

Southern Methodist University

SMU Scholar

Southwestern Legal Center News, 1948-1957

Law School History and Archives

3-1-1948

Southwestern Legal Center News, Vol. 1, No. 1

Southwestern Legal Foundation

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholar.smu.edu/swlegalcenternews>

Recommended Citation

Southwestern Legal Foundation, "Southwestern Legal Center News, Vol. 1, No. 1" (1948). *Southwestern Legal Center News, 1948-1957*. 1.

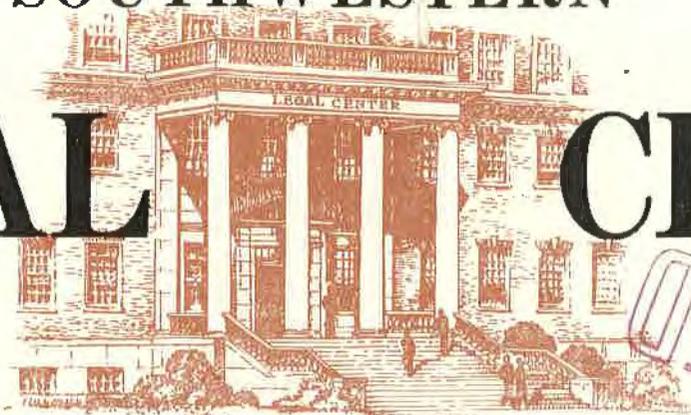
<https://scholar.smu.edu/swlegalcenternews/1>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Law School History and Archives at SMU Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Southwestern Legal Center News, 1948-1957 by an authorized administrator of SMU Scholar. For more information, please visit <http://digitalrepository.smu.edu>.

Class

SOUTHWESTERN

LEGAL CENTER



S. M. U. LIBRARY
RECEIVED

SOUTHWESTERN LEGAL FOUNDATION • S. M. U. SCHOOL OF LAW • DALLAS, TEXAS

Vol. 1, No. 1

March 1, 1948



Wagging their heads over the success of the fund-raising banquet of the Southwestern Legal Foundation are, left to right, Chief Justice J. E. Hickman of the Texas Supreme Court, R. G. Storey, president of the Foundation and dean of the SMU Law School; and Toastmaster Paul Carrington.

Dallas Lawyers Pledge \$109,750 At Legal Foundation Banquet

More than 100 Dallas lawyers pledged \$109,750 Feb. 2, to build a Southwestern Legal Foundation on the campus of Southern Methodist University. The meeting at the Dallas Country Club was called by R. G. Storey, dean of SMU Law School and originator of the idea of a legal foundation.

Principal address was delivered

by J. E. Hickman, Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court, who was making his first appearance before a Dallas group since he was recently appointed to fill the vacancy created by the death of James P. Alexander.

The Foundation, three buildings in all, will stand on a five-acre plot

(Continued, page 3)

Message From President Storey

It is a genuine pleasure to announce the complete plans for the Southwestern Legal Center in the first bulletin. The idea was first announced at the last Lawyers' Day, May 24, 1947. However, at that time all we had were a charter and the Board of Trustees. The skeptics were many.

As a result of the splendid cooperation of Dr. Umphrey Lee, President of SMU; the SMU Law Association, and the Board of Trustees of Southern Methodist University, the Legal Center is an assured reality.

A five-acre tract of the most desirable and valuable land of the SMU campus, located at the intersection of Hillcrest and Daniels, has been permanently dedicated and set aside for the exclusive use of the Legal Center and the SMU Law School. Also Kirby Hall will be available for the exclusive use of the Legal Center when the School of Theology, now under construction, is completed.

The Legal Center building shown in the cut on page two has been authorized and final plans are now being drawn. Construction will start as soon as the plans are completed. The third and final building will be a combination dormitory for law students and a Lawyers' Club for practicing attorneys.

What is the Legal Center? First, it will house and provide facilities for our overcrowded SMU Law School. The need is imperative. Our first year law class meets in a shack. Our library which originally served about fifty students is running over with the present student body of more than 300.

Second, it will house an enlarged law library, a specialized oil and gas library and an international law and relations wing.

Third, the Legal Center will bring

(Continued, page 2)



Authorized by the SMU Board of Trustees meeting in a special session October 31, was construction of the \$800,000 Legal Center Main Building shown in the architect's drawing above. Actual work will begin this year providing the subscription campaign for \$250,000 among Texas lawyers is successful. The Dallas Bar has promised \$150,000, of which more than \$100,000 has already been pledged.

Joint Agreement Assures Legal Center on SMU Campus

The Southwestern Legal Center in Dallas is now an assured reality. A joint agreement was made Nov. 1, 1947, between the Southwestern Legal Foundation and Southern Methodist University whereby a five-acre tract of land with one permanent building was dedicated for the permanent use of the Legal Center.

Plans of the Legal Center were announced and the Foundation established May 24, 1947, date of Lawyers' Day celebration at SMU.

R. G. Storey, president of the Foundation and dean of the SMU Law School, has reported that plans for the construction of the main building were ready and work will start some time this year. Another building costing \$450,000 will house

the Southwestern Lawyers' Club and senior and graduate students of the Law School, thus creating a modern "Inns of Court" where practicing lawyers and students may mingle and work together.

Kirby Hall, the present building on the tract for the Legal Center, will be turned over for use as a classroom building for the Law School as soon as work is completed on the Theology School at SMU.

This is the second Legal Center in the United States, the other being the New York University Law Center. The Southwestern Legal Center is a laboratory for leaders of the bar, judges, outstanding law school teachers, and representatives of business, labor, and government.

It is a forum where the bar and the public may plan laws to meet the needs of a changing world. The Legal Center, through the cooperation of the Legal Foundation and SMU Law School, will engage in the following activities: research, institutes, free Legal Aid Clinic, conferences and seminars, and international affairs. The legal institutes will specialize in oil and gas law, taxation, insurance, and labor relations law.

The Foundation is not a charitable or political organization, but is a non-profit educational and civic corporation. It will depend on gifts and endowments. Total fund-raising goal is \$2,000,000, of which \$250,000 in subscriptions have been assumed by the lawyers.

President's Message (cont'd)
together leaders in business, members of the legal profession and our outstanding legal schools, all working together with adequate research to solve some of our complex problems in law and government. The Legal Center is a modern "Inns of Court."

The lawyers are assuming the leadership in raising the necessary funds. After the \$250,000 to be subscribed by the lawyers has been pledged, the business men will underwrite the balance. I am very pleased about the success of the Dallas attorneys' meeting at which more than \$100,000 was raised.

Similar meetings will be held elsewhere in Texas.

Lawyers subscribing to the original fund will be charter members of the Southwestern Legal Foundation. Such membership entitles one to the facilities of the Legal Center, including the Lawyers' Club. Life memberships are bestowed upon subscribers for \$5,000 or more; sustaining memberships to those pledging \$1,000 to \$5,000, and memberships for pledges of \$300 to \$1,000. **All subscriptions are tax deductible up to the 15 per cent allowed on individual incomes.**

I especially urge all SMU law alumni and other interested law-

yers and laymen to respond on the subscription form enclosed with the brochure and mail at once. **Payments may be made on or before three years after date.**

Please read the enclosed brochure.

President,
Southwestern Legal Foundation,
—Dean, SMU Law School

Notify us of any address change.

Law Association Serves Vital Threefold Purpose

Judge Al Templeton has been elected president of the Southern Methodist University Law Association. Other officers are James F. Gray, vice-president, and E. Taylor Armstrong, secretary.

In linking ex-law students with the School of Law, the association serves a threefold purpose. It undertakes various projects for the development of the school, keeps the ex-law students informed about the progress of the school, and aids graduates in obtaining positions.

All SMU ex-students in the legal profession and those formerly in the Law School are eligible for membership in the association. Candidates for membership need not have received a law degree from nor have attended the SMU School of Law. Classes of membership and dues in the association are: annual members, \$5.00 per year; sustaining members, \$50.00 per year. Applications for membership may be addressed to E. Taylor Armstrong, Republic Bank Building, Dallas, Texas.

The board of directors of the Law Association have performed some fine work in connection with the successful start of the Southwestern Legal Foundation. This group, under the chairmanship of J. Glenn Turner, has devoted much of its time in helping to raise funds and climax the plans for the Legal Center.

In addition to Mr. Turner, the board includes Samuel L. Fly, James Noel, Frank F. Taylor, Al Templeton, Will Wilson, Logan Ford, Hawkins Golden, James F. Gray, James H. Hickerson, H. Bascom Thomas, Jr., E. Taylor Armstrong, Gerald C. Mann, W. Autry Norton, and J. Cleo Thompson.

Brochure Outlines Plan

The accompanying brochure of the Southwestern Legal Foundation, entitled "A Legal Center for the Great Southwest," describes factually and interestingly the need for a Legal Center and outlines in a general manner its plans and purposes.

Banquet (cont'd)

at the northwest corner of the campus. It will enlarge the presently inadequate Law School quarters at the University, establish a post-graduate laboratory where jurists, lawyers, students, and representatives of the government, business,

(Continued, col. 2)



A note of jubilation was struck at the banquet as J. W. Timmins called for subscriptions for the Southwestern Legal Foundation. Immediate response came from Robert F. Ritchie, foreground, with upraised hand, who pledged \$5,000 in behalf of his father, R. A. Ritchie, and himself. A few seconds later, Rosser J. Coke, at the extreme right end of the table, raised his hand for a \$5,000 donation. Watching the eventful proceedings at the head table are, left to right, Paul Carrington, Chief Justice J. E. Hickman, Mr. Timmins, Judge C. S. Slatton, Hon. Hatton W. Summers, Gerald C. Mann, Robert L. Dillard, and Mr. Coke.

and labor may meet for study and consultation, approaching somewhat the function of a medical center for doctors.

In defining the need for a Legal Center, Judge Hickman said: "In these times, people look to the legal profession for security and stability. They don't want the conservative who stands against the wheel of progress; and they don't want the dreamer. They want the men who deal in facts — who know what can and cannot be safely given up.

"It's wonderful that in Dallas there is a group willing to move forward with progress in law. There was a time when even a law school was of questionable value. But now we know we need even more than basic facts if we are to provide men to lead as this country must be led."

Dean Storey, president of the Foundation, explained the procedure in raising the money for the new building.

"We want \$150,000 from lawyers in Dallas, and another \$100,000 from lawyers around the State. If we can raise that much, Dallas businessmen have promised to raise the rest." Total goal is \$2,000,000. Mr. Storey said that if the money could be raised, construction would start in 1948.

Four new directors were elected to the Southwestern Legal Foundation. They are Rosser J. Coke and E. L. DeGolyer of Dallas, and George A. Butler and J. E. Price of Houston.

Dignitaries at the head table included Judge Al Templeton, Judge Towne Young of the Court of Civil Appeals; Hon. Hatton W. Summers, former chairman of the House Judiciary Committee; Gerald C. Mann, former attorney general of Texas and secretary of the Foundation; Robert L. Dillard, Jr., new president of the Dallas Bar Association; Rosser J. Coke; W. B. Hamilton, mayor of Wichita Falls and prominent attorney; Wallace Hawkins, J. W. Timmins, general counsel of the Dallas Sun Oil division; Judge C. S. Slatton, former associate justice of the Texas Supreme Court and now general counsel of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. of Texas; Col. Alvin M. Owsley; Chief Justice Hickman; Judge Bayard H. Payne, associate justice of the Supreme Court of Nebraska; Dr. C. S. Potts, dean emeritus of the SMU Law School; J. Cleo Thompson; and George Luna y Parra of Mexico City.

Paul Carrington acted as toastmaster, and J. W. Timmins received the pledges.

Tax Institutes Provide Specialized Study

Important and timely Tax Institutes, sponsored by the Southwestern Legal Foundation, are making their appearances in key sections of Texas.

The next institute began in Abilene, Feb. 20, under the auspices of the Taylor County Bar in collaboration with Hardin-Simmons University where the institute will be held. An eight-week course with afternoon and evening sessions on consecutive Fridays, the Tax Institute will feature State attorneys prominent in this phase of legal work.

Two sessions remain at the current Longview institute in which 35 East Texas lawyers are participating, and an institute for North Texas lawyers was held during December at Wichita Falls.

An integral part of the activities of the Foundation, the institutes are arranged and set up by the taxation committee, headed by John Paul Jackson of Dallas.

Local Bars Request Institutes

Tax Institutes are conducted in localities upon request of the local bar and comprise eight to twelve week sessions. Lecturers are specialists in tax law from Dallas, Houston, Fort Worth, and San Antonio who devote one day's work to the sessions. They receive no pay except that incurred by expenses. Necessary funds are raised by the local bar requesting the institute through fees exacted from lawyers enrolled.

Work of the Institutes amount to graduate study and only those admitted to the bar are eligible for the course, with one exception. This exception occurs in cases where the Institute is held in towns having a University with veterans enrolled under the G.I. Bill. Under this circumstance, the local bar may usually arrange for law students so enrolled to be admitted without paying a fee.

A similar institute will be conducted soon in South Texas, and two others are planned, one in conjunction with the State Bar meeting in April, and a permanent institute at the Legal Center beginning a year from this spring. Leading tax lawyers of the nation will participate in the latter Tax Institute.

Tax Experts to Lecture

Speakers remaining on the Longview schedule are J. W. Bullion and Richard A. Jennings, who will lecture on "Estate and Gift Tax



John Paul Jackson,
Head of SLF Taxation Committee

Fundamentals," Feb. 20; and George E. Ray and D. W. Hammonds, who will talk on "Practice, Procedure, and Current Legislative Proposals" in the final session, Feb. 27.

The Abilene Tax Institute speakers include Felix Atwood of Dallas, Homer Jack Fisher of Dallas, Mr. Ray and Mr. Hammonds of Dallas, Stephen L. Mayo of Dallas, Frank B. Appleman of Fort Worth, Iverson Jones Walker of Dallas, Wright Matthews of Dallas, and Mr. Jackson.

In addition, other tax specialists available as Institute instructors are Robert A. Wilson, Thomas O. Shelton, Sam Winstead, Mr. Bullion and Mr. Jennings, all of Dallas; Harry Weeks and Benjamin L. Bird of Fort Worth; N. B. Ferguson and J. E. Price of Houston; and R. N. Gresham of San Antonio.

Bickett Memorial on Evidence Established

As a living memorial to the late John H. Bickett, Jr., a research project on Evidence has been established by the Southwestern Legal Foundation.

Judge Bickett, a Dallas attorney and former chief justice of the Fourth Court of Civil Appeals, was president of the State Bar of Texas in 1945-46.

In making the announcement, R. G. Storey, president of the Foundation and dean of the SMU Law School, said that Raymond Rosoff,



As far as we are now concerned this column is a big question mark. The decision as to what would constitute a suitable name has been difficult and as a consequence we have decided to leave it up to our readers. We solicit your suggestions. Send them to the address indicated below.

It is the plan for this column to be devoted to personal items and comments about our alumni and friends.

The location of some of our recent graduates is indicated below.

Owen Giles and Jean Patton are practicing law under the name of Patton & Giles, 724 Fidelity Building, Dallas, Texas.

William E. Johnson is with Golden, Croley & Howell, Republic Bank Building, Dallas, Texas.

John R. Carrell, now associated with Malone, Lipscomb & Seay, Southland Life Building, Dallas, Texas.

Thomas E. Bryan, now with Chaney & Davenport, Republic Bank Building, Dallas.

Jack Berry, associated with Gallagher, Francis & Bean, Gulf States Building, Dallas.

Joe Geary, Assistant District Attorney, Dallas, Texas.

Randolph D. Hurt, at present with E. D. Hurt, Rio Grande Building, Dallas, Texas.

William B. Duncan, with Caldwell, Baker & Jordan, 432B, Medical Arts Building, Dallas, Texas.

Gordon R. Carpenter, Southwestern Legal Foundation, Southern Methodist University, Dallas.

George Potts, now practicing under the firm name of Burrow & Potts, Dallas National Bank Building, Dallas, Texas.

NOTE: Your suggestions for the name of this column or any news to be sent in should be addressed to THE PUBLICATIONS EDITOR, Southwestern Legal Foundation, SMU School of Law, Dallas 5, Tex.

a Dallas lawyer and personal friend and admirer of Judge Bickett, mailed a substantial check to the Foundation as a contribution for a suitable research memorial in honor of the late jurist.