

# Association of American Law Schools.

## MINUTES OF THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

Held at Denver, Colorado,

August 21, 1901.

The first annual meeting of the Association of American Law Schools convened in the Tabor Opera House, Denver, on Wednesday, August 21, 1901, at 3 o'clock P. M.

In the absence of James B. Thayer, of Harvard University, President of the Association, William P. Rogers, of Indiana University, was elected Chairman.

The following schools were represented through the delegates named:

Boston University Law School: Samuel C. Bennett.

Buffalo Law School: James Parker Hall.

Cincinnati Law School: Charles M. Hepburn.

Cornell University, College of Law: E. W. Huffcut, Frank Irvine.

Harvard University Law School: Joseph H. Beale, Jr.

University of Illinois, College of Law: Wm. L. Drew.

Indiana University, School of Law: William P. Rogers, G. L. Reinhard.

University of Iowa, College of Law: Emlin McClain, Charles Noble Gregory, Harry Sanger Richards.

Iowa College of Law: C. C. Cole.

University of Michigan, Department of Law: V. H. Lane.

University of Minnesota, College of Law: A. C. Hickman, James Paige, H. S. Abbott, Frederick V. Brown.

University of Missouri: H. B. Babb.

New York University School of Law: Clarence D. Ashley, F. H. Sommer, L. J. Tompkins.

Northwestern University Law School: Edwin Burritt Smith, Edward Avery Harriman.

St. Louis Law School: W. S. Curtis.

Western Reserve University, Franklin T. Backus Law School: Alexander Hadden, E. H. Hopkins.

University of Wisconsin College of Law: Howard L. Smith, R. M. Bashford, A. A. Bruce.

Yale Law School: William K. Townsend, Simeon E. Baldwin.

The minutes of the meeting for organization, held at Saratoga, August 28, 1900, were approved as printed in the report of the American Bar Association for 1900, pp. 569-575.

On motion, the Chair was authorized to appoint a committee of five for the nomination of officers. The Chair appointed as such committee:

Charles Noble Gregory,  
Joseph H. Beale, Jr.,  
Clarence D. Ashley,  
Edward A. Harriman,  
C. L. Reinhard.

The following report was presented by the Treasurer:

#### TREASURER'S REPORT.

August 28, 1900-August 21, 1901.

##### *Dr.*

To dues of twenty-seven members, . . . . .	\$270 00	
dues of two schools not yet elected, . . . . .	20 00	
		\$290 00

##### *Cr.*

By printing and envelopes, . . . . .	\$26 75	
clerk hire, . . . . .	8 00	
expenses Executive Committee meeting, . . . . .	122 80	
postage and telegrams, . . . . .	15 58	
balance with Ithaca Trust Company, . . . . .	116 87	
		\$290 00

E. W. HUFFCUT,  
*Treasurer.*

On motion, the Treasurer's report was referred to an auditing committee. The Chair appointed as such committee Charles M. Hepburn, W. S. Curtis and E. H. Hopkins.

The Secretary read the following report of the Executive Committee :

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION  
OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS.

*To the Association of American Law Schools :*

The Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools presents the following report of its proceedings from August 28, 1900, to this date.

It directed the Secretary of the Association to send to all law schools represented at the meeting at Saratoga on August 28, 1900, a copy of the Articles of Association, together with a communication directing their attention to the third section of the Articles under the provisions of which schools having delegates at the Saratoga meeting and signing the Articles before July 1, 1901, shall be deemed members of the Association provided such schools shall comply with Article 6. The Secretary complied with this direction. A blank form of certificate to the effect that the school does comply, and expects to continue to comply, with the requirements of Articles 6 and 7 was also included. Of the schools represented at the Saratoga meeting the following have signed and returned the certificate, and have thereby become members of the Association :

Baltimore Law School.

Boston University Law School.

Buffalo Law School.

Cincinnati Law School of the University of Cincinnati.

Columbia University, School of Law.

Columbian University, Law School.

Cornell University, College of Law.

Harvard University, School of Law.

University of Illinois, College of Law.  
 Indiana University, School of Law.  
 University of Iowa, College of Law.  
 Iowa College of Law (Des Moines).  
 University of Maine, School of Law.  
 University of Michigan, Department of Law.  
 University of Minnesota, College of Law.  
 University of Missouri, Law Department.  
 New York University Law School.  
 Northwestern University Law School.  
 Ohio State University Law School.  
 University of Pennsylvania, Department of Law.  
 Pittsburg Law School.  
 St. Louis Law School.  
 Syracuse University, College of Law.  
 University of Tennessee, Law School.  
 Western Reserve University, Franklin T. Backus Law  
 School.  
 University of Wisconsin, College of Law.  
 Yale University Law School.

The Committee also directed the Secretary to send to all schools not represented at Saratoga a copy of the Articles of Association, together with a blank form of application for membership. The Secretary complied with this direction and sent these documents and a special communication to each professor as well as to the Dean of all law schools of which he had any information. As a result the following schools applied for membership :

The Hastings Law School of the University of California.  
 University of Colorado, School of Law.  
 Denver Law School.  
 University of Kansas, School of Law.  
 Leland Stanford, Jr., University, Department of Law.

The Chicago Law School, through its Dean, made application for membership in the Association. Subsequently the Dean, who signed the application, notified the Secretary that

he had retired from his connection with the school and could no longer be responsible for its policy. The Secretary communicated with his successor, inquiring whether it was desired to confirm the application for membership or withdraw it, but no reply was made to this inquiry.

On June 14, 1901, your Committee met in New York City, Messrs. Thayer, Sharp, Biggs and Huffcut being present, and considered the above applications. Upon an examination of the requirements for admission, the course of study, the conditions imposed for the conferring of degrees, and the equipment as concerns library, it was found by your Committee that the following applicants fulfill the requirements of Article 6, and the Committee recommends that they be elected to membership:

The Hastings Law School of the University of California.

University of Colorado, School of Law.

Denver Law School.

University of Kansas, School of Law.

Leland Stanford, Jr., University, Department of Law.

Upon a like examination as concerns the Chicago Law School, the Committee determined that the Chicago Law School is found not to fulfill the requirements of Article 6, subsection 1, as to preliminary education, in that it is stated on page 5 of the announcement of said school that "graduates of high schools or academies of approved standing will be admitted without examination; all other applicants must satisfy the faculty that their educational attainments will justify their entering upon the practice of law when their legal studies are completed." It is believed by your Committee that no such vague statement concerning the requirements for preliminary education should be accepted, but that, in each case, there should be a definite and specific statement of the subjects in which the student will be examined in lieu of the presentation of the certificates provided for in Article 6, subsection 1, of the Articles of Association. The said school is further found not to comply with Article 6, subsection 1, as to preliminary

education, in that it appears on page 6 of said announcement that students may be admitted to advanced standing upon certificates from other law schools, and no requirement as to preliminary education seems to be imposed.

Your Committee would further report that the Chicago Kent College of Law, which was represented at Saratoga last summer, sent in a certificate of membership on the 18th day of July, 1901, but that under Article 3 of the Articles of Association your Committee did not feel that it had power to accept this certificate. It therefore refers the matter to the Association without recommendation.

Your Committee would further report that the Georgetown University Law School filed an application for membership less than ninety days before this annual meeting, and that your Committee did not feel at liberty, under Article 11 of the Articles of Association, to act upon this application. It therefore recommends that the application be referred to the incoming Executive Committee for action.

The following resolutions, introduced at the meeting at Saratoga last August, were referred to your Committee to examine and report:

(1) *Resolved*, That after examination by the faculty a candidate who has given one year or more to private study of law may be granted an advanced standing of one year.

(2) *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be requested to consider and report to the Association what credit, if any, on account of law courses, should be given to students holding degrees in letters or science.

(3) *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this organization that the degree of a law school ought not to admit to the bar, but that admission to the bar should be only after examination by a State Board of Law Examiners, which Board should be appointed by the highest appellate court of the state.

(4) *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be requested to consider and report to the Association what degrees should

be conferred by law schools and the conditions upon which such degrees should be granted.

After considering these resolutions your Committee recommends that the following resolution be substituted in place of the first two resolutions, and recommends that the same be passed by the Association :

*Resolved*, That candidates for degrees should not be admitted to advanced standing unless upon satisfying the requirements of Article 6, subsection 1, of the Articles of Association as to preliminary education, and by passing a satisfactory examination in all the subjects of the first year of the school or by presenting satisfactory certificates of equivalent work in another school maintaining the standards fixed by Article 6 of the Articles of Association.

Your Committee further recommends that the following two resolutions be substituted in place of the resolution numbered 3, above, and these resolutions be passed by the Association :

*Resolved*, That the degree of a law school should not admit to the bar.

*Resolved*, That admission to the bar should be only after examination by a State Board of Law Examiners appointed by the highest appellate court of the state.

Your Committee would further report that it is unable to reach any conclusion at present upon the question presented in the fourth resolution above and recommends the reference of said resolution to a special committee to investigate and report.

In addition to its action upon the above resolutions your Committee recommends the adoption of the following resolutions by the Association :

*Resolved*, That the members of the Association be requested to print in their annual announcements the fact of their membership in the Association.

*Resolved*, That the Association recommends that the expenses of delegates to the annual meeting of the Association be paid by the schools appointing them.

Your Committee would further report that under the special proviso of subsection 1 of Article 6 of the Articles of Association, it had no discretion in the matter of determining whether schools represented at the Saratoga meeting last year comply with the requirements of said subsection. Some examination of the printed announcements of these schools leads your Committee to believe that not all of them complied with the requirements of this subsection at the time such announcements were issued. It is to be presumed, however, that they will comply with such requirements by September, 1901. Under the provisions of Article 10 of the Articles of Association it will become the duty of the succeeding executive committee to examine more closely into this matter and determine whether the requirements of Articles 6 and 7 are complied with by all members of the Association. In the judgment of your Committee the usefulness and success of the Association will depend very largely upon the strict adherence to the moderate requirements fixed in the Articles of Association as a condition to membership.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES B. THAYER,  
*Chairman.*

The recommendations of the Executive Committee were taken up for consideration.

On motion, the following schools, recommended for membership by the Committee, were duly elected :

The Hastings School of Law of the University of California.

University of Colorado, School of Law.

Denver Law School.

University of Kansas, School of Law.

Leland Stanford, Jr., University, Department of Law.

On motion, the delegates present from the above schools were given full standing. These were :

University of Colorado, School of Law : C. M. Campbell,  
Moses Hallett.

Denver Law School: Tyson S. Dines, G. C. Manley, Lucius W. Hoyt.

University of Kansas, School of Law: W. E. Higgins, J. W. Green.

Leland Stanford, Jr., University; James Parker Hall.

A motion to waive the provisions of the Articles of Association and admit schools which had not filed their application and submitted their proofs to the Executive Committee, was ruled by the Chair to be out of order, as contrary to the constitutional provisions.

The recommendation of the Executive Committee concerning the application of the Chicago Law School was adopted.

It was voted that the Secretary should notify the Chicago-Kent School that on account of its certificate of membership being filed after the 15th of July the same could not be accepted, but that, as an application for membership, it would be referred to the incoming Executive Committee.

On motion, the courtesy of the floor was extended to representatives present from law schools which were not members of the Association.

The report of the Executive Committee upon the application of the Georgetown University Law School was adopted.

It was voted to recommit to the Executive Committee the original resolutions (1 and 2 above) and the substitute resolution recommended by the Committee, and that the Executive Committee be instructed to print next year its report in advance of the annual meeting and send a copy to every law school that may then be a member of the Association.

It was moved that the Committee's substitute for the third resolution referred to it be adopted. It was moved as an amendment that the resolution and the substitute recommended be recommitted.

Upon a vote taken the motion to recommit was lost and the recommendation of the Executive Committee was adopted.

The recommendation of the Executive Committee that the fourth resolution referred to it be referred to a special com-

mittee was adopted. On motion, it was voted that the special committee consist of three members and be appointed by the incoming President.

The recommendation of the Executive Committee that members of the Association be requested to print in their annual announcements the fact of their membership in the Association was adopted.

It was voted that the Association recommend that the expenses of delegates to the annual meeting of the Association be paid by the schools appointing them.

On motion, it was voted that the Executive Committee be requested to print its report and mail it to the members of the Association at least twenty days before the annual meetings of the Association.

On motion, it was voted that the incoming Executive Committee consider and report whether it is feasible to amend the Articles of Association so as to require schools to send representatives to each annual meeting, and whether schools in default for two consecutive years should retain their membership.

The committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts reported that it had examined the report and vouchers and found the same entirely correct. On motion, the report was accepted, and the Treasurer's report accepted and approved.

On motion, it was voted that the Executive Committee be requested to confer with the Executive Committee of the Section on Legal Education of the American Bar Association and consider whether it is desirable to prepare a joint programme for the discussion of topics connected with legal education.

The Secretary read a communication from James B. Thayer, President of the Association, concerning a possible defect in the Articles of Association, in that they do not specify any examination test for the passing of students from one year to the next.

On motion, it was voted that the Association express its regret that ill-health prevented the attendance of the President and it was further ordered that his communication be referred to

the Executive Committee with the request that the Committee report at the next annual meeting as to the matters concerning which action is suggested.

The Committee on Nominations reported as follows :

For President: Emlin McClain, of the Iowa State University.

For Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest W. Huffcut, of Cornell University.

For members of the Executive Committee: Simeon E. Baldwin, of Yale University; William P. Rogers, of Indiana University; and William S. Curtis, of the St. Louis Law School.

On motion, the report was adopted; the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the Association for the candidates named, and they were declared duly elected.

On motion, the Association adjourned *sine die*.

E. W. HUFFCUT,  
*Secretary.*