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Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINAL
LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY

HELD AT THE HOTEL LA SALLE, CHICAGO
SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1925

The Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology was called to order at 11 a. m., John H. Wigmore, Chairman of the Executive Board, presiding.

The first business taken up was the report of the Committee on a Model System of Criminal Records and Statistics (Frederic B. Crossley, of Northwestern University, Chairman). The report was accepted and approved.

The report of the Committee on Surveys of Criminal Conditions (Andrew A. Bruce, of Northwestern University, Chairman) was then presented orally; it summarized the progress of plans for the survey planned for the City of Memphis, Tenn., and the state-wide survey to be undertaken in the State of Missouri by the Missouri Association for Criminal Justice. General discussion of surveys then followed, in which the need of a survey for Chicago was voiced. Hon. Floyd E. Thompson, of the Supreme Court of Illinois, expressed the opinion that a state-wide survey for Illinois was as practicable and as necessary as one limited to the City of Chicago.

At this point, the President, Edwin R. Keedy, of the University of Pennsylvania, who had been delayed by the storm on his journey from Philadelphia, arrived and took the Chair.

The President appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of Messrs. Wigmore as Chairman, Thompson and Harley, and a Committee on Resolutions, with Mr. Bruce as Chairman. For the benefit of the Nominating Committee the President stated that, although his term of office did not expire for another year, he was convinced that the President should now be a resident of a central city like Chicago; the work on surveys would always require close attention, and was now located chiefly in the West instead of the East.

President Keedy then read his report as President. The report is printed elsewhere in this number of the JOURNAL.

The President's report was followed by a vigorous discussion of the need of law enforcement; of the comparative situation as to law observance in America and Europe, and of the most effectual means of promoting the administration of a surer justice in criminal matters.

A motion was then carried instructing the Committee on Resolutions to report a resolution embodying the desire of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology that the American Law Institute draft a model code of criminal procedure.

Upon the call of the Chair for new business, Mr. Wigmore stated that there had come to the Institute a proposal for affiliation with the "Association Internationale de Droit Pénal," a newly organized association embracing representatives of several European countries and devoted internationally to the objects for which the American Institute is founded. For some twenty-five years before the World War (as Mr. Wigmore stated) there had existed an international organization known as the International Union of Penal Law. It was founded in 1889 upon the initiative of Prins of Belgium, Von Liszt of Germany and Van Hamel of Holland. Until the beginning of the World War this Union exerted a beneficent influence in furthering the study of criminal law and procedure and prison science, and in co-ordinating the efforts of individuals in various countries interested in those problems. Due to the World War, and the death of the three founders about the same time, the organization passed out of existence. But in the spring of 1924, on the initiative of the dean and faculty of law of the University of Paris and upon the suggestion of Professor Saldaña of the University of Madrid, a new International Association was founded in Paris early last year. (The list of officers is printed elsewhere in the JOURNAL.) During 1924 correspondence has taken place between the officers of the American Institute and the officers of the International Association of Penal Law, with a view to arranging American affiliation. The Association now comprises national organizations in France, Spain, Italy, Poland, Greece and Roumania, and has individual members in Denmark, Belgium, Czechoslovakia and other countries on the Continent. In 1910, at the Washington meeting of the International Prison Congress (it will be remembered), the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology voted to constitute itself the American Branch of the then existing International Union of Penal Law, and it is just such an arrangement that is now contemplated with the new Association. The Secretariat of the International Association has indicated its willingness to allow the American Institute to have complete control over obtaining members of the Association in the United States. The membership fee is small—20 French francs, paper—and includes a subscription to the very estimable Quarterly Review of the Association edited by Professors Roux of Strasbourg and Huguenev and Donnedieu de Vabres of Paris. The Review is at present published in French only, but may later include other languages.

A motion was thereupon unanimously carried that the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology affiliate with the International Association of Penal Law as the American branch thereof; and that a committee of two be appointed to take charge of the practical details and to secure members for the International Association, including subscriptions to the Review. Messrs. John H. Wigmore and Harry LeRoy Jones were appointed as members of the committee.

The Committee on Resolutions then reported the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, That the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology respectfully urges the American Law Institute, as soon as practicable, to undertake a restatement of the law of criminal procedure, and expresses its willingness and desire to co-operate in the undertaking to the extent of its own ability and of the desire of the Law Institute."

The Nominating Committee then reported the following nominations:

President—ANDREW A. BRUCE, Northwestern University Law School, Chicago (formerly Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Dakota).

Vice-Presidents—

A. V. LASHLY, St. Louis, Mo. (Director of the Missouri Association for Criminal Justice).

SANFORD BATES, Boston, Mass. (Massachusetts Prison Commission).

OSCAR HALLAM, St. Paul, Minn. (Chairman of the Criminal Law Section of the American Bar Association).

JAMES H. TUFTS, University of Chicago (Editor of the International Journal of Ethics).

Treasurer—BRONSON WINTHROP, New York City (of the New York Bar).

Secretary—HARRY LEROY JONES, Chicago (of the Chicago Bar).

Members of Executive Board for the term expiring 1927—

HERMAN ADLER, Chicago (State Criminologist of Illinois).

F. EMORY LYON, Chicago (Central Howard Association).

FLOYD E. THOMPSON, Rock Island, Ill. (Supreme Court of Illinois).

EDWIN R. KEEDY, Philadelphia, Pa. (University of Pennsylvania Law School).

Upon motion, unanimously carried, the Secretary cast a ballot for these nominees.

The meeting adjourned at 1 o'clock p. m.