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Minutes of  
CALIFORNIA LAW REVISION COMMISSION

March 20, 1954, 10:00 a.m.  
Senate Lounge, State Capitol  
Sacramento, California

Pursuant to the call of the Chairman, Thomas E. Stanton, Jr., the California Law Revision Commission met at 10:00 a.m., March 20, 1954, in the Senate Lounge, State Capitol, Sacramento, California.

Present:

Honorable Jess R. Dorsey, Senate  
Honorable Stanford C. Shaw, Assembly  
Mr. John D. Babbage  
Mr. Richard C. Fildew  
Mr. Bert W. Levit  
Mr. Thomas E. Stanton, Jr.  
Mr. John Harold Swan  
Professor Samuel D. Thurman  
Mr. Ralph N. Kleps, Legislative Counsel,  
Member ex officio

Assemblyman Ernest R. Geddes, Dr. Nolan Pulliam and Mr. Richard W. Dickenson, were also present during part of the meeting.

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Dr. Nolan Pulliam, Chairman of the Revision Committee of the California Association of School Administrators, which was the group sponsoring Chapter 1682, Mr. Richard W. Dickenson, Deputy County Counsel of San Joaquin County, and Assemblyman Ernest R. Geddes, who introduced the legislation, were present at the invitation of the Commission pursuant to a motion passed at the last meeting.

Dr. Pulliam, Mr. Dickenson, and Assemblyman Geddes were each called upon to present his views and discuss the proposed revision of the Education Code.

After considerable discussion a motion was made by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Senator Dorsey, and carried, that it is the sense of the commission at this time to advise the executive secretary (due to the shortness of time that remains between now and the general session) that he won't be expected to go beyond the following areas in his work, so far as the Education Code is concerned. He will concern himself with (1) clarifying ambiguous sections; (2) repealing ones which are clearly obsolete; (3) reconciling conflicts in the sections;



(4) repealing temporary and unnecessary sections; and (5) considering the possibility of a more logical arrangement of the code. It was agreed, however, that the commission does not intend to bind him to these areas, but is open to his suggestions as to other avenues of study in connection with the Education Code.

Dr. Pulliam stated that his committee might be able to offer additional assistance and to make available research facilities to which they have access, such as California Commission for Public School Administrators, formed for coordinating research having to do with school administration in this state.

Mr. Dickenson requested that the executive secretary or any members of the commission call on him for any help he can give.

Mr. Geddes, Mr. Dickenson and Dr. Pulliam were excused at 1:00 p.m.

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After a short recess, Mr. Swan, chairman of the committee on selection of an executive secretary, made a report on its investigation of the five major law schools: University of California at Berkeley, Hastings College of the Law, Stanford University, University of California at Los Angeles and University of Southern California. He stated that it was this subcommittee's unanimous recommendation that the commission establish its work at Stanford University and that Mr. Warren Christopher, who appears to be highly qualified for the position, be recommended for executive secretary. Another name mentioned in connection with Stanford was that of Professor Phil Seal.

Mr. Swan went on to say that of the other law schools contacted by the committee, the only other immediate possibility appeared to be the University of California at Los Angeles which had suggested the name of Professor Eud of the University of Texas. Mr. Eud was described as being well qualified for the work, but it was not known whether he would be available.

A suggestion was made by Mr. Swan to have the executive secretary on a full-time basis for the first two months, and half-time thereafter. Professor Thurman stated he would talk that over with the Dean at Stanford and the prospective executive secretary.

After considerable discussion on a motion to establish the executive secretaryship at Stanford University, without any specification as to the person who was to be the executive secretary, the motion was withdrawn. A motion was made by Mr. Sabbage, seconded by Mr. Fildew, and carried, that the research work be established at Stanford University if the proper person can be obtained to handle the work as an executive secretary, and that the details of selection and employment be left to the Chairman of the Commission. The motion also constituted an instruction that, if neither Mr. Christopher nor Professor Neal is available, the commission be advised and another meeting of the commission be called to consider the problem. It was agreed that Stanford University would be empowered in the interim to try to find a man satisfactory to the commission in case the two mentioned were not available.

A further motion was made by Mr. Levit, seconded by Mr. Shaw, and carried, that the Chairman be authorized to complete the details of the arrangement, including salary, within the limits of the budget as established. Mr. Levit noted that this motion was broad enough to leave up to the Chairman the proposal to have the executive secretary work full-time for the first couple of months, assuming that to be satisfactory to the university and the executive secretary.

Mr. Kleps reported on the budget, stating it had been approved by the Senate and Assembly committees with a few major changes: (1) the half-time salary of the executive secretary had been cut from \$8000 to \$6000 per year and (2) the item for equipment had been cut from \$1500 to \$200.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried, that the Chairman be authorized (up to \$1500) to take whatever steps are necessary to obtain the basic furniture and equipment for the commission's work from funds available during the current fiscal year. Mr. Kleps advised the Chairman to place his orders by the end of May. Mr. Kleps advised the Chairman that Mr. Dinkelspiel, upon his return from Europe in May, would probably desire to present his ideas on the Uniform Commercial Code to the commission.

Senator Dorsey was thanked by all the members for having their appointments placed on the agenda of the Rules Committee for confirmation in the Senate. Mr. Kleps brought up the matter of the vacancy on the commission. After some discussion the name of Mr. Homer Crotty of Los Angeles was mentioned. This suggestion proved acceptable to all the members, and Mr. Fildew said he would carry the suggestion to the Governor.

The next meeting date of the commission was discussed, and it was decided to leave it to the call of the Chairman.

A motion to adjourn the meeting, subject to the call of the Chairman, was made by Senator Dorsey, seconded by Mr. Levit, and carried. (Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.)