

THE CANADIAN BAR ASSOCIATION

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As the New Brunswick representative on the Membership Committee of the Canadian Bar Association I have been asked by the editors of "Oyez Oyez" to write very briefly concerning the nature and purpose of the Canadian Bar Association and have been given this opportunity of urging all New Brunswick lawyers who are not now members of the Association to become active in the work of the Association. Among the many activities of the Canadian Bar Association is the publication of a very excellent legal monthly called the "Canadian Bar Review." This journal celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding by publishing a very special number for its January 1948 issue. In this issue Dr. E. H. Coleman, K.C., of Ottawa, the Under Secretary of State for Canada, one of the founders of the Association and for many years intimately connected with its work as Honourary Executive Secretary, writes a most interesting account of its formation and advancement.

The Association was founded on March 31, 1914, by a committee of which Mr. J. A. M. Aikins was chairman, who later as Sir James Aikins, was the first President, holding office until 1927 and being during that period "its guiding spirit, the promoter and organizer of its manifold activities, and to him is due the credit for the remarkable progress the Association has made and the high place it now holds in the public confidence."

Dr. Coleman gives as the objects of the Association "to advance the science of jurisprudence; promote the administration of justice and uniformity of legislation throughout Canada so far as is consistent with the preservation of the basic systems of law in the respective Provinces; uphold the honour of the profession of the law and foster harmonious relations and co-operation among the incorporated law societies, barristers' societies and general corporations of the Bars of the several Provinces and cordial intercourse among the members of the Canadian Bar; and to encourage a high standard of legal education, training and ethics."

In addition to publishing the "Canadian Bar Review" and being closely identified with the Commissioners on Uniformity of Legislation the Association has established sections such as that of the Junior Bar, on Insurance Law, on Administration of Civil Justice, on Legal Education and Training, on International Law, etc., and through these sections and other

committees perform much valuable work. Annual meetings are held at the close of each summer and Council Meetings are held each February in various cities of the Dominion in turn—the Annual Meeting was held in Saint John in 1926. These meetings are very largely attended, a great deal of important committee work is accomplished, earnest discussions take place in the general meetings, the greatest of legal personages in Great Britain, France and the United States attend to deliver addresses on legal subjects, and the social activities are such that the members and their wives attending have a thoroughly good time and make lasting friendships with men and women from all parts of the Dominion.

The Association now has approximately 3,500 members. There are still a large number of lawyers who are not members. The Association invites them to join in its activities for the benefit of the Profession and the Public and to participate in the work and the social enjoyments of this great body of Canadian lawyers. If you are not now a member will you please consider the claims and the appeal of the Canadian Bar Association.

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