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## NECESSITY FOR PUBLIC DEFENDER ESTABLISHED BY STATISTICS.<sup>1</sup>

WALTON J. WOOD.<sup>2</sup>

"In presenting these figures I have covered the work done during the first year of the operation of the office of Public Defender, beginning January 7, 1914, and ending December 31, 1914. Comparison is made of the work done in Departments 17 and 18, the two departments of the Superior Court devoted entirely to criminal matters. We have not included the cases handled by our office in the Juvenile Court and the court in which charges of omission to provide for minor children are considered. In the last mentioned court our office handled nearly all the cases in which any counsel appeared. In this court alone we appeared in 73 cases. Our office handled altogether 417 criminal matters during the year 1914. The bulk of the work, however, is included in the 260 felony cases in which we appeared in Departments 17 and 18 of the Superior Court.

"In the following table a comparison is made between the results of cases handled by the Public Defender in 1914, those handled by paid attorneys in private practice during the same period, and the cases of the attorneys assigned by the court and serving without fee during the calendar year 1913.

TABLE I.

COMPARISON OF RESULTS OF CASES DEFENDED BY PRIVATE AND PUBLIC DEFENDERS.

	Assigned Attorneys in 1913 Serving Without Pay	Attorneys in Private Practice, Paid by Defendants, in 1914	Public Defender, in 1914
Number of cases .....	115	514	260
Pleas of guilty .....	71	250	183
Percentage of cases in which pleas of guilty were entered.....	61.7%	48.6%	70%
Number of cases in which probation was granted .....	31	154	87
Percentage of cases in which probation was granted .....	27.8%	30%	33.4%
Number of trials.....	30	147	58
Percentage of cases that went to trial..	26%	28.6%	22.3%
Verdicts of not guilty or disagreements.	6	54	20
Percentage of trials in which verdict of not guilty rendered or jury disagreed	20%	36.7%	34.4%

<sup>1</sup>From *The Recorder*, San Francisco, November 10, 1915.

<sup>2</sup>Public Defender, Los Angeles County.

"The difference in number between the cases handled by the 'assigned attorneys' in 1913 and the cases handled by the Public Defender in 1914 is accounted for in part by the growth of the city, but more by the fact that a number of attorneys of low standing formerly made a practice of hanging about the jail soliciting business from unfortunates who were in reality unable to pay fees. These attorneys have almost entirely disappeared, the defendants formerly represented by them being now represented by the Public Defender.

"It will be noted that a much larger percentage of the defendants represented by the Public Defender pleaded guilty than was the case with the 'assigned attorneys' or the attorneys in private practice in 1914. This has resulted in a saving of expense to the county. It also appears that a larger percentage of the defendants represented by the Public Defender were acquitted and placed on probation than the defendants represented by the 'assigned attorneys.' The Public Defender, on the other hand, has accomplished practically the same results on behalf of his clients as the paid attorneys in private practice, the former securing probation for a slightly larger percentage, and the paid attorneys in private practice securing a slightly larger percentage of acquittals. The fact that only 20 per cent of the cases of the 'assigned attorneys' resulted in acquittals, as compared to 34.4 per cent of the cases handled by the Public Defender, shows conclusively that the contentions of those favoring the Public Defender plan are correct. It is demonstrated that the 'assigned attorneys' did not do efficient work. Likewise the fact that the Public Defender achieved practically the same results as the attorneys representing defendants financially able to pay counsel fees proves the necessity for the selection of attorneys properly prepared and adequately paid to represent defendants without means to secure their own attorneys. The result shows clearly that the defendants without means have been better cared for, while the county at the same time has been financially benefitted.

"A smaller percentage of the total cases handled by the Public Defender went to trial than of the cases handled by either the assigned attorneys or the paid attorneys in private practice, the result being a considerable saving of expense to the county.

*Questions of Law.*—A separate comparison has been made between the work of the Public Defender during the year 1914 and that of the attorneys in private practice during the same period in the matter of demurrers, motions for new trial, appeals, etc. Under this

head is considered the questions of law affecting the rights of the accused.

TABLE II.

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC DEFENSE COMPARED.	TYPES OF CASES.	
	Attorneys in Private Practice, Paid by Defendants, in 1914	Public Defender, in 1914
Demurrers filed .....	40	2
Demurrers sustained .....	2	2
Motions to set aside information.....	21	0
Motions to set aside information granted.....	2	0
Motions for new trials.....	27	6
Motions for new trials granted.....	1	0
Appeals taken .....	27	3

"It will be noted that the Public Defender occupied comparatively very little time of the court in arguing demurrers. Only two demurrers were presented and both were sustained. No effort was made to secure the release of defendants on technicalities.

"While the Public Defender appeared in one-third of the total number of cases, he appealed in only three cases, while attorneys in private practice appealed in twenty-seven cases.

"The following schedule shows the time saved by the Public Defender in trying cases more rapidly than the attorneys in private practice:

TABLE III.

## TIME SAVED BY PUBLIC DEFENDER:

	Attorneys in Private Practice, Paid by Defendants, in 1914	Public Defender, in 1914
Number of days of Court occupied by trials.....	239 days for 147 trials	59 days for 58 trials
Average time for each trial.....	1.626 days	1.017 days
Average time saved on trials by Public Defender.....		.609 days

"The Public Defender has saved to the county in the two criminal courts alone at least \$1,700 over and above the sum paid to the employes of the office in salaries, without taking into account the sum saved by declining to take appeals and in the cases in the juvenile and "failure to provide" courts.

"*Civil Cases.*—Our data on the civil cases during the year 1914 is not so complete as in the criminal cases. The office was not provided with sufficient assistants at first and cases came in so rapidly that tabulation during the first few months was not as complete as

at the present time. In civil matters the Public Defender is authorized to take up only claims not over \$100 for persons who are financially unable to employ attorneys. He also defends such persons when they are being prosecuted in civil actions. During the calendar year 1914 7,872 applicants appeared at the office for assistance. Of this number fifty-five per cent of the total desired only advice on various matters, covering most of the branches of the civil law. The majority of these were women in domestic trouble, often deserted by husbands and penniless. Others were tenants, out of work and without money, who had been locked out of their houses while their clothing was detained by the landlords. Of the total number of applicants fifteen per cent were refused because their claims were over \$100 or because in the judgment of the office they were financially able to employ counsel. Of the total number thirty per cent had claims which the office accepted for the purpose of adjustment. Of these, seventy per cent were claims for wages. About two-thirds of the claims accepted were adjusted out of court. In most of the other cases the parties did not care to sue for the reason that they either could not secure court costs or did not care to risk advancing costs to collect very small sums. In many cases the applicants did not have the money to pay filing fees and this office is not provided with funds for that purpose. Only 115 suits were filed in civil matters. Of these, seventy-six were claims for wages. Six were cases in which the office defended persons who were being prosecuted. Eighty-one suits were won by this office, seven were lost, twelve are pending on appeal or otherwise.

"The office endeavors to adjust all civil matters without suit and in most cases we find that a courteous letter from our office will bring a response from the defendant.

"Many applicants applied to the office for aid in civil matters in which we were not authorized by law to assist them. One of the first of these was a young mother who was to contest in court for the custody of her baby. The case seemed so urgent that we secured counsel for her and she recovered the child. In order that everyone who applied for help at our office should receive assistance whether or not their cases were such that we could appear for them, I called upon the Los Angeles Bar Association for volunteers to assist in civil cases. During the first year that we received assistance from the volunteers of the Bar Association we referred 1,093 cases to them. We did not feel that it was our duty or our right to supervise the work of these volunteers in relation to these cases.

*“Estimate of Expenses Saved to the County by the Criminal Department of the Public Defender’s Office During the Calendar Year of 1914.—Trials by attorneys in private practice, 147; number of court days for such trials, 239; average length of trials, 1.626 days.*

*“Trials by Public Defender, 58; number of court days for such trials, 59; average length of trials, 1,017 days.*

*“Difference between time of court required by private attorneys for each trial and time required by Public Defender for trial of each case is .609 days.*

*“Multiplying the number of trials, 59 by 6, the average time saved on each trial by the Public Defender, we have 35.4 days actually saved by the Public Defender. Estimating the cost of conducting the court for each day as \$200 we find that \$7,080 was saved by the Public Defender by shortening the time actually required in the trial of cases.*

*“Of the cases handled by attorneys in private practice 28.6 per cent went to trial. Of the cases handled by the Public Defender 22.3 per cent went to trial, a difference of 6.3 per cent. The Public Defender handled 260 cases. Six and three-tenths per cent of 260 is 16.38, the number of cases which, according to these figures, would have gone to trial if handled by attorneys in private practice. Taking 1.6 days for each trial, we have 26.2 days of the court’s time saved. At \$200 per day we find that \$5,240 was saved by the Public Defender in keeping cases from going to trial. Adding \$7,080, saved by the Public Defender in length of trials, and \$5,240 saved by the Public Defender in preventing cases from going to trial, we find a net saving of \$12,320. This does not take into consideration the time saved by the Public Defender in declining to take appeals in many cases where private attorneys would have appealed. The estimate of \$200 per day for maintaining the court is very conseravtive. It does not include the cost of rent of court rooms. It includes the salaries of the officers of the court and jurors’ fees. In the year 1914 the sum of \$21,700 was paid for fees and mileage of jurors in Departments 17 and 18, an average of \$103.33 for each trial. About \$25,200 was paid for salaries, an average of \$120 for each trial. (Five failure-to-provide trials are included in this estimate, not included in the total of trials hereinbefore mentioned.) In considering the cases handled I have taken all those filed during the year 1914. A few of them were tried early in 1915. This, however, is offset by the fact that early in 1914 some of the cases were tried which had been pending from the preceding year.*

“The employees in the Public Defender’s office who work in the criminal department receive salaries totaling \$10,620 per year. Subtracting this sum from \$12,320 we find a net saving of at least \$1,700 per year in these two departments.

“The Public Defender also performed services in criminal matters in the juvenile and failure-to-provide courts and in the District Court of Appeal. The expenses saved in these courts would bring the total to a still larger amount. It is impossible, however, to make an accurate estimate of the amount saved in these other courts.

TABLE IV.

PUBLIC DEFENDER’S OFFICE, CIVIL DEPARTMENT, REPORT OF SUITS FILED FROM JANUARY 7, 1914, TO DECEMBER 31, 1914, SHOWING CONDITION OF SAME ON SEPTEMBER 20, 1915.

	Won	Lost	Dropped	Pending	Secured Other Counsel	Could Not Serve De- fendant	Total
Wage claims .....	56	4	5	6	3	2	76
Detention of personal property .....	6	1	2	..	..	..	9
Injury to personal prop- erty .....	6	..	1	3	..	..	10
Defendant on account of persecution .....	3	..	..	3	..	..	6
Miscellaneous .....	10	2	2	..	..	..	14
Totals . . . . .	81	7	10	12	3	2	115

THE LEGAL AID AND THE PUBLIC DEFENDER  
IDEA IN CALIFORNIA.

*The Recorder*, September 11, 1915.

(We publish below various extracts from *The Recorder* of San Francisco, which seem to us to set forth, in an instructive way the manner of the development of the movement for Legal Aid and Public Defense on the Pacific coast. We are indebted to MR. R. S. GRAY of San Francisco, for drawing our attention to this interesting matter.—Ed.)

“The way in which the Public Defender of Los Angeles County is justifying the creation of that office must be extremely gratifying to those who were instrumental in its establishment.

“Although created primarily for the purpose of protecting the rights of persons charged with crime who were unable to employ

counsel, the office of Public Defender has found a large part of its usefulness in the assistance that it has been able to render, directly and indirectly, to the people of Los Angeles who have had just causes of action in civil cases, but were unable to employ counsel. As to these persons the Public Defender, with the assistance of members of the Los Angeles Bar Association, serving gratuitously, has been able to render considerable service.

"How great service can be gathered from a letter from Hon. Walton J. Wood, the Public Defender, to Major Andrew J. Copp, secretary of the Los Angeles Bar Association, printed in *The Recorder* on September 10, 1915. For the part played by the members of the Los Angeles bar, who assisted gratuitously in rendering such service, there can be nothing but praise. Any community that possesses men who will devote time from their own business to protect the necessitous and see that justice is done to the indigent, without money and without price, deserves to be congratulated, as it deserves commendation for providing the machinery to make the rendering of such assistance officially possible.

"On the criminal side the Public Defender has established a reason for the existence of his office. He has been able to protect indigent and ignorant defendants from the harpies of the law; he has prevented the appointment of inexperienced youths to defend persons charged with serious crimes; he has been able to see that a proper defense of such persons was made, as he had power and funds with which to summon witnesses, something often impossible in cases tried gratuitously where defendants were without money, thereby reducing the possibility of the conviction of innocent defendants; he has prevented over-punishment, and has procured probation wherever he could satisfy the judge that a job was awaiting the man, and has frequently found the job as well.

"These things alone, as they offer an opportunity to the man who has blundered or been forced into crime, or denied a right to live after being released from prison through hounding by the police or former fellow-convicts, to better himself and take the first step upward toward good citizenship, justify the office of Public Defender and warrant its continuance as an exemplar that where we exercise only a part of our duty as our brother's keeper we are fulfilling in small measure the scriptural injunction 'Even as ye do unto the least of these, My children, ye do it unto Me.'

"But there is another and just as large a side to the Public

Defender's work in furnishing assistance to the poorly circumstanced in civil matters, referred to above.

"The Los Angeles County Charter provides that the Public Defender

'shall, upon request, prosecute actions for the collection of wages and of other demands of persons who are not financially able to employ counsel, in cases in which the sum involved does not exceed one hundred dollars and in which, in the judgment of the Public Defender, the claims urged are valid and enforceable in the courts. He shall also, upon request, defend such persons in civil litigation in which, in his judgment, they are being persecuted or unjustly harassed.'

"It is a well known but unfortunate fact that in every large community there is a considerable number of persons who are continually being defrauded of their just dues, and, either through ignorance or the proper course to pursue or inability to pay the small sum exacted as a filing fee, are unable to invoke the law to compel payment of their claims. To such people the Public Defender, with his official status, is able to and does afford relief wherever the claims appear to him to be just. And then there is another class who, through misfortune, illness or what not, are harassed with creditors, seeking, like Shylock their pound of flesh and not at all particular if they take all the blood along with it. For these the Public Defender furnishes protection and secures leniency and frequently employment so that they can help themselves.

"The difficulties that confront the necessitous, the ignorant and the foreigner in securing justice are well known. In older communities assistance is afforded by legal aid societies. Los Angeles has chosen to impose this duty upon the Public Defender. And while doing so has not provided him with sufficient assistants to investigate and afford relief in the thousands of cases that come to him. For that reason Mr. Wood was compelled to enlist the aid of members of the Bar Association. And that aid has been given ungrudgingly and gratuitously to the lasting credit of the bar.

"Some method should be found in San Francisco to undertake the work on the civil side that the Public Defender is doing so well in Los Angeles. As a means was found through the organization of the Remedial Loan Association. to provide a means by which the necessitous could borrow money at a low rate of interest, so should some sort of legal aid society be organized to assist the necessitous

in securing the payment of their just dues, and to prevent the worthy but unfortunate poor from being unnecessarily harassed by persons seeking to collect money from them. Other cities have solved this problem and are affording such relief and San Francisco should do the same.

"This work might well be undertaken here under the auspices and direction of the Commonwealth Club, the Associated Charities, the Bar Association and kindred organizations, through a Legal Aid Bureau to be established and maintained by them, under the direction of an experienced paid attorney. As in Minneapolis, the work of the bureau should be conducted in co-operation with the various law schools of San Francisco and vicinity. Practically all of the work of the Minneapolis Legal Aid Bureau is done by the senior students of the University of Minnesota as part of their last year's work. Under the direction of the attorney for the bureau these students interview the clients of the bureau, investigate their claims, prepare all necessary papers and perform such other services as may be assigned to them. The work is splendid practice for the students before graduation—in fact, it may almost be likened to the work of an interne in a hospital in the medical profession—and serves a splendid purpose in the community in securing justice for many thousands of persons to whom justice would otherwise be denied.

"San Francisco has, unfortunately, no Public Defender to undertake this work, but there must certainly be enough public-spirited citizens, both within and without the law, to inaugurate such a movement and establish a legal aid bureau. There is little doubt that the deans of all the law schools, and there are seven such schools in or close to San Francisco, would willingly co-operate in such a movement."

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(*The Recorder*, September 13, 1915.)

In an open letter to the Bar Association Committee on Law Practice Work, Mr. R. S. Gray, chairman of the committee, calls attention to the editorial suggestion in the *Recorder*, quoted above, concerning the establishment in San Francisco of a Legal Aid Society to undertake the work done by the Public Defender at Los Angeles in civil matters. He also points out several recent happenings and utterances of prominent persons in the law, as indicating a new trend of thought in the profession. The letter is addressed to W. C. Sharp-

stein, Walter Perry Johnson, Frank R. Sweasey, F. G. Athearn, Warren H. Pillsbury and Milton T. U'Rren, and is, in substance, as follows:

\* \* \*

He drew attention to:

"First. The letter from Walton J. Wood, the Public Defender of Los Angeles County, to Andrew J. Copp, the secretary of the Los Angeles Bar Association, reporting on the year's work, from August, 1914, to August, 1915. \* \* \*

"Second. The editorial in the issue of *The Recorder*, entitled, 'Legal Aid and the Public Defender.'

"Third. The wonderful work done in Minneapolis, jointly by the University Law School, the Bar Association and the Associated Charities, and referred to in this editorial, and the suggestion contained therein as to what might well be done here in like manner.

"Fourth. The very great interest shown by leading members of the bench and bar, including nisi prius judges and justices of the Supreme Court and District Court of Appeals in the law practice work heretofore done at the Y. M. C. A. in San Francisco.

"Bearing such encouragement in mind, I took the liberty a few days ago of publicly and in open court, calling the attention of Hon. James V. Coffey to the Bar Association Law Practice Work now going forward at the rooms of the Bar Association of San Francisco, and expressing the hope that he might some time find it possible to give us encouragement and counsel. I would value very greatly a full report of his reply which made plain his efforts in the past to improve at least the probate law and practice and his willingness to take my suggestion under consideration, notwithstanding the heavy burden of work he is carrying in Department Nine of our Superior Court.

"Fifth. The informal talk of Herbert Harley, the secretary of the American Judicature Society, at a late meeting of workers in Law Practice at our Bar Association, when he spoke, among other things, of the problem presented by the fringe of starving lawyers, and his remarks at the meeting of this committee on the 2nd inst., as to the Advocates' Society in Chicago, and other matters, and the late address by A. E. Bolton before the Y. M.

C. A. Law College students, published in *The Recorder* of the 2nd inst., in which he declared that the attorneys who chase the dollars are never lawyers, are but a few late and local straws which show the way the wind is blowing.

"And lastly, for the present, I do feel that my own beloved profession is hardly more than yawning in its long and deep sleep in which it has almost entirely overlooked some of its greatest opportunities to so serve a suffering world as to become beloved of all men and the very salt of true civilization.

"I firmly believe this committee is charged with a very great and solemn duty and all these and many other things rightfully press for the consideration of every one of us."

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*The Recorder*, September 18, 1915.

"At a meeting held September 17, 1915, in the chambers of Mr. Justice Kerrigan of the District Court of Appeal, temporary organization looking to the formation and incorporation of the Legal Aid Society of San Francisco was effected, and a plan formulated for enlisting the support of organizations and individuals interested in the formation of a quasi-public bureau for the relief of persons having just claims, but unable to employ an attorney.

"There were present beside Mr. Justice Kerrigan, who presided, George L. Bell, executive secretary of the Commission of Immigration and Housing; Thomas E. Haven, dean of the Y. M. C. A. Law School; R. S. Gray; J. Gustav White, educational director of the Y. M. C. A.; Alden Ames; Andrew Y. Wood, managing editor of *The Recorder*; Harry Gottesfeld, Edward Lande, A. J. Johnson and Louis Goldstone.

"It developed that a number of persons had, during recent months, notably Mr. Bell, Mr. Gray and Prof. F. C. Woodward, dean of the law school of Sanford University, endeavored to bring about the organization of a local aid society, but without success. The recent publication in *The Recorder* of the result of the work of Public Defender Walton J. Wood of Los Angeles, and certain editorial comment thereon, however, reawakened interest and led to the calling of the conference.

"The necessity was shown for a legal aid society in San Francisco to care for the cases of persons having just claims, or who were being

unnecessarily harassed by creditors, but who through ignorance of their rights and remedies, or through lack of funds were unable to engage an attorney. The success of similar organizations in other cities was outlined.

"George L. Bell stated that from his experience as secretary of the Commission of Immigration and Housing, a legal aid society was extremely necessary in San Francisco. The commission, he stated, had practically 6,000 complaints, mostly of exploitation and fraud, lodged with it by poor immigrants and foreigners last year, and there should be some bureau, public in character, to which these claims could be referred. He pointed out the danger of having such a bureau established as an adjunct to the offices of any lawyer engaged in private practice. The commission had been greatly troubled with complaints against lawyers who posed as legal aid bureaus, and who advertised as such in the foreign language newspapers. The experiences of some of the persons who had sought assistance of these persons had been anything but satisfactory and reflected little credit on the persons operating the so-called bureaus.

"To ensure the success of a legal aid bureau, it would have to be a quasi-public institution with the active support of all institutions of a charitable or philanthropic nature, and of the civic bodies of San Francisco.

"To be effective, independent offices, in charge of a competent secretary-stenographer, would have to be maintained, with the legal work in charge of the senior students of the various law schools acting under the supervision of professors assigned to the work, and other lawyers who might volunteer, and all under the general auspices of the bar association and other organizations. This system is in vogue at Boston and Minneapolis and is thoroughly satisfactory and successful.

"This being the general concensus of opinion, it was suggested by Mr. Gottesfeld and Mr. Goldstone that temporary organization be effected at once, and Mr. Justice Kerrigan was chosen temporary chairman and George L. Bell temporary secretary.

\* \* \*

"A number of prominent persons expressed themselves as interested in the movement to incorporate a legal aid society, and promised their support, among them being Rt. Rev. Wm. Ford Nichols, Mr. Chief Justice Angellotti of the Supreme Court of

California; Dr. Aked, pastor of the First Congregational Church; Superior Court Judges Graham, Cabaniss, Sturtevant and Griffin; Justices of the Peace Conlan, Barnett, Roche and Deasy, and a number of lawyers.”

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(*The Recorder*, September 22, 1915.)

“Arrangements for the early formation of a permanent organization of the Legal Aid Society are being perfected by George L. Bell, temporary secretary, and at a meeting to be called in the near future steps to that end will be taken.

“Prominent attorneys of San Francisco as well as civic business and charitable organizations of the city have come to the fore in support of the movement for San Francisco. Letters are being received daily by Secretary Bell endorsing the project. These communications, however, without exception point out the dangers to such a society should it not be conducted as a quasi-public institution. One letter goes into the history of such organizations in San Francisco, declaring the early demise of all such movements to be due to the fact of their non-public existence.

\* \* \*

“The Charities Endorsement Committee of the Chamber of Commerce rests its endorsement of the proposed legal aid society solely upon the ground that it be not conducted as a private institution.

“Among those favoring the organization of a legal aid society, to be conducted along charitable lines, are Jesse W. Lilienthal, President of the San Francisco Bar Association; Frank W. Kerrigan, Associate Justice of the District Court of Appeal; Thomas E. Haven, R. S. Gray and Alden Ames. Many other attorneys of San Francisco have endorsed the movement and have signified their willingness to co-operate in the work when the time arrives.”

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(*The Recorder*, October 16, 1915.)

“The formation of a legal aid society was discussed at a well-attended meeting of persons interested in charitable and philanthropic work yesterday afternoon in the courtroom of the District Court of Appeal.

“Representatives from the Associated Charities and other charitable organizations from Hastings College of the Law, the Department of Jurisprudence of the University of California, the Y. M. C. A. Law School, the Commission of Immigration and Housing, the Board

of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce were present. Mr. Justice Kerrigan, of the District Court of Appeal, presided.

\* \* \*

"O. K. Cushing, president of the Associated Charities, addressed the meeting, expressing himself as heartily in sympathy with the movement to create a legal aid society. In response to an inquiry, Mr. Cushing outlined the work and achievements of the legal aid societies of New York, Chicago, Minneapolis and other cities, and told of the work that was being done by Harvard and other law schools in giving a practice training to their senior students in connection with the legal aid work.

"Mr. Cushing suggested that the chair appoint a committee, to be composed of representatives from the bar at large, the Bar Association of San Francisco, the charitable organizations, mentioning the three groups into which they are divided: The Roman Catholic, the Hebrew, and the Associated Charities, and the various law schools and universities, such committees to formulate a plan of permanent organization and operation. This motion was seconded and adopted.

"R. S. Gray's motion that when the present meeting adjourn the temporary organization should cease, and that O. K. Cushing be named as chairman of the committee to be appointed, such committee to have full power to act in the formulation of a plan and the creation of a permanent organization, was carried."

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(*The Recorder*, November 4, 1915.)

"Mr. Justice Kerrigan of the District Court of Appeal has appointed the organization committee provided for by resolution adopted at the recent conference on organization of a Legal Aid Society. On this committee Mr. Justice Kerrigan has named:

"O. K. Cushing, president Associated Charities, chairman; Walter Perry Johnson, Warren Olney, Jr., R. S. Gray, Professor Fred C. Woodward, Leland Stanford, Jr., University; Professor A. M. Kidd, University of California; George L. Bell, secretary Commission of Immigration and Housing; Frank W. Cornish, John F. Davis, Edward Lande, Harry Gottesfeldt, Miss Edith McCartney, Miss Mary Sweeney and Mark L. Gerstle.

"These persons represent the Bar Association of San Francisco, the bar at large, the University Law Schools, the Associated Charities, the Native Sons of the Golden West, the Catholic Girls' Befriending

Society, the Juvenile Protective Association, and the Federated Jewish Charities.

"This committee, pursuant to the resolution referred to, has complete power to proceed with the organization of a Legal Aid Society, and to formulate plans for financing the proposed organization and develop methods of operation. A study has already been made of eastern institutions of a similar character, and it is expected that at an early meeting of the committee for organization purposes a comprehensive plan will be presented for discussion and action.

"From the personnel of the committee it will be seen that a successful organization should develop. All of the forces interested in the building up of such an organization are represented in the committee appointed by Mr. Justice Kerrigan. With the appointment of this committee the former tentative organization, of which Mr. Justice Kerrigan was chairman, goes out of existence."