

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
AMERICAN TITLE ASSOCIATION

DO NOT REMOVE

# TITLE NEWS

VOLUME XXXV

SEPTEMBER, 1956

NUMBER 9



50TH ANNUAL  
CONVENTION

THE AMERICAN TITLE  
ASSOCIATION



HOTEL FONTAINEBLEAU  
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

Wednesday to Saturday (Noon)  
OCTOBER 17th to 20th, 1956

HOSTS

FLORIDA LAND TITLE ASSOCIATION

# The American Title Association

Founded in 1907

September 10, 1956

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
MORTON McDONALD  
THE ABSTRACT CORPORATION  
DELAND, FLORIDA

To the Members of the American Title Association:

Greetings:

Many have registered for the coming convention. As you recall this is the 50th annual convention of The American Title Association. It is to be held at the Hotel Fontainebleau in Miami Beach, October 17th through 20th.

For your guidance in proper clothing, may I suggest that dress will be casual. The weather at that time of the year in Miami Beach is generally comfortably warm. You can swim everyday. The hotel is air-conditioned and you will be comfortable wearing a light coat, if you so desire.

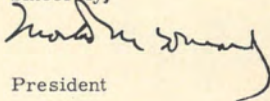
We are always casual in our living, however, we do like to dress on occasions. The hotel requires that all men wear coat and tie when going into dinner. Many of us will dress for the banquet. A tuxedo is always acceptable. Most of us in this area wear a white dinner coat.

This will be the first time many of the Florida Title people have had the opportunity to be hosts to you. The last time the American Title Association met in Florida was in 1934. We are looking forward to having you with us this year. Please do not disappoint us.

Finally, I wish to say that we believe we have an interesting business program arranged. We have arranged for fine entertainment for both the men and ladies. The hotel surroundings are charming in every respect. The prices are average of any first-class hotel in the country, and yet, the accommodations are superior.

Come on down and mix and mingle with the leaders of our profession.

Sincerely,



President

MMcD:bam

# Florida Land Title Association

PERCY I. HOPKINS, JR., President  
West Palm Beach

GIBBS W. HARRIS, Exec. Vice President  
Tampa

M. R. MCRAE, Sec'y.-Treas.  
Sarasota

THOMAS F. CORBETT, Immediate Past President  
Orlando

Office of the President  
121 SOUTH NARCISSUS  
WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

August 29, 1956

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GEORGE BALFOUR, Zone 3  
Orlando

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St. Petersburg

H. DREWRY KERR, Zone 3  
Miami

To all Members of The American Title Association:

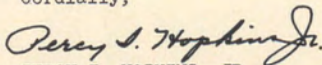
We of The Florida Land Title Association have been looking forward and working toward our Golden Anniversary Convention in Miami Beach for a long time as we are very appreciative of the opportunity of acting as hosts to all members of The American Title Association. We have left no stone unturned to make available for your pleasure fine entertainment throughout the Convention. For the banquet we have arranged a fine floor show with a name entertainer together with dancing to Tony Pastor and his Orchestra from 9:00 to 1:00. A water show is also in the offing for one evening and a football game for another.

There is no place better suited for relaxation and pleasure than Miami Beach. There are no end of things available for your entertainment as your time and energy might dictate. The Fontainebleau Hotel has the most spacious accommodations you could imagine. Tie all of these together and you can well understand why we want to share them with all members of The American Title Association.

President Mort has arranged one of the finest programs which I believe we have ever had. This together with the entertainment is intended to make this a memorable Convention for everyone.

We cordially invite you to our Sunshine State and will look forward to your being with us in October.

Cordially,



PERCY I. HOPKINS, JR.  
PRESIDENT



# Florida Land Title Association

PERCY I. HOPKINS, JR., President  
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St. Petersburg

H. DREWRY KERR, Zone 5  
Miami

To all Ladies of The American Title Association:

We "Bosses' Wives" of The Florida Land Title Association are looking forward to meeting all of you "Better Halves" of The American Title Association in Miami Beach at our Golden Anniversary Convention. All you need do is see that your hubby doesn't fail to include you as part of his necessary "travel orders". We have planned to take over from there with wonderful entertainment while you are in our "Sunshine State".

In the first place you couldn't find a better place to have fun than in the Fontainebleau as it is absolutely complete in every way. You will have a beautiful room with quick access to the beach, pool and shops. If you bring your children they will have supervision at the Kitty Kat Pool and arrangements can be made for baby sitters upon your arrival. It will be fun for everyone.

We have planned the ladies' luncheon for the first day so that we may all become acquainted. We have arranged topnotch entertainment with lots of wonderful prizes.

So, when the Boss packs his bag for his trip to Miami just be sure you have prepared to keep up with him. We in Florida are looking forward to having you with us.

Cordially,

*Mary Helen Hopkins*  
MARY HELEN HOPKINS,  
WOMENS CHAIRMAN



# Dade-Commonwealth Title Insurance Company

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SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES  
DADE-COMMONWEALTH BUILDING  
139 N. E. FIRST STREET    PHONE FR 3-7641  
MIAMI 24, FLORIDA

T. J. BOMAR  
PRESIDENT

## TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN TITLE ASSOCIATION

In conjunction with the American Title Association Convention in Miami Beach, October 17-20, arrangements have been made for the delegates, their families and friends to attend a football game while in Miami Beach.

A sufficient number of tickets for the game between the University of Georgia and the University of Miami to be held on Friday night, October 19th, in the Orange Bowl, have been reserved. There will also be buses at the hotel to take everyone to the stadium and to return them back to the hotel after the game.

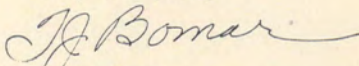
The cost of the tickets, including transportation, will be \$4.50 each. From all pre-season predictions, this contest will be one of the most thrilling games in the South this year.

I will be happy to handle the arrangements for this outing. I must know how many will attend by September 14th. Please send your check payable to me in an amount sufficient to cover the number of football tickets you will need. But again, please take care of this before September 14th.

To you golfers, this note: I will be happy to make arrangements for our delegates to play golf on any of the courses in the area. Those of you who are interested, please advise me of your intentions to play and I will take care of the details.

I'm only too happy to take care of these matters and assure you of my cooperation to help make this an outstanding convention for you.

Very truly yours,



T. J. Bomar

TJB:mmc



**Miami Beach, Florida, a vista of pastel-tinted hotels, golden sands and blue Atlantic waters.**

## Miami Beach Awaits You

MIAMI BEACH, FLA.—An extra dividend of summertime awaits members of the American Title Association who attend the Oct. 17-21 convention at the Fontainebleau hotel, Miami Beach.

While other areas may be experiencing the year's first taste of winter, this southerly playland should provide weather balmy enough for swimming, sunbathing, fishing, boating, golf and other outdoor amusements. Daily temperatures during October average 78.2 degrees, frequently reach into the 80's. Evenings are mild enough for watching nighttime college football games in comfort.

In this case, American Title visitors will be able to watch a hassle in the nearby Orange Bowl stadium between the universities of Miami and Georgia which is set for Friday, Oct. 19, and is one in a roster of fine varsity games scheduled for the 1956 season.

Conventioneers coming to Miami Beach for the first time will find a young city devoted to entertaining the visitor. Nearly 60 of the 378 hotels here have been built since World War II. In the oceanfront structures guests have the benefit of luxurious accommodations, many with private pools, tiled lounging terraces and modern dressing-rooms.

In addition, Miami Beach provides some two miles of public sands including eight picturesque oceanfront beach parks conveniently dotted along the shoreline to serve most sections of the community. Here, visitors may swim and soak up sunshine to their heart's content.

Those who seek a tussle with sailfish, marlin, dolphin, bonito or other such gamesters, will plan on a deepsea trolling excursion in one of the 50 or so charter cruisers docked here. Those who

like to combine a little sightseeing with a fishing trip will prefer one of the larger craft which drift-fish bay and reef waters.

For the sightseer proper, there are delightful daily cruises through Miami Beach's tropic, inland waterways, as well as bus and automobile trips farther afield. On these rides the visitor can view citrus groves, exotic fruit plantings, the Fairchild Tropical Garden and also the Everglades National Park with plant and wildlife unique in the nation.

Miami Beach also provides full facilities for golf and tennis. Two city golf courses, Bayshore and Normandy Shores, provide excellent 18-hole links, as well as complete clubhouse amenities. During convention days greens fees are complimented to all visitors wearing registration badges. More than a score of fine tennis courts are available at small cost in municipal recreation parks serving most sections of the city.

Added to all this, Miami Beach previews during fall and winter most of next summer's resort wear.

Most suitable wear for October in Miami Beach is just about what visitors would wear during summer back home with addition of a light wrap to ward off evening breezes. Men will favor sports clothes with the addition of dark suits for evening.

After dark, Miami Beach offers a glittering assortment of things to do. Visitors can try exotic foods in some 400 eating places ranging from exclusive restaurants set in open-air patios to regulation cafeterias and eateries. They can go nightclubbing, take in symphony concerts or attend free entertainment at city civic centers. They can dine and dance within sight and sound of the ocean.



# *Florida Land Title Association*

## — HOSTS —

### **NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

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GIBBS W. HARRIS	
Tampa Abstract & Title Insurance Company.....	Tampa
M. R. McRAE	
Abstract Company of Sarasota.....	Sarasota
THOMAS F. CORBETT	
Central Title & Trust Company.....	Orlando
D. A. MOYLAN	
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CECIL R. HALL	
Nassau Title and Abstract Company.....	Fernandina Beach
GEORGE BALFOUR	
Fidelity Title & Guaranty Company.....	Orlando
WILLIAM G. GALVIN	
Guarantee Abstract Company.....	St. Petersburg
H. DREWRY KERR	
Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation.....	Miami

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MRS. MORTON (Thelma) McDONALD.....	DeLand
MRS. WALTER E. (Jo Ann) JARDINE.....	Fort Myers
MRS. RICHARD H. (Frances) DEMOTT.....	Winter Haven
MRS. ED L. (Joyce) RICE.....	Titusville

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THOMAS J. BOMAR

Dade-Commonwealth Title Insurance Company..... Miami

## **FISHING ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE**

WILLIAM SHANE

Land Title Company..... Miami

## **TOURS COMMITTEE**

HART MCKILLOP

Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation..... Miami

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Chicago Title & Trust Co..... Chicago, Illinois

ERVIN J. BRANDT

American Title and Insurance Company..... Miami, Florida

PAUL FISCHER

National Title Insurance Company..... Miami, Florida

FRANCIS X. WALSH

Federal Title and Insurance Corp..... Miami Beach, Florida



**Just one of the numerous shopping areas in and around Miami Beach**

## **REGISTRATION**

The Registration Desk is located in the foyer of the Grand Ballroom, Fontainebleau Hotel. This is the clearing house for all messages, information, special events, tours, and fishing trips. All badges, luncheon and banquet tickets, together with other convention paraphernalia can be secured here.

\* \* \*

## **OUR HOST**

The Florida Land Title Association is arranging many special features for the pleasure of delegates attending this convention.

## **LADIES' FRIENDSHIP AND HOSPITALITY ROOM**

### **Rosewood Room**

This year something new for the pleasures of our ladies. The Rosewood Room will be open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Coffee and sweet rolls will be served. This beautiful room is located just off the main lobby and the Ladies' Committee of the Florida Land Title Association will be there to attend to every comfort of the ladies registered for our convention. Sorry, gentlemen, for the ladies only.

## **TYPICAL FLORIDA WATER SHOW**

On Wednesday evening, October 17th, beginning at 9:00 p.m., there will be for the entertainment of the delegates to the convention a water ballet and diving show staged in the luxurious swimming pool of the Fontainebleau Hotel.

## **COCKTAIL PARTY**

Thursday evening, preceding the annual convention banquet, our Florida hosts will provide a cocktail party in the Pavillon located in the Cabana Club.

## **MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT**

Following the convention banquet in the Grand Ballroom, dance music will be provided by the nationally famous Tony Pastor and his orchestra. Other first rate entertainment features will be included.

## **FOR THE LADIES**

### **Wednesday 12 O'Clock Noon, October 17th**

The Ladies Luncheon will be held in the Fleur de Lis Dining Room located just off the reception lobby. Entertainment and prizes will be provided.

## **FOOTBALL GAME**

Arrangements can be made to attend a thrilling football game matching two perennial rivals, the University of Georgia and the University of Miami, Friday night, October 19th, in the

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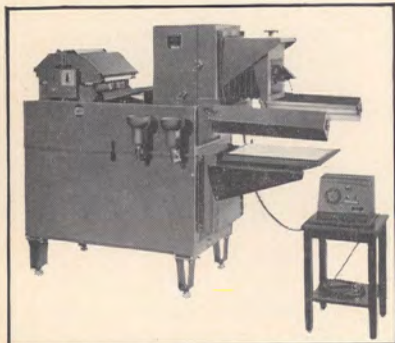
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world famous Orange Bowl. Write to Tom Bomar, Dade-Commonwealth Title Insurance Company, 139 N. E. First Street, Miami 24, Florida. Tickets are \$4.50 each and include transportation to and from the stadium.

### **ADVERTISING EXHIBITS**

On the mezzanine in and near the North Card Room, take time to inspect the outstanding advertising displays furnished by member companies. Visit these often for new ideas in advertising and public relations.

### **COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT DISPLAYS**

**New and useful equipment—money saving machines—cut costs—increase production—customer contact methods—new ideas.**

In this year's commercial equipment display in the North Card Room located on the mezzanine, you will find equipment, systems, and advertising ideas applicable to our profession. Make several trips—see these often—ask questions and seek new ideas. Here you may find just the answer to your problem.

### **FISHING**

1. In the Greater Miami area, upwards of 100 charter boats for fishing parties are available. We are advised that with less than one days notice a chartered trip can be arranged. Information on such outings is obtainable at the registration desk.

The cost of these charter fishing trips are \$60.00 to \$70.00 per day with a limit of six (6) persons.

2. There are also available in the Miami area, several "Party" boats the cost of which ranges from \$3.50 to \$5.00 per person. Incidentally, fishing tackle is furnished on both the "Party" and Charter boats, but food and refreshments are not.

3. In regard to Fresh Water fishing, there are several nice camps around Lake Okeechobee. The cost per day for boat and motor ranges from \$7.00 to \$8.50. The cost for accommodations, from \$5.00 to \$9.00 per day. Fishing tackle is not furnished and also cannot be rented for Fresh Water fishing.

The cost of a non-resident fishing license is only \$1.50 for three (3) days, and can be obtained at any of the lodges around Lake Okeechobee. Fishing licenses are not necessary for Salt Water fishing.

### **EVERY AFTERNOON FREE**

At this Fiftieth Convention of your Association, the program has been planned to make every afternoon free for the pleasure of the delegates. This will make it easier to attend the interesting business sessions and at the same time avail every afternoon for the numerous pleasures present in the Miami Beach area. Business sessions are valuable and important. But

informal gatherings have value too. During these afternoon periods extend and expand your circle of friends. Enjoy lunch in groups—discuss your individual business problems amid pleasurable surroundings.



**A trip through the inland waterways—with or without your fishing equipment.**

## SWIMMING

The beautiful pool of the Fontainebleau Hotel is available without additional charge for the use of guests of the hotel. Around the pool a number of chaise lounges are also available without additional charge for your comfort and relaxation. Arrangements may also be made to rent cabanas located around the pool. Relax, enjoy yourself.



Here is the "catch"—just waiting for members attending

# The American Title Association

## Officers 1955-56

<i>President</i>	MORTON McDONALD President, The Abstract Corporation	DeLand, Florida
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Exec. Secy.: Palmer W. Everts, 95 Liberty Street, New York

### **NORTH DAKOTA**

President: Carl J. Freeman, Bottineau County Abstract Company, Bottineau  
Secy.-Treas.: H. G. Ruellemele, Grand Forks Abstract Company, Grand Forks

## OHIO

President: Joseph C. Hughes, Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation, Columbus  
Secy.-Treas.: Marshall Cox, Land Title Guarantee and Trust Co., Cleveland

## OKLAHOMA

President: J. L. Bowman, Jr., Rogers County Abstract Company, Claremore  
Secretary: James L. Little, Guaranty Abstract Company, Tulsa

## OREGON

President: John M. Smeaton, Pacific Title Insurance Company, Portland  
Secretary: Lem P. Putnam, Title & Trust Company, Portland

## PENNSYLVANIA

President: Elmer S. Carll, Industrial Trust Company, Philadelphia  
Secretary: Carl P. Obermiller, Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Company, Philadelphia  
Treasurer: T. F. Deady, Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Company, Philadelphia

## SOUTH DAKOTA

President: Robert G. Gross, Edmunds County Abstract Company, Ipswich  
Secy.-Treas.: Verna Sumner, Stanley County Abstract Company, Fort Pierre

## TENNESSEE

President: Charles O. Hon, Jr., Title Guaranty & Trust Co., Chattanooga  
Secy.-Treas.: James W. Adams, Union Planters Title Guaranty Co., Memphis

## TEXAS

President: Zeb H. Fitzgerald, Hays County Abstract Company, San Marcos  
Secy.-Treas.: Bobby J. Franke, Hays County Abstract Company, San Marcos

## UTAH

Acting Pres.: A. K. Breinholt, c/o Security Title Company, Provo

## WASHINGTON

President: W. A. Langlow, Puget Sound Title Insurance Company, Seattle  
Secy.-Treas.: Wharton T. Funk, Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation, Seattle

## WISCONSIN

President: Richard E. Johnson, Waupaca Abstract & Loan Co., Waupaca  
Secy.-Treas.: A. J. Achten, Shawano Abstract Company, Shawano

## WYOMING

President: James Piana, Weston County Abstract Company, Newcastle  
Secy.-Treas.: Mrs. Frances Rossman, Weston County Abstract Co., Newcastle

## GENERAL SESSIONS

Wednesday Morning, October 17

### Grand Ballroom

**9:00 a.m. Call to Order**

MORTON MCDONALD, *President*, American Title Association; *President*, The Abstract Corporation, DeLand, Florida

**Invocation**

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**Address of Welcome**

PERCY I. HOPKINS, JR., *President*, Florida Land Title Association; *President*, Palm Beach Abstract & Title Company, West Palm Beach, Florida

**Response to Address of Welcome**

DRAKE MCKEE, *President*, Dallas Title and Guaranty Company, Dallas, Texas

**9:25 a.m. Report of National President**

MORTON MCDONALD

**9:50 a.m. Report of National Treasurer**

WILLIAM GILL, SR., *President*, American-First Title and Trust Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**10:00 a.m. Report of Finance Committee**

MORTIMER SMITH, *Chairman*; *President* Oakland Title Insurance Company, Oakland, California

**10:10 a.m. Appointment of Committees on Resolutions**

WILLIAM M. WEST, *Chairman of the Board*, Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, *Chairman*

FLOYD E. CERINI, *Executive Vice President*, Land Title Insurance Company, Los Angeles, California

LEONARD F. FISH, *President*, Dane County Title Company, Madison, Wisconsin

BRUCE G. VAN LEUWEN, *Owner-Mgr.*, Ottawa County Abstract & Title Company, Holland, Michigan

JESSE M. WILLIAMS, *Vice President*, Louisville Title Insurance Company, Louisville, Kentucky

**Appointment of Nominating Committee of Abstracters Section**

HAROLD MCLERAN, *Chairman*

**Appointment of Nominating Committee of Title Insurance Section**

ERNEST J. LOEBBECKE, *Chairman*

- 10:15 a.m. Address**  
WILLIAM R. BRAMBLE, Counsel, The Life Insurance Company of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia
- 10:45 a.m. Coffee Break**
- 11:10 a.m. Introduction of Distinguished Guests**  
Introduction of delegates attending their first National Convention
- 11:20 a.m. Legislative Committee Report**  
J. MACK TARPLEY, Chairman; *Vice-President*, Kansas City Title Insurance Company, Kansas City, Missouri
- Report of Committee on Constitution and By-Laws**  
JOHN J. O'DOWD, Chairman; *President*, Tucson Title Insurance Company, Tucson, Arizona
- 11:30 a.m. Address**  
ROBERT NEWTON REID, *Vice President and General Counsel*, Federal National Mortgage Association, Washington, D.C.
- Report of Committee on Membership and Organization**  
WILLIAM A. JACKSON, *Chairman; President*, Coates-Southwest Title Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- 12:00 noon Recognition of Charter Members and Past Presidents of the American Title Association**  
Presiding: LAWRENCE R. ZERFING, *Past President*, American Title Association, *Executive Vice President*, Commonwealth Land Title Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 12:50 p.m. Announcements**
- 1:00 p.m. Adjournment of Wednesday Sessions**

## TITLE INSURANCE SECTION

Thursday, October 18, 1956

Grand Ball Room

- 9:00 a.m. Call to Order**  
ERNEST J. LOEBBECKE, Chairman; *President*, Title Insurance and Trust Company, Los Angeles, California
- 9:10 a.m. Annual Report of Chairman**  
ERNEST J. LOEBBECKE



## Title Insurance and Trust Company

FOUNDED 1893

433 SOUTH SPRING STREET • LOS ANGELES 54

MADISON 6-2411

W. HERBERT ALLEN  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

ERNEST J. LOEBBECKE  
PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow ATA Member:

When a Californian urges anyone to visit Florida, its the height of something or other! In grandma's day, undoubtedly they would have said, "He's addled in the head!" But this is not grandma's day - it is the year of our "Golden Jubilee" convention. Although I am a "native son" of California, I am not "addled" or confused in urging every member of our Association to attend this memorable event. The magnificent Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach will provide the perfect setting for our 50th anniversary convention, October 17-20.

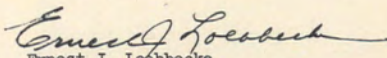
As Chairman of the Title Insurance Section, I know of the outstanding program that has been planned for us by the Program Committee. Top speakers, interesting panel discussions, committee reports - all add up to make this one of the finest conventions in our fifty-year history. The advertising, publications and public relations exhibits will equal or exceed those of other years. Remember, just one idea obtained will make the trip worthwhile.

Entertainment and sheer beauty! Have you ever seen beautiful Biscayne Bay in moonlight? Have you taken a boat ride through the miles of canals and inlets where Mr. and Mrs. Florida park their yachts by their back doors, just as we park the family autos back home? Have you seen Lincoln Road, world-famous for its beautiful shops, or Collins Avenue with its amazing hotels and motels? If you have, you won't miss it - if not, don't miss it. This alone is "worth the price of admission."

And don't forget, you will rub shoulders with hundreds of fellow title men and women. You will meet old friends and make new friends. You will exchange ideas and discuss mutual problems. You will enjoy it and you will profit by it.

So, send in your registration now and we will see you on the beach at Miami Beach.

Cordially yours,

  
Ernest J. Loebbecke  
President

EJL/vt



- 9:25 a.m. Reports of Chairmen of Regional Districts of Title Insurance Executives**  
 Atlantic Coast Region: GEORGE C. RAWLINGS, Chairman; *President*, Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation, Richmond, Virginia  
 Central States Region: THOMAS P. DOWD, Chairman; *Vice President*, Abstract & Title Insurance Company, Detroit, Michigan.  
 Southwestern Region: WILLIAM GILL, Chairman; *President*, American-First Title & Trust Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- 9:55 a.m. Address; Guest Speaker**
- 10:15-10:30 Coffee Break**
- 10:30 a.m. A Panel Discussion: Bankruptcy Act—Revenue Act—Other Federal Code Provisions—their effect on Titles**  
 F. WENDELL AUDRAIN, Moderator; *Vice President, Counsel*, Security Title Insurance Company, Los Angeles, California  
 JAMES G. SCHMIDT, *Vice President*, Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Co., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 J. C. GRAVES, *Vice President*, Louisville Title Insurance Co., Louisville, Ky.  
 LORIN B. WEDDELL, *Vice President*, Land Title Guarantee and Trust Co., Cleveland, Ohio
- 11:30 a.m. Losses Occasioned By Easements**  
 DAVID E. MACELLVEN, *Vice President, Associate Counsel*, Western Title Insurance & Guaranty Company, San Francisco, California
- 12:00 noon Public Relations—What's New—What's Effective—How Are We Doing—Where Can We Improve—Panel Discussion of Five Thoroughly Experienced Title Men**
- 12:20 p.m. Escrows—Elements and Possibilities of—a Growing Need—How do we fit in—Panel Discussion**
- 1:00 p.m. Announcements—Adjournment until Friday morning at 9:00 a.m.**



One of the restful beaches along the Atlantic Ocean

# The American Title Association

Founded in 1907

## ABSTRACTERS SECTION

HAROLD F. McLERAN, CHAIRMAN  
MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA  
LEONARD F. FISH, VICE-CHAIRMAN  
DANE COUNTY TITLE COMPANY  
MADISON, WISCONSIN  
CHARLES P. ADAMS, JR., SECRETARY  
GUARANTEE ABSTRACT & TITLE COMPANY  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS

### Executive Committee

J. ROBERT WILSON  
CHARLSON & WILSON  
MANHATTAN, KANSAS  
HENRY W. WULFFE, JR.  
KANKAKEE COUNTY TITLE & TRUST COMPANY  
KANKAKEE, ILLINOIS  
RICHARD B. WILLIAMS  
MESA COUNTY ABSTRACT COMPANY  
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO  
WILLIAM A. JACKSON  
COATES-SOUTHWEST TITLE COMPANY  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Dear Members of the  
American Title Association:

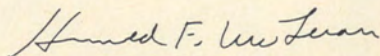
If you had an invitation to journey to the land of balmy breezes, citrus groves, exotic flowers, Cypress Gardens, Snake farm, Indians, deep sea fishing, Gourmet eating, not to mention the opportunity for a visit to nearby Cuba, would you be interested?

This letter sounds like the Florida Chamber of Commerce, but instead it is an invitation to you to attend the 1956 annual convention of The American Title Association.

In addition to all the interesting things mentioned above, the program for the 50th Anniversary of the ATA promises to be the best ever. Predictions are for the largest convention in the history of the Association. The way Mort McDonald and his gang have been boasting, you'd think Florida was a part of Texas.

Need more be said?

Sincerely,



Harold F. McLeran  
Chairman Abstracters Section

HFM/g

## ABSTRACTERS SECTION

Thursday, October 18, 1956

South Card Room

- 9:00 a.m. Call to Order**  
HAROLD F. MCLERAN, Chairman, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa  
**Annual Report of Chairman**  
HAROLD F. MDLERAN
- 9:10 a.m. Report of Nominating Committee**
- 9:20 a.m. "Joint Tenancy Deeds from the Abstracters' Viewpoint"**  
CLEM SILVERS, Moderator, *Secretary*, F. S. Allen Abstract Co., El Dorado, Kansas  
PERCY I. HOPKINS, JR., *President*, Palm Beach Abstract & Title Company, West Palm Beach, Florida  
RICHARD F. JOHNSON, *President*, Waupaca Abstract & Loan Co., Waupaca, Wisconsin
- 10:30 a.m. Remarks**  
MORTON McDONALD, *President*, American Title Association; *President*, The Abstract Corporation, DeLand, Florida
- 10:45 a.m. Coffee Break**
- 11:00 a.m. "Abstracters' Viewpoint on Title Insurance and Where We Are Going"**  
HENRY G. RUEMMELE, *Secretary*, Grand Forks Abstract Company, Grand Forks, North Dakota
- 11:30 a.m. "Effect of Recording Deed After Death"**  
ROBERT G. GROSS, *President*, Edmunds County Abstract Company, Ipswich, South Dakota  
**Report of Nominating Committee**
- 12:00 noon Election of Officers**
- 12:05 p.m. "Getting Rid of the Surplusage"**  
CARLTON W. CROSLY, *Treasurer*, Crosley and Boeye, Inc., Webster City, Iowa
- 12:25 p.m. "Review of the Wage & Hour Law Requirements"**  
CHARLES ADAMS, *Owner*, Guarantee Abstract & Title Company, Lubbock, Texas
- 12:35 p.m. "State Title Association Activity in Promoting 14 Point Program"**  
A. J. ACHTEN, *Secretary-Treasurer*, Shawano Abstract Company, Shawano, Wisconsin
- 12:50 p.m. "Abstracting Gimmicks"**  
JUNIUS HOLMES, *Secretary*, Little Rock Abstract Company, Little Rock, Arkansas
- 1:00 p.m. Adjournment until Friday morning at 9:00 a.m.**

## TITLE INSURANCE SECTION

Friday, October 19, 1956

Grand Ball Room

**9:00 a.m. Call to Order**

ERNEST J. LOEBBECKE, Chairman

Open Discussion—Questions from the Floor

(This is the experts get-together—that “\$64,000 question” is bound to be thrown open to discussion. The highlight of past conventions—even more so for this one.)

**10:00 a.m. Report of Nominating Committee and Election of Section Officers**

**10:15 a.m. Adjourn—**

(All delegates take part in coffee break in the Grand Ball Room and reassemble for continuation of General Sessions starting at 10.30 a.m.)



The delightful Chez Bon Bon. A refreshing atmosphere for your get-togethers at breakfast, lunch or dinner. In the Fontainebleau Hotel.

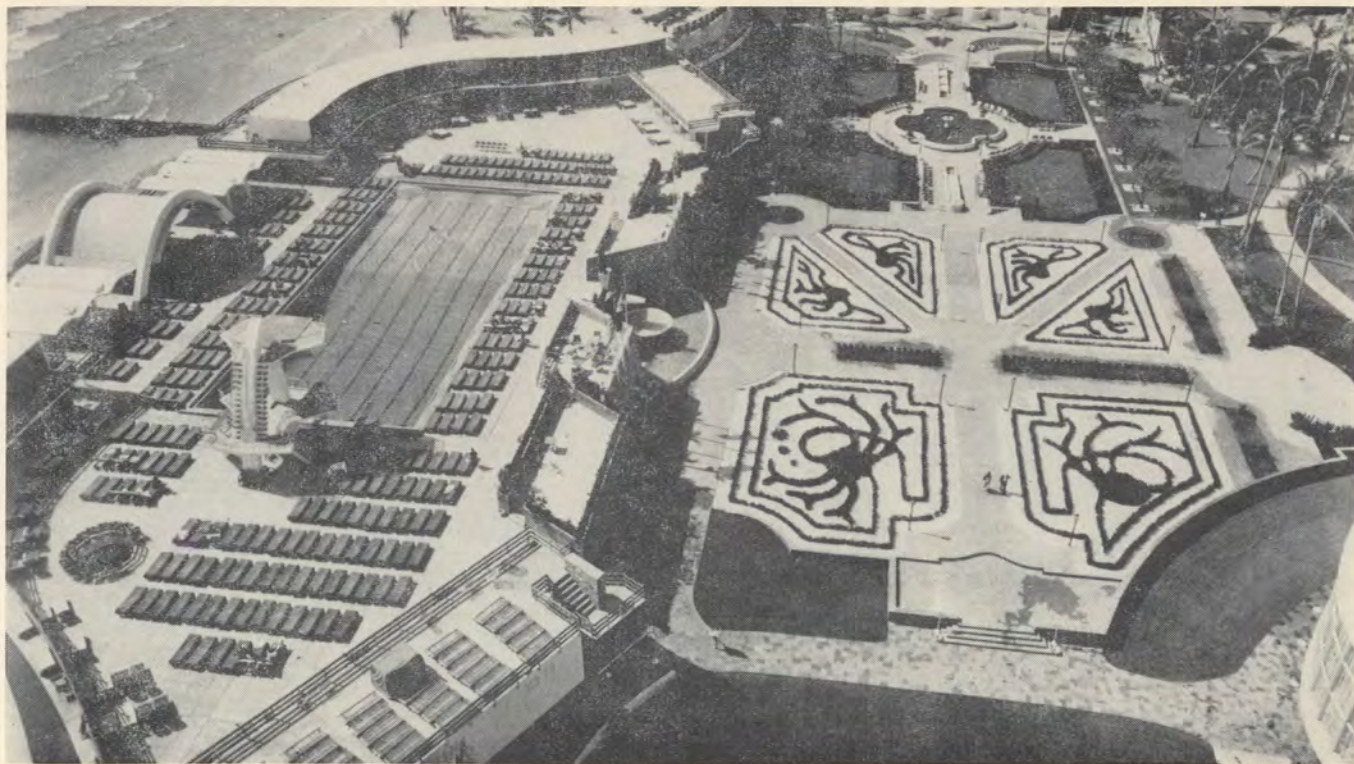
## ABSTRACTERS SECTION

Friday, October 19, 1956

- 9:00 a.m. **"Report of Survey in Use of Valuation Charge in Abstracting"**  
WILLIAM JACKSON, *President*, Coates-Southwest Title Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- 9:20 a.m. **"Promoting Abstracting Through Use of Title Standards by Bar Associations"**  
TIM J. CAMPBELL, *President*, Maytag Loan & Abstract Company, Newton, Iowa
- 9:50 a.m. **"Liability in Failing to Search Married Woman's Maiden or Former Name"**  
KENNETH H. BECKENHAUER, *President*, Beckenhauer & Beckenhauer, West Point, Nebraska
- 10:10 a.m. **"Report of Committee on Abstracters' Liability Insurance and Bond Protection"**  
A. F. SOUCHERAY, JR., *President*, St. Paul Abstract & Title Guarantee Co., St. Paul, Minnesota
- 10:20 a.m. **Report of Nominating Committee—Election of Section Officers**  
**Adjournment to meet in General Sessions in Grand Ball Room**



Lower lobby of Fontainebleau Hotel—A pleasant spot for those informal sessions.



**SWIMMING POOL — GARDEN — FONTAINEBLEAU HOTEL**  
**Scene of the Water Show and Ballet, Wednesday Evening, October 17**

## GENERAL SESSIONS

Friday, October 19, Starting at 10:30 a.m.

### Grand Ballroom

**10:30 a.m. Call to Order**

MORTON McDONALD, President

**Report of Planning Committee**

BRIANT H. WELLS, Chairman; *Senior Vice President*,  
Title Insurance & Trust Company, Los Angeles, Cali-  
fornia

**11:00 a.m. Address**

**"Buying and Selling Title Plants—Some Tax Matters  
to Consider"**

GEORGE E. HARBERT, *President*, Rock Island County  
Abstract and Title Guaranty Company, Rock Island,  
Illinois

**11:25 a.m. Address**

Honorable GEORGE SMATHERS, U.S. Senator from  
Florida

**12:00 noon "Youth Looks at the Title Profession"—A Panel  
Members of Panel:**

ROBERT J. JAY, Moderator; *Vice President*, Monroe  
County Abstract Company, Monroe, Michigan

ROBERT G. FREDERICK, *President*, The C. W. Lynn  
Abstract Company, Inc., Salina, Kansas

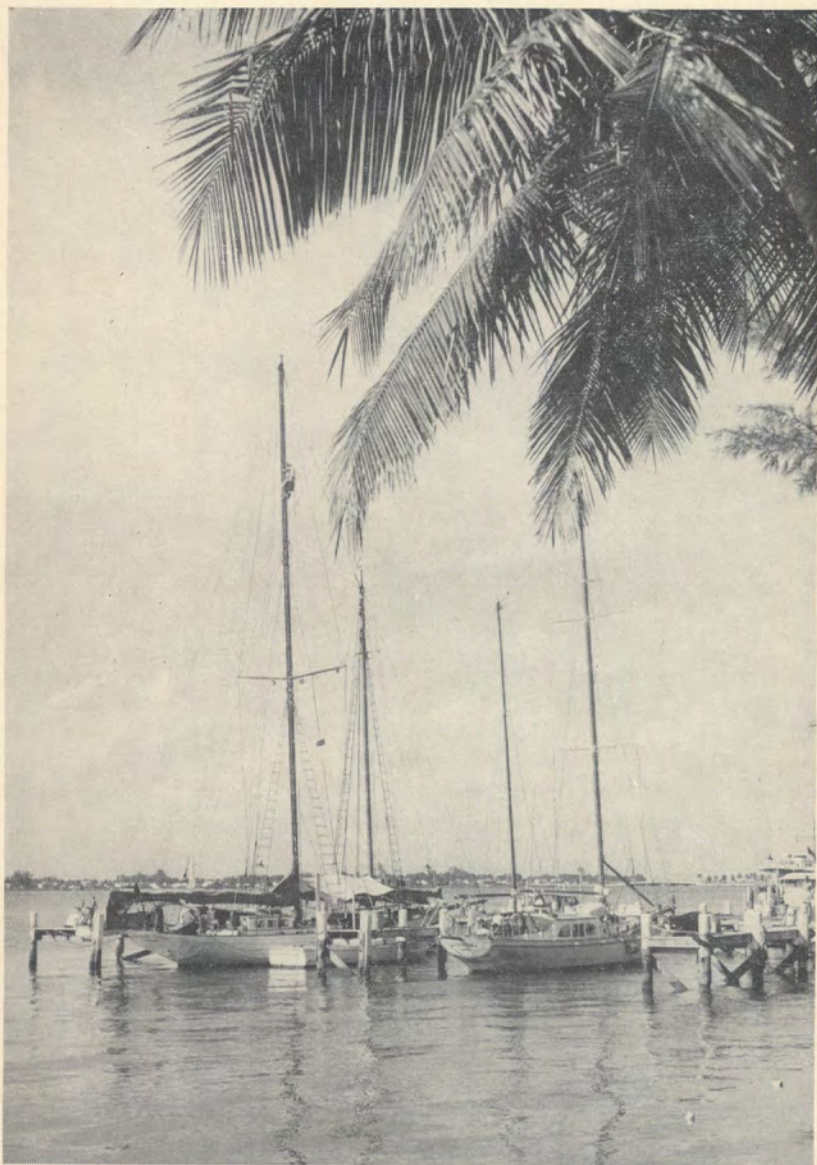
C. J. MCCONVILLE, *Vice President*, Title Insurance  
Company of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota

ALVIN R. ROBIN, *Vice President*, Guaranty Title Com-  
pany, Tampa, Florida

HAROLD WANDESFORDE, *Vice President*, Washington  
Title Insurance Co., Seattle, Washington

**1:00 p.m. Announcements—Adjournment**





Numerous trips can be arranged—many fine boats are available for hire.

## GENERAL SESSIONS

Saturday, October 20th

Grand Ballroom

- 9:00 a.m. Report of Committee on Advertising and Publicity**  
WALTER R. DOUGLAS, Chairman; *President*, Guaranty Land Title Company, St. Louis, Missouri  
**Report of Committee on Title Plants and Photography**  
ARTHUR E. WADE, Chairman; *Vice President*, Land Title Guarantee and Trust Company, Cleveland, Ohio  
**Report of Committee on Public Relations (Cooperation)**  
CARROLL R. WEST, Chairman; *Vice President*, Title Insurance and Trust Company, Los Angeles, California
- 9:30 a.m. Report of Grievance Committee**  
THOMAS P. DOWD, Chairman; *Vice President*, Abstract and Title Guaranty Company, Detroit, Michigan
- 9:40 a.m. Report of Judiciary Committee**  
F. W. AUDRAIN, Chairman; *Vice President, Counsel*, Security Title Insurance Company, Los Angeles, California
- 10:00 a.m. Film:**  
Historic Virginia—Site of the 1957 Annual Convention
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee Break**
- 10:45 a.m. Report of Committee on Federal Legislation**  
PAUL J. WILKINSON, Chairman; *Executive Vice President*, The Title Guarantee Company, Baltimore Maryland
- 10:50 a.m. Report of National Secretary**  
JOSEPH H. SMITH, American Title Association, Detroit, Michigan.
- 11:00 a.m. Report of Executive Vice President**  
JAMES E. SHERIDAN, American Title Association, Detroit, Michigan  
**Report of Committee on Resolution**  
WILLIAM M. WEST, Chairman; *Chairman of Board*, Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
**Address of President Elect**  
**Announcements—Adjournment**

## SUGGESTED TOPICS

Elimination of Free Service  
Publicity  
Co-operation Between Competitors  
Legislation Affecting Our Profession  
Collection of Accounts  
Plant Problems  
Mechanical Processes and Systems  
Reducing Operating Expenses  
Cutting Corners  
Elimination of Curbstone Competition  
By-Products  
Liability of Abstracter Under Certificate  
Writing Title Insurance in Rural Sections  
Business With Federal Agencies  
Valuation Basis Charges  
Charges Based on Time Covered by Certificate  
Giving of Estimates  
Pricing Copies of Abstracts  
License and Bonding Laws  
Standardization of Abstracting—State Wide, Regional, National  
Application of Wage and Hour Laws  
Profit Sharing Program  
Pension Program  
Fringe Benefits

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Revision of Policy Forms  
New Plant Methods  
Losses of Past Twelve Months—Means of Prevention  
Suits in Hand—Unusual Cases  
Extension of Title Insurance to Rural Sections  
New Decisions and Effects of Same Upon Title Insurance

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Improving and Increasing Production of Abstracts and Policies and Other Services to the Public  
Is It Advisable to Close Our Doors to the Public Prior to 10:00 a.m. and After 4:00 p.m. and on Saturdays?  
Production of Abstracts By Part-time Employees:  
Working Part-Time In Office  
Typing Abstracts At Home  
Working In A New Employee With A Trained Experienced Employee As a Team  
Could We, Can We and Should We Stop Comparing? If So, in What Departments and In What Steps Of Procedure?  
**AND Anything and Everything Else You Want Discussed.**



One of many golf courses near Miami Beach. Another feature of the ATA Convention.

# THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER!

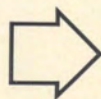
If you are now convinced that this is the ONE Convention you want to attend, do not let another moment pass without securing your hotel reservation and registration. There is still time. But to be assured a room in the Fontainebleau Hotel we will have to hear from you now. Fill out the forms (both sides) on the next pages. Send it air mail together with your check to cover registration fees to the

## American Title Association

3608 GUARDIAN BLDG.  
DETROIT 26, MICHIGAN

*Act Now - Act Now - Act Now*

there will NEVER be another  
GOLDEN JUBILEE CONVENTION



*Convention Registration Form*

**50th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION,  
THE AMERICAN TITLE ASSOCIATION**

**Fontainbleau Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida  
Wednesday through Saturday Noon  
October 17, 18, 19, 20, 1956**

Accompany this form with your check payable to American Title Association to cover advance registration fees. Mail to American Title Association, 3608 Guardian Bldg., Detroit 26, Michigan.

(Please furnish given names of all Registrants and Guests)

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**REGISTRANTS IN TITLE PROFESSION**

(Registration Fee \$20.00 per person)

Name..... Title.....

Name..... Title.....

Address.....

**GUESTS OF REGISTRANTS**

(Registration Fee, \$15.00 per person)

Name.....

Address.....

City, State .....

Name.....

Address.....

City, State .....

**SEE REVERSE SIDE**

# AMERICAN TITLE ASSOCIATION

## RESERVATION REQUEST

**October 16 to 20, 1956**

RETURN TO: 3608 Guardian Bldg., Detroit 26, Michigan

Arrival Date .....

Departure Date .....

Rate..... No. of Persons.....

Arrive.....

A.M.     P.M.     By Train     Plane     Auto

Name.....

Address.....

Signature.....

(PLEASE PRINT)

## THE FONTAINEBLEAU HOTEL

**A—4th Floor, Northwest & Southwest; 5th Floor—Southwest**

**B—5th & 6th Floors—Northwest; 6th to 9th Floors—Southwest**

**C—7th to 10th Floors, Northwest; 10th to 14th Floors—Southwest**

**D—11th to 14th Floors, Northwest; 5th to 10th Floors—Ocean Front**

**E—11th to 14th Floors—Ocean Front with Terraces**

### SPECIAL CONVENTION RATES

A ..... \$12.00      B ..... \$14.00

C or D..... 16.00      E ..... 20.00

Parlor and One-Bedroom Suite.....\$38.00 and \$45.00

Parlor and Two-Bedroom Suite..... 75.00

*All reservations are subject to confirmation from hotel*



Any way you look at it, this is the place to be  
OCTOBER 17 - 20, 1956  
— REGISTER NOW —





# ROLL OF HONOR

## *Past Presidents of the American Title Association*

1.	1907-08	W. W. Skinner .....	Santa Ana, Calif.
2.	1908-09	A. T. Hastings .....	Spokane, Wash.
3.	1909-10	W. R. Taylor .....	Kalamazoo, Mich.
4.	1910-11	Lee C. Gates .....	Los Angeles, Calif.
5.	1911-12	George Vaughan .....	Fayetteville, Ark.
6.	1912-13	John T. Kenney .....	Elkhorn, Wis.
7.	1913-14	M. P. Bouslog .....	Jerseyville, Ill.
8.	1914-15	H. L. Burgoyne .....	Cincinnati, Ohio
9.	1915-16	L. S. Booth .....	Seattle, Wash.
10.	1916-17	R. W. Boddinhouse .....	Chicago, Ill.
11.	1917-18	T. M. Scott .....	Paris, Texas
12.	1918-19	James W. Mason .....	Atlanta, Ga.
13.	1919-20	E. J. Carroll .....	Davenport, Ia.
14.	1920-21	Worrall Wilson .....	Seattle, Wash.
15.	1921-22	Will H. Pryor.....	Fayetteville, Arkansas
16.	1922-23	Mark B. Brewer .....	Oklahoma City, Okla.
17.	1923-24	George E. Wedthoff .....	Bay City, Mich.
18.	1924-25	Frederick P. Condit .....	New York, N.Y.
19.	1925-26	Henry J. Fehrman .....	New York, N.Y.
20.	1926-27	J. W. Woodford .....	Seattle, Wash.
21.	1927-28	Walter M. Daly .....	Portland, Ore.
22.	1928-29	Edward C. Wyckoff .....	Newark, N.J.
23.	1929-30	Donzel Stoney .....	San Francisco, Calif.
24.	1930-31	Edwin H. Lindow .....	Detroit, Mich.
25.	1931-32	James S. Johns .....	Pendleton, Ore.
26.	1932-33	Stuart O'Melveny .....	Los Angeles, Calif.
27.	1933-34	Arthur C. Marriott .....	Chicago, Ill.
28.	1934-35	Benjamin J. Henley .....	San Francisco, Calif.
29.	1935-36	Henry R. Robins .....	Philadelphia, Pa.
30.	1936-37	McCune Gill .....	St. Louis, Mo.
31.	1937-38	William Gill .....	Oklahoma City, Okla.
32.	1938-39	Porter Bruck.....	Phoenix, Arizona
33.	1939-40	Jack Rattikin .....	Fort Worth, Texas
34.	1940-41	Charlton L. Hall .....	Seattle, Wash.
35.	1941-42	Charles H. Buck .....	Baltimore, Maryland
36.	1942-43	E. B. Southworth .....	Crown Point, Ind.
37.	1943-44	Thos. G. Morton .....	San Francisco, Calif.
38.	1944-45	H. Laurie Smith .....	Richmond, Va.
39.	1945-46	A. W. Suelzer .....	Fort Wayne, Ind.
40.	1946-47	J. J. O'Dowd .....	Tucson, Ariz.
41.	1947-48	Kenneth E. Rice .....	Chicago, Ill.
42.	1948-49	Frank I. Kennedy .....	Detroit, Mich.
43.	1949-50	Earl C. Glasson .....	Waterloo, Iowa
44.	1950-51	Mortimer Smith .....	Oakland, Calif.
45.	1951-52	Joseph T. Meredith.....	Muncie, Ind.
46.	1952-53	Edward T. Dwyer.....	Portland, Oregon
47.	1953-54	George E. Harbert.....	Rock Island, Illinois
48.	1954-55	Lawrence R. Zerfing.....	Philadelphia, Pa.