judges-Lawyers Committee and Barristers' Committee. The Finance Committee solicited prominent members of the Bar Association for funds for the campaign. Over \$7,000 was contributed! These funds will be applied to the cost of architects' plans and campaign costs.

During the fall of 1954 and spring of 1955, the Courts Building Committee composed of members from the Bar Association and Queen's Bench have met frequently to formulate plans for the construction of the building, and propose plans for getting the proposition on the ballot in November as "another" bond issue.

Spurred by recommendations of several Grand Juries and the Judges and Lawyers Committee, the Barristers' Club also launched a vigorous campaign to provide the much-needed Courts Building and

support the efforts of the Judges and Lawyers Committee. The Barristers' Committee was initiated in July, 1954 and is presently composed of thirteen members.

In July, 1954, the Barristers Club Courthouse Committee first employed the services of a public relations expert familiar with the problems of promoting and passing bond issues. An associated firm of architects was employed in February, 1955 to prepare a preliminary report of estimated costs and specifications as well as an idealized courthouse drawing for use in enlisting the support of civic officials and the general public for the campaign. A tentative site in the Civic Center was selected for location of the proposed new courthouse building. \$13,000,000.00 was estimated as the cost of the court and its furnishings. The Barristers' Committee joined the Special Finance Committee to solicit campaign funds. Letters from this Finance Committee to leading San Francisco firms resulted in prompt and eager financial support for the campaign and public support for the campaign was shown by contributions from various individuals and firms not actually solicited by the finance committee.

Realizing the need for support from the non-lawyer members of the community, the Courthouse Committee next aided in the formation of a Citizen's Courthouse Committee. Mr. William Woodfield was selected as Chairman of this important group, whose membership included leaders from all leading civic groups.

The mere preparation of preliminary plans and the selection of a tentative location for the courthouse did not assure a place for the question on the November ballot, so the Committee met almost weekly from September 1954 - June 13, 1955 to lay careful plans to secure the support of the Mayor's special committee charged with examining and screening all proposed bond issues. At this point, the Committee had a large problem in overcoming arguments in favor of a separate office building rather than a courts building. Committee efforts were successful, and on June

14th the bond screening committee recommended that the courthouse proposal be placed on the November 8th ballot. This was a landmark decision for the Courthouse Committees, for the way was now clear for the adoption of a bond proposal by the Board of Supervisors. The support of all of the individual members of the Board had earlier been secured through the efforts of Committee members.

As July approached, the biggest problem still remaining appeared to be raising the estimated overall cost of the bond issue campaign. Although money had been easily raised for financing the initial phases of the campaign, a much larger sum would be needed to insure the success of the issue in November. Already the Committee has formulated many ideas for selling the courthouse to the voters of San Francisco. A speakers bureau of Bar Association members has been organized to provide speakers to explain and extoll the proposal to civic groups. The dream of forward-minded citizens at last seems destined for success.

CONTINUING EDUCATION OF THE BAR IN CALIFORNIA

When does the general practitioner, in the face of hourly deadlines, find the time to explore the latest developments in legal techniques? To inform himself what is happening in the legislatures, in the courts and in the administrative agencies? How does he -- especially if he is a young lawyer just out of law school -- get help in early attempts of drafting the myriad legal documents which human affairs may require? How may he pick up the practical know-how of negotiating the settlements of all kinds of business transactions?

In the hurly-burly of a day's clients and cases, there is scarcely an aspect of law about which the lawyer in general practice does not seek guidance. The neophyte has had no firsthand experience in using the legal tools so excellently provided in law school -- he is therefore eager to receive instruction in "on-the-job-training," in everyday professional skills. The older lawyer is anxious to refurbish what he knows -- to be brought abreast of the avalanche of judicial decisions, administrative rulings and amendatory legislation.

Only in the past two decades has the organized Bar realized that it must do something about meeting these needs. As a result continuing legal education has become a key activity of bar associations everywhere. Among the forerunners has been the State Bar of California.

In 1944 it created a Committee on Continuing Education of the Bar which consists of nine lawyers. It is assisted by an Advisory Committee of Law School Deans. In 1946 the Committee selected the University of California Extension as the agency through which to offer the program throughout the state and handle its administration.

However, the actual presentation of the Committee's legal programs is in the hands of local bar association committees on Continuing Education of the Bar. The Bar Association of San Francisco's Committee on Continuing Education of the Bar, like similar committees in other local

associations, is in charge of the San Francisco series and promotes enrollments and gives advice to the State Bar Committee on subjects of special interest to their members.

The first statewide program was offered in the fall of 1947 on "Taxation for the General Practitioner." The syllabus was based in large part on material prepared in the Spring of 1947 by The Bar Association of San Francisco.

Courses have been regularly given in Spring and Fall of each year on such subjects as Community Property, Domestic Relations, Trial Tactics, Legal Draftsmanship, Pleadings, Judgments and Appeals, Medical Aspects of Personal Injury Litigation, and Organizing and Advising Small Business Enterprises.

In the fall of 1954, 250 San Francisco lawyers attended a lecture series on "The Internal Revenue Code of 1954". The series commenced on October 14 and continued weekly for five weeks. The lectures were given by prominent Bay Area lawyers. Because of the popular demand, a weekend series was given on November 26 and 27, which drew a total registration of 154 lawyers.

The spring series of continuing education lectures commenced on May 5, 1955. The subject was "Practical Aspects of Probating Estates".

Four weekly lectures were given by local attorneys. The enrollment was 263 lawyers. The weekend series which was held on June 10-11, 1955 was attended by 158 lawyers. The cumulative registration for the year 1954-1955 is 983.

Each lawyer who registers receives a specially prepared and printed Handbook which is a valuable addition to his working library.

The Continuing Education program, though administered by the University of California Extension, relies on the local Bar Association for publicity and support. Through the joint efforts of Felix Stumpf, Administrator of the Program, and local Bar Association committees the Program has been a tremendous success in its short-lived existence. Plans are being formulated for this Fall and the years to come.

TRIAL PROBLEMS COMMITTEE

The Trial Problems Committee of the Barristers' Club might more properly be characterized as a study group.

The major purpose of this Committee is to give young lawyers a general speaking acquaintance with some of the practical problems that arise from time to time in the preparation and trial of lawsuits and with possible solutions or avenues of inquiry and source of materials which may lead to such solutions. It is felt that this Committee can help to satisfy a need felt by many young lawyers for at least some familiarity with such practical problems prior to the time they are actually faced with them in the course of a lawsuit.

At the present, meetings are held monthly; specific topics are assigned to one or two committee members a month or two in advance. He - or they - try to utilize all readily available sources of information for example, practice manuals and pamphlets, legal research and suggestions of experienced trial lawyers, on preparing a brief talk on the nature of the assigned problem, possible solutions and available source materials and avenues of inquiry. Occasional talks are given by experienced and well known trial lawyers. Since there are about twenty members in each section the burden on each member is not too great. About one half hour is set aside for questions and discussion following this presentation. All members are notified in advance of the topic so they can do some thinking and possibly a little general reading prior to the meeting. The subject may range from problems encountered in the court room (for example, foundations necessary for various types of documentary evidence, techniques of examining witnesses in various situations, or motions available during the course of a trial) to those encountered at the very outset of a case (for example, the topic for a recent meeting was "Tools of Factual Investigation").

SUPPORT OF CIVIC AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

United Crusade, which consolidated many of the charitable organizations in San Francisco, has since its inception, received the support and sponsorship of the Bar Association. Lawyers' committees, selected from Barristers' Club and Queen's Bench, individually solicited all the attorneys in San Francisco. It was a proud moment in 1955 for the President of the Association to accept a certificate of award for the activities of the Association and the contributions collected by its corps of solicitors. Officers of the United Crusade announced that the lawyers' group collected the largest proportionate amount of contributions. The association on June 28, 1955 endorsed the Crusade by resolution and expressed a desire to participate in the 1955 campaign.

In addition to soliciting attorneys, the Barristers' Club organizes a Speakers Committee to aid the United Crusade drive. The Committee works directly with the Speakers Bureau of the Crusade, receiving instruction and speakers' material from the Crusade office. Members of the Committee make speeches to different business organizations, fraternal and civic groups informing them of the services performed by the United Crusade agencies and soliciting their contributions.

San Francisco Symphony Foundation was formed several years ago to raise funds for the San Francisco Symphony. A special committee of Barristers supported the campaign. In truth, this was not all work, for the members of the committee were privileged to witness rehearsals of the Symphony, and attend special functions, in addition to soliciting fellow attorneys and prominent members of the community for pledges.

Similarly, the Association, on February 1955 appropriated \$100. as a contribution to Station KQED, the city's one Educational Television station. They also encouraged the members to make contributions for the continuance of this station.

Individual members served this year, as in the past, on the Boards of many charitable organizations: YWCA, Community Chest, Federated Jewish Fund, Guild for Crippled Children, and USO to name a few.

In the latter part of October and first week of November, 1954 the Association waged a vigorous campaign to "Get out and Vote" in the November election of State Officials and on the many bond issues on the ballot. Through throw-away literature, newspaper articles, radio and television programs the public was encouraged to exercise its right and privilege to vote. Many large industrial firms in the area contributed funds for the campaign, for literature and radio and television time. This was a concerted effort over a period of two weeks, the results of which were extremely gratifying.

The Barristers' Club has a standing committee organized for the purpose of providing speakers for fraternal and civic groups on the subject of Civil Defense. This committee has been working in conjunction with the Civil Defense Director for the City of San Francisco and fills speaking assignments when requested. Work of the committee has been very important and is well recognized and appreciated by the Civil Defense Director for the City since the biggest problem which he has faced has been a proper education and awareness of the general public of the problems and preparations necessary for civil defense.

QUEENS BENCH

SEPTEMBER 30, 1954	Dinner. Judge Lenore Underwood spoke about her recent trip to Europe
OCTOBER 21, 1954	Dinner. Guest Speaker: John Ober, Inheritance Tax Appraiser "Inheritance Tax Laws"
NOVEMBER 18, 1954	Dinner honoring Superior Court Judges in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties - Entertainment
DECEMBER 9, 1954	Christmas Party. Entertainment and Dinner
JANUARY 11, 1955	Tour of California State Prison at San Quentin - Tour and Dinner
JANUARY 20, 1955	Business meeting and Dinner - Election of officers and general business
FEBRUARY 17, 1955	Dinner honoring newly admitted women attorneys Panel on San Francisco County Jails, conducted by Hon. Raymond Peters, Justice, Court of Appeals District
MARCH 17, 1955	Panel discussion on problems of petty criminals during incarceration and after release. Discussion by probation officers and representatives of service organizations
MARCH 31, 1955	Open meeting of Endorsement Committee - Discussion of current legislation
APRIL 13, 1955	Luncheon with B. A. S. F. - honoring Presiding Judges Theresa Meikle, Superior Court and Lenore Underwood, Municipal Court Speaker: Judge C. J. Goodell
MAY 11, 1955	Panel discussion on Personal Injury Suits
JUNE 19, 1955	Annual Spring Picnic - Lunch and Entertainment

MEETINGS AND STUDY FORUMS

Among the important functions of any professional association is the encouragement of group activities and of the participation in professional meetings and study forums.

The Bar Association of San Francisco, Barristers' Club and Queen's Bench plan monthly meetings to effectively keep lawyers informed on current legal problems.

Following are lists of the monthly luncheon and dinner meetings of the respective groups:

THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SAN FRANCISCO

- JULY 8, 1954 Luncheon honoring Judges of the Ninth Judicial
Circuit of the Federal Court.

Speaker: Hon. Earl Warren, Chief Justice,
Supreme Court of United States
"Legal Representation for the Needy"
- AUGUST 5, 1954 Luncheon honoring The Board of Governors of
The State Bar of California

Speaker: Eugene Prince; President, The State
Bar of California
- OCTOBER 20, 1954 Luncheon

Speaker: Hon. C. Harold Caulfield; Judge,
Superior Court of San Francisco
"Juvenile Delinquency"
- NOVEMBER 17,
1954 Business Meeting, Luncheon
Report of Nominating Committee and General
Business of the Association

Speaker: vom Bauer
"Representation in Loyalty Matters"

- JANUARY 12, 1955 Luncheon honoring members of the profession admitted prior to 1900.
 Speaker: Hon. Preston Devine; Judge, Superior Court of San Francisco
 "The Lawyer in 1900 and Today"
- FEBRUARY 10, 1955 Luncheon honoring the State Supreme Court
 Speaker: Hon. Goodwin J. Knight, Governor of California
 "Supreme Court Justices"
- MARCH 4, 1955 First Annual Medico-Legal Dinner; co-sponsorship by the Bar Association and County Medical Society.
 Speaker: Erle Stanley Gardner
 "Truth Serum and Medico-Legal Testimony"
- APRIL 1, 1955 Dinner honoring Carl Calbreath, Clerk of Federal Court
 Address by Harold Faulkner, Esq., San Francisco Bar Association
- APRIL 13, 1955 Luncheon honoring Hon. Theresa Meikle, Presiding Judge of Superior Court of San Francisco and Hon. Lenore Underwood, Presiding Judge of Municipal Court of San Francisco
 Speaker: Judge C. J. Goodell
- JUNE 22, 1955 Luncheon honoring Members of Court of International Justice, attending Memorial Session of United Nations.
 Speaker: Hon. Green H. Hackworth, President of the International Court of Justice
- JUNE 29, 1955 Luncheon honoring Judges of The Ninth Judicial Circuit of the Federal Court.
 Speaker: Hon. Edward P. Murphy, Circuit Judge of Federal Court.

BARRISTERS' CLUB

JULY 22, 1954 Admission of attorneys to California State and
Federal Courts

 Reception for new admittees to the State Bar.

AUGUST 26, 1954 Luncheon. Guest Speaker: Albert Deutsch, Esq.,
 "Police, Lawyer and Public"

SEPTEMBER 12, 1954 Annual Social Event. "Mystery Trip and Barbecue"

SEPTEMBER 30, 1954 Luncheon. Guest Speaker: Hon. Louis Goodman,
 Judge of the U. S. District Court
 "Federal Pre-trial and the Young Lawyer"

OCTOBER 28, 1954 Luncheon. Guest Speaker: Norman Elkington,
 Chief Assistant District Attorney of
 San Francisco
 "Preparation and Trial of the
 Criminal Case"

DECEMBER 2, 1954 Luncheon. Guest Speaker: George Baglin, Deputy
 City Attorney of San Francisco
 "Civil Liabilities of Municipalities"

DECEMBER 21, 1954 Christmas Party to benefit needy children

JANUARY 11, 1955 Admission of attorneys to California State and
Federal Courts.

 Reception for new admittees to the State Bar

JANUARY 27, 1955 Luncheon. Panel discussion:
 "California Law Revision Commission,
 Its Purpose and Work to Date" - by
 Chairman and Executive Secretary of
 California Law Revision Commission

FEBRUARY 24, 1955 Luncheon. Guest Speaker: Bryant Hall, Principal
 City Planner, Department of City
 Planning for San Francisco
 "Lawyer and Zoning Problems"

MARCH 24, 1955 Luncheon. Guest Speaker: Lawrence Speiser,
 Staff Counsel, American Civil Liberties
 Union for Northern California
 "Representation of Respondents in
 Federal Security Proceedings"

APRIL 28, 1955 Luncheon. Guest Speaker: Patrick Patey, Vice President,
 Bay Counties Escrow Company
 "Practical Aspects of Escrows and
 Title Insurance"

JUNE 9, 1955 Luncheon. Guest Speaker: George Smith, Esq.,
 "Preparation of a Malpractice Case"

SECURITY PANEL

In November, 1954 F. Trowbridge vom Baur, General Counsel for Military Sea Transportation Command, appealed to the Bar Association for assistance in hearings before the Security Hearing Board of M. S. T. S. At a general meeting of the Association Mr. vom Baur outlined the problems involved in obtaining competent counsel to represent defendants charged with security violation. He stated that it was often difficult, if not impossible, for persons charged with security violation to obtain counsel to properly represent them. He was, therefore, bringing the situation to the attention of local Bar Associations in the hope that members of the various associations would assist in cases where the Board considered legal counsel necessary. The Bar Association of San Francisco expressed willingness to assist in these cases; and, in fact, to extend the service to persons unable to pay for legal representation.

A special committee was appointed by the President of the Association to study the problem and to appoint counsel when called upon.

To date, one case has been referred to this committee, and the results of the hearing were most gratifying. This case involved Boris A. Evert, a First Mate who served with Military Sea Transportation Service until February 15, 1955 when he received a notice terminating his employment because of family connections in Bulgaria, which might tend to subject him to influence, pressure or coercion, which might cause him to act contrary to the best interests of national security. Mr. Evert's case was set for hearing on March 15. He was advised to obtain legal counsel, and referred to the Bar Association for assistance. The following is a report by the attorney who was assigned to represent Mr. Evert.

Mr. Evert was given 30 days to answer the charges and it was necessary to prepare an answer to be filed by March 15. It was determined that Mr. Evert rely on the fact that he is a naturalized American citizen, serving with M. S. T. S. since 1942, that his record of service would speak for itself in a security matter; that his relatives in Bulgaria have proven for many

years that they will not submit to pressure. Hearing was set for April 15, 1955.

It was decided to have Evert tell his life story, but first each member of the board was examined. It was made certain that each member understood that no charge of subversive activity had been alleged against Evert. A military Officer member of the board was challenged on the ground that an officer of the armed services could hardly give an unbiased decision in controversy in re. an executive order. The M. S. T. S. and the Navy Department agreed and a civilian member replaced the officer.

Every courtesy was afforded Evert. He was given complete cooperation. He told his life story, which was in itself impressive and portrayed an individual who had undergone a great deal of hardship to become an American Citizen.

Perhaps the turning point of the case occurred when a board member asked Evert what he would do if, while on the high seas, a communist approached him and ordered him to turn his ship to an enemy port, or his mother would be killed. Evert's answer could not have been better. He stated that he would do his best to apprehend the communist and turn him over to the F. B. I., but in no event would he turn his ship. Asked further he stated "no one could believe a communist, even if I turned the ship, I know that whatever they told me about my mother could not be true".

The result of the Security Board Hearing was that Mr. Evert was restored to full responsibility in his position and reinstated in the Military Sea Transportation Service on June 15, 1955.

PUBLIC RELATIONS PANELS

In the Fall of 1954 the Public Relations Committee of the Bar Association of San Francisco tried an experiment--a panel discussion devoted to legal topics of popular interest and open to public attendance. The project was intended to capitalize on two familiar proclivities of the day: the public thirst for items of technical or professional knowledge and the public's remarkable tolerance for panels of almost any sort. The Committee realized that the subjects selected for discussion would have to be such that members of the audience could readily connect the topics with their own needs. Thus, the initial program bore the title, "You Are a Lawyer Every Day of Your Life".

While the program was designed to attract, entertain and enlighten, it obviously had additional purposes. One, to encourage public perception of incipient legal problems and to promote recognition of the value of the services of a lawyer. More pertinent from a public relations standpoint, to enable members of the public to see lawyers face to face, to note the absence of horns, and to realize that attorneys are quite personable human beings.

The first panel, composed of a Superior Court Judge as Moderator and four attorneys as members, held at the San Francisco Bar Association Lounge, covered matters of contract law and civil and criminal liability relating to the hypothetical purchase of an automobile. The treatment was down-to-earth at all times, eg., "Suppose you order a blue sedan and the dealer delivers a yellow coupe?"; or "Suppose you drive a car before you buy it, as a road test, and hit a pedestrian--who is responsible, the dealer or you?" The program ran for an hour and a half, concluding with a question-and-answer period.

Attendance at this program, "You Are a Lawyer Every Day of Your Life," was by invitation. Numerically the response proved relatively

sparse, but the audience manifested a high degree of interest. At the close of the evening, the Committee received several inquiries as to the date of the next program.

Concluding that the show of interest warranted a second panel, the Committee scheduled another to take place a month later under the title, "Property Ownership and Related Tax Problems". Solicitation of attendance by mailed invitation was abandoned in favor of extensive circularization of service clubs, P. T. A. 's and similar organizations. Notices of the program were posted in public libraries. Intensive effort was made to secure adequate advance newspaper publicity.

This method of promoting the program proved considerably more successful: the second panel performed before an audience that taxed the capacity of the San Francisco Bar Association Lounge--standing room only. Again the topics covered were selected for broad appeal: the advantages and pitfalls of joint tenancy; the use and drawbacks of homesteading; the hazards of partnership dissolution without compliance with formalities of law; the risks in buying a business without regard for the Bulk Sales law. And again audience interest appeared strong.

No doubt remaining as to the justification for this type of program, the Committee planned a third panel to discuss "Human Relations and the Law," and obtained the use of a local high school auditorium. Approximately 500 people turned out to hear a discussion of the legal relations between parent and child, husband and wife, and guardian and ward. Community property questions were included, as well as contractual and tort liabilities affecting husband and wife.

Thereafter the program on Human Relations was televised over San Francisco station KQED. The station reported good response and invited the Committee to arrange additional programs for television. A month later "You Are a Lawyer Every Day of Your Life" was also televised.

At this juncture a development occurred to give the series considerable impetus. Following a successful repeat presentation of the panel on contract law, the Adult Division of the San Francisco Public School System requested the Bar Association to put on four evening programs at the Marina Junior High School auditorium. These were arranged at weekly intervals and included the subjects previously given, together with "Wills, Probate and Related Tax Problems."

Public patronage of the Marina Adult School series averaged 300 hundred per week. Invariably the audience demonstrated considerable interest throughout the entire one-and-a-half hour program; often the questions submitted for the question-and-answer period were far in excess of the number that could be handled within the time available.

At the request of the San Francisco Real Estate Board, the Bar Association staged a repeat of the panel on property problems for the benefit of real estate salesmen. This program included a discussion of joint tenancy, tenancy in common and homesteads but was adapted to the occasion by the addition of considerations affecting title insurance, deposit receipts, leases, and factors governing an agent's commissions.

At the moment, the Public Relations Committee has another request for presentation of one of its panels, this for a local P. T. A. group, to discuss legal problems affecting parents. In addition, the Marina Adult Division has asked the Committee for another series of panel programs in the Fall of 1955, at a new site for the convenience of the residents of another part of the City.

The foregoing programs took place over an eight month period, at intervals of at least once a month and sometimes weekly. Each program, except when a repeat, was conducted by different attorneys and moderated by a different member of the bench.

What conclusions are to be drawn from this experiment by the Bar Association of San Francisco? We are satisfied that a public demand exists for information on common legal problems. Apparently the public is more receptive to the propagation of this subject through panel discussion than through legal lectures. The program must be designed to achieve listener identification; it must move along rapidly; and it must be lightened and flavored with a fair amount of humor. Personnel on the panel should be well balanced--some men have a flair for this sort of thing and others don't; and while levity can be overdone, it is not so fatal as excessive solemnity. The members must also be tactful. And obviously the moderator is the key to the pace of the program; he can make or break it.

We have deemed it wise to avoid explicit suggestions that the services of an attorney be employed in any situation, preferring to let the audience draw the inference. We have, however, on occasion pointed out that a legal difficulty resembles a physical malady in that the sooner it is recognized and treated, the more effective and less costly the treatment.

It has been our observation that at the conclusion of each program the audience had some feeling that the attorneys on the panel were not only learned men but men with a sense of humor, easy to talk to, and rather likeable. Since thousands of people have never had occasion to see a lawyer face to face, these contacts appear a valuable implement to better public relations by the Bar.

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"THE BRIEF-CASE"

Every member of The Bar Association of San Francisco looks forward to receiving his bi-monthly copy of "The Brief-Case", the official magazine of The Association.

Reading the magazine is like meeting Judges, fellow attorneys and friends whom you never get around to seeing, and attending functions which you unfortunately missed.

"The Brief-Case" averages 30 pages. It contains articles and pictures of recent Association functions, together with activities of Barristers' Club and Queen's Bench. It also contains pictures, biographies and vital statistics of members of The Association, and articles on timely legal subjects. There is a President's Page and Editor's Page with their bi-monthly report to the membership.

Preparation and edition of the magazine is handled by members of The Association who, by their activities, have developed into first-rate reporters and newshounds.

There is no charge for the magazine, cost of publication being borne by paid advertisements and general Association funds.

"The Brief-Case" also prepares an annual directory for use of its members. It is issued in July of each year and contains a complete directory of members, officers, committees, public offices and Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws.

PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

There are several hundred lawyers admitted to practice in California each year. Many of these new attorneys do not have connections or affiliations to afford immediate employment, and do not have sufficient financial security to subsidize the early months of years of individual practice.

HOW DOES THE LAWYER FIND EMPLOYMENT ? This question is asked not only by the newly admitted attorney, but many practicing lawyers.

In order to help find a solution to this question, the Bar Association reactivated its Lawyers' Placement Committee in 1953. The Committee consisted of seventeen lawyers in active practice in the profession and participation in community activities. Several committee members are in private individual practice, some are partners in large law firms, and some are in corporations, Municipal or State offices. Constant contact is made with possible employment sources: law firms, banks, insurance companies, corporations, public utilities, railroads, governmental agencies, etc. The Committee also conducts an active publicity program to encourage use of the Placement services.

The Association maintains a permanent Placement office, with a full-time paid employee, who is an attorney. Applicants for positions fill out a standard form of application which is kept on file at the office. These applications are available for prospective employer's examination.

From September, 1954 to July, 1955, over 150 lawyers have applied for placement. It is estimated that over one-half of the applicants seek permanent, salaried positions in law firms in San Francisco. However, the balance express preference for employment in corporations, government offices, insurance companies and banks. Many wish to locate offices with other attorneys on an association basis, or similar arrangement. The Placement services has also had occasion to notify lawyers of available office space and part-time reference work. The services are available to all attorneys; it is not necessary that the applicant be a member of the Association.

The Committee has been able to place about 25% of the applicants during the past year. This is a substantial increase over the 1953-1954 figure of 10%. This increase is attributed to the activity of the Committee, and the value of publicity in making members of the profession and community aware of the services afforded.

MAINTENANCE OF
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Many laymen picture attorneys as glib, smooth practitioners who can alternately charm a jury or dupe a gullible client.

It is of course difficult to correct this misconception since newspapers, radio and television programs have on occasion inadvertently publicized attorneys unfavorably.

In 1954 a situation of this nature arose, and immediate action was taken by the President of the Bar Association. A nationwide television program depicted an attorney as a "shyster" in a play. President Eugene O'Donnell wrote to the sponsor criticizing such characterization. His letter received a gracious response and recognition of this interest and viewpoint. The effect of this correspondence was increased by subsequent publicity in local newspapers and legal journal of Los Angeles. Letters and pertinent publicity are attached.

The Association also attempts to combat the unfavorable characterization of attorneys through its program of Public Relations, free legal service and speakers bureaus. Through these media the public is afforded an opportunity to observe a truer picture of attorneys as modern practitioners who are hardworking, conscientious, and public-spirited.

FEDERAL COURT PANEL

During almost every week last year at least one or more defendants in a Federal Court asked for court appointed counsel. Every one of these requests was acceded to by the Presiding Judge if he determined that the defendant making the request could not afford private counsel. The Federal Judges appointed competent defense counsel to fulfill these requests from the Federal Court Panel of the Bar Association of San Francisco.

Some of the cases handled by the panel last year were extremely serious. Early in 1955 a defendant was charged with and tried for first degree murder, committed in the course of a robbery on Treasure Island. He was represented by two members of the Bar Association Panel. Although the verdict was guilty, the jury recommended against the death sentence. A young woman attorney on the panel was assigned late last fall to represent a defendant in an income tax case. The first trial ended in a disagreement, and she secured an acquittal on the second trial. In addition to the cases to which attorneys are assigned from the first appearance of the defendant in court, many requests from convicted criminals for assistance in the preparation of appeals and writs are received by the Federal Court and transmitted to the panel. One example will illustrate the need for counsel in such cases. In June 1955 a convicted murderer, one William Francis Rupp, sentenced to death in the California State Prison at San Quentin contacted the Federal Court for help in securing a writ of habeas corpus in the federal courts. One of the senior attorneys on the Federal Court Panel personally undertook this defendant's case, and has secured two stays of execution, one from the United States Court, and one from the Federal Court in San Francisco. This case is still pending.

The idea of a Federal Court Panel was suggested by the Honorable George B. Harris, Judge of the United States District Court

for the Northern District of California. At his instigation, the Bar Association of San Francisco organized a Federal Court Panel to "accept assignments for the representation of indigent defendants in the Federal Court." Judge Harris requested the assistance of the Bar Association because up to that time, a small group of attorneys who practiced in the Federal Court regularly would be repeatedly called upon when they were in court at the time a defendant requested the court to appoint counsel for him.

The Panel was responsible for approximately 500 cases last year. The Panel operates on the basis of a six months calendar. The members, who number about one hundred, accept responsibility for appearing in the federal court as the representative of the Bar Association on certain assigned days. On their day, they are assigned to any case in which it appears that a defendant who is without representation cannot afford to secure it. Once assigned, the attorney carries his cases through to completion, handling any appeals and post trial proceedings, as well as the trial itself. All panel attorneys serve without fee. In capital and very serious cases, two experienced members of the panel are assigned. The administration of the Federal Court Panel is directed by a member of the Bar Association who is an experienced attorney who has specialized in federal trial work, in cooperation with the Master Calendar Clerk of the federal courts.

The need for the services of the attorneys on the Federal Court Panel is a continuing one. This week, the last in June, the Master Calendar Clerk of the Federal Courts advised that out of 6 indicted defendants, 5 were requesting court appointed counsel. The Bar Association of San Francisco believes that this panel, from its inception has filled a real need and promoted the true interests of justice. It has been and continues to be a vital activity of this Association.

REFERRAL PANEL

"Lawyer's Referral Service" is a full-time activity of the Bar Association of San Francisco, operated as a free service to the public, to provide an adequate and able panel of attorneys in various fields of practice for consultation, at an initial minimum fee, for those persons who do not have an attorney.

The panel totals 200 attorneys who have voluntarily joined, by application, to the Bar Association. The dues are \$10.00 a year, which partially covers the operational expenses of the panel. Upon application, the attorney indicates his educational and professional background, and those fields of law of which he has special knowledge or preference. Referrals are made accordingly in rotation.

The panel is conducted in the Association's offices. Prospective clients are referred by the Legal Aid Society, District Attorney's Office, welfare organizations, employers, State and Federal offices, Veterans' Administration and Legal Service Officers, Chamber of Commerce, Better Business Bureau, and The State Bar of California. At least one-half wish to consult an attorney as to a domestic relations matter; approximately one-quarter are either plaintiff or defendant in a personal injury matter; and the remainder involve real and personal property, contracts, patents, immigration, bankruptcy, probate, business law. In other words, there are cases and controversies in nearly every field of law.

From September 1954 - July 1950 approximately 1000 persons sought the assistance of the Referral Panel. Of these, 900 were referred to an attorney on the panel for advice or representation in a suit. The others were referred to the proper social agency, business or state office for service.

The attorneys agree, upon joining the panel, that they will charge not in excess of \$5.00 for the initial consultation, and that the fee for additional services will be determined according to the circumstances of the prospective client.

The Association is extremely proud of its Referral Service. The service makes a direct contribution to good public relations and is patently beneficial to the legal profession. The operation has increased every year, both in membership and in the number of cases referred, since its inception in 1946. At a time when the legal profession is acutely conscious of improving public relations, what better public relations can be achieved than through competent and courteous service from the Association and the attorney-members of its Referral Panel !

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SERVICE LEAGUE

One of the most forward looking organizations for the improvement of social conditions in California is the Northern California Service League. Founded by the Honorable Raymond E. Peters, Presiding Justice of the District Court of Appeals, in 1948, this organization works for the rehabilitation of County Jail prisoners. The League maintains three social workers who counsel the prisoners, both in jail, and after their release. Under its auspices, educational, recreational and work programs have been instituted in the jail. On release, former prisoners in need are provided with decent clothing. In needy cases, room, board and transportation to a job can be arranged. The League has been successful in securing jobs for released prisoners, through contacts with large local industries and labor unions. The League office is open to former inmates for consultation advice and moral support.

In 1954 this organization continued its work with narcotic addicts begun the previous year. Beginning in jail, inmates with an addiction record are encouraged to meet and work together on their mutual problem, the curbing of addiction. These people continue to meet after release. During the fall of 1954 they decided to incorporate as N. E. L. F. (Narcotics Eliminated, Live Fully). The new corporation is similar in philosophy to Alcoholics Anonymous. During the last nine months twenty members of this group have successfully abstained from return to narcotics, twenty have relapsed, and twenty have disappeared and may be presumed to have relapsed. Up to July 1, 1954, four former narcotics users out of a group of twelve had successfully abstained since the beginning of the program.

As of March 1955 statistics, 75% of persons assisted by the Northern California Service League have not been rearrested.

The Northern California Service League works closely with the Community. The Bar Association of San Francisco in 1954 and 1955, as in 1953 and 1954 endorsed the activities of the League and encouraged its individual members to aid the purposes of the League by purchasing memberships. The Queen's Bench in February 1955 assigned a committee to study the County Jail and to work with the Northern California Service League toward improved conditions for County Jail inmates and released prisoners.

UNITED NATIONS

San Francisco was a proud city in June of 1955. For one week the city played host to the delegates of the United Nations, who met from June 20 to June 24 in San Francisco for a tenth anniversary Commemorative Session, a Memorial Meeting in the City where the United Nations was born.

The Bar Association participated in the festivities by giving a luncheon in honor of the Members of the Court of International Justice, attending the meeting. The Guest Speaker at the luncheon was the Honorable Green H. Hackworth, President of the Court of International Justice. Over 300 members of the Association and their friends were privileged to hear Judge Hackworth and learn many interesting and vital facts about the Court.

In addition many members served on various Committees, and officially participated in the numerous functions held in honor of visiting Delegates to the United Nations.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The most concentrated effort of The Bar Association during the year 1954-55 has been in the field of Public Relations. Every legal organization throughout the country has realized the importance of strengthening and improving the relations between the legal profession and the public. In conformity with this trend the efforts of all members of the Association were directed toward presenting a picture of attorneys as well-trained, energetic and sympathetic advisers, counsellors, and defenders of legal rights.

The Public Relations Committee, which has been a standing committee of the Association for many years, was one of the most active of all committees during the past year. Their most important activity and most direct contribution was the presentation of a series of Panels on legal subjects open to, and directed to the public. These panels were received enthusiastically and by popular demand, repeated many times.

In addition they sponsored or approved Radio and Television programs. They also conducted a Speakers Bureau, as did the Barristers' Club and Queen's Bench. These groups planned and delivered speeches on various fields of law and preventive law to fraternal and civic groups in the Bay Area.

In addition to making the public aware of the Profession of Law, the various panels of the Association afforded the public with an awareness of the practitioner - such as Referral Service, Bankruptcy Panel and Federal Court Panel. Here the client was provided with the most competent and conscientious legal service.

And lastly, the Association supported and in many instances participated in local civic, governmental and charitable organizations; and encouraged its members to do likewise. Their financial support and administrative ability has been extremely vital in many local groups.

Each of the above activities will be described in more detail in this chapter.

BANKRUPTCY COMMITTEE

The Bar Association of San Francisco has for some time realized that Bankruptcy has been a field of law for which there was no adequate legal representation for indigent persons. The Bar Association also realized that although the Bankruptcy Court allows a bankrupt to take a pauper's oath, prepare his own individual bankruptcy forms, and represent himself before the referee, there are many instances where the financial situation is so involved that legal counsel is vital.

And although representation of an indigent bankrupt is properly within the jurisdiction of The Legal Aid Society, the staff is at present inadequate to handle these cases. On the recommendation of the Chief Counsel of The Legal Aid Society, the Bar Association of San Francisco appointed a special Bankruptcy Committee to provide free legal service in matters involving litigation, or threatened litigation. The committee, appointed in November, 1953, consisted of nine specialists in the field who agreed to represent indigent bankrupts referred by the Legal Aid Society. The Society agreed to act as screening agent for the purpose of interviewing prospective clients and certifying as to their inability to afford counsel. After screening, referrals are made directly to a member of the committee on a rotational basis.

During the period of September 1, 1954-June 30, 1955, fourteen cases have been handled by members of the committee. In the first ten months of operation, from November 1953 to September 1, 1954, 35 cases were handled. The attorneys on this panel accept full responsibility for preparing the necessary bankruptcy forms, and handle the actual petitions and all subsequent court hearings. They receive no compensation for their services, although a considerable amount of time is devoted to these cases, and the same kind of competent legal services are provided as to a client who is able to pay a regular fee.