

1944

Report of Committee on Association Endowment Fund

Minn. L. Rev. Editorial Board

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COOPERATION WITH LAY GROUPS

No written report was filed by this special committee.

\ STANLEY B. HOUCK, Chairman

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ASSOCIATION ENDOWMENT FUND

(Committee of the Board of Governors)

In January, 1944, each member of the Association received through the mail a brochure prepared by the Committee on Association Endowment Fund reading as follows

"Friends of Minnesota State Bar Association.

Has your attention been called to the fact that there exists an agency authorized to combine into a single fund gifts and legacies for the maintenance, advancement and support of the interests and purposes of the organized Bar of this state and to administer such donations and bequests soundly and permanently? It was to provide such an agency that Minnesota State Bar Foundation was formed several years ago as a non-stock benevolent corporation 'pursuant to the provisions of Sections 7892 to 7900 both inclusive, General Statutes of Minnesota, 1923.'

Its general purpose and plan of operation, as set out in its certificate of incorporation, are:

'* * * to take and acquire by purchase, gift, grant or testamentary donation, either in its own behalf or as trustee or as agent or representative of others, real and personal property of all kinds and wherever situate, to hold, use, manage, expend, convey, dispose of, invest and reinvest the same for the benefit, aid and assistance of the Minnesota State Bar Association, and for the maintenance, advancement and support of the interests and purposes of said Association, or of such other organization of the Bar of the State of Minnesota, incorporated or unincorporated, voluntary or created by law, which the members of this corporation by a two-thirds vote thereof may at any time or from time to time designate.

The corporation is composed of the members of the Board of Governors of the Minnesota State Bar Association, ex officio, as from time to time constituted. The management of its business and affairs is vested in a board of not less than five directors who are elected yearly at the annual meeting of its members which is held immediately after the regular stated meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar Association. Its Board of Directors as now constituted consists of James J. Courtney of Duluth, Judge E. D. Libera of Winona, William H. Oppenheimer of St. Paul, Howard P. Quealy of Minneapolis and Reuben G. Thoreen of Stillwater. Its officers for the current year are.

Hon. Edward D. Libera, President

Howard P. Quealy, Vice President

William H. Oppenheimer, Second Vice President

Reuben G. Thoreen, Secretary

James J. Courtney, Treasurer

Its certificate of incorporation further provides that,

'The funds and property of the corporation shall be invested and expended as the Board of Directors may determine except as may be otherwise provided in the terms of any gift.'

The donor of a gift or bequest, large or small, direct or remote, to Minnesota State Bar Foundation may be sure that the income from his tax-free donation will be wisely used for the promotion and advancement of the general purposes of the Minnesota State Bar Association or of whichever of its specific purposes he may designate. Only in the absence of specific instructions, or in the event that it becomes impossible to carry out the donor's instructions, will the Foundation's directors determine to what uses the funds entrusted to their care shall be applied. The name or identity of the donor or testator may be forever attached to a gift or legacy, whether large or small, or, if he prefers, he may remain an anonymous benefactor.

In notifying the undersigned of their appointment to the Committee on Association Endowment Fund, President W W Gibson of the Minnesota State Bar Association said:

'The work of this committee is of the greatest importance. It is well known that one of the important functions of an organized Bar is to render service to the public by assuming leadership, not only in the realm of jurisprudence but in economic, social and political fields as well. To do this successfully, it must have funds with which to carry out its program. In the past, many public spirited members of the Bar have given liberally to churches, colleges and other benevolent institutions, who doubtless would have been happy to have remembered the important work of the Bar had they known that the Association sponsored an Endowment Fund.

'Any contribution to the fund, whether it be large or small, will be gratefully received. I am sure that if this matter is called to the attention of lawyers generally you will find among them many who will respond to this project.'

Minnesota State Bar Foundation merits the thoughtful consideration to every person desiring the association of the bar of this State to be a material element and a substantial factor in maintaining a high standard of attainment and of honor and integrity in the legal profession.
January 1, 1944."

In the February issue of *The Bench and Bar*, there appeared the following full-page display prepared by the Committee:

"Minnesota State Bar Foundation

A non-stock benevolent corporation, organized to receive

GIFTS AND TESTAMENTARY DONATIONS

to be administered in accordance with the donor's instructions or as an endowment fund, for the benefit, aid and assistance of the

MINNESOTA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

The Foundation, whose corporate duration is perpetual, is composed of the members of the Association's Board of Governors, ex officio as from time to time constituted. It is hoped that public spirited members of the bar will recognize in this project an agency for instrumenting and administering enduring contributions to the advancement of the aims and purposes of the organized bar of Minnesota."

In the March issue of *Bench and Bar*, there appeared the following full-page display prepared by the Committee:

"WHY NOT?"

'I give and bequeath to Minnesota State Bar Foundation, a Minnesota corporation, the sum of \$....., to hold, invest, use, manage and expend for the maintenance, advancement and support of the interests and purposes of the Minnesota State Bar Association, or of such other organization of the Bar of