3-19-1956

Letter to Corinne Bass regarding SEAALL Officer Election, March 19, 1956

Sarah Leverette

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March 19, 1956

Miss Corinne Bass, President
Southeastern Chapter, A.A.L.L.
School of Law
University of Mississippi
University, Mississippi

Dear Corinne:

I hope you will forgive my delay in answering your letter of February 15th.

Mary advises that she has written you that she feels that no election of a President for next year is necessary, and I hasten to add that I am in agreement. It seems that the President-Elect should serve out the term of office of the vacating President, at the end of which time she would proceed to serve her own term. This leaves only a Vice-President or President-Elect and a Secretary-Treasurer to be elected. If you agree with our opinion, it would seem unnecessary to send out the form letter asking for a special election but that the normal procedure be followed as set out in Articles 3 and 5, Section 2 of the By-Laws as adopted by the Southeastern Chapter.

I note that you state that the regular election procedure as set out in the By-Laws is not clear to you. My interpretation of the By-Laws as they relate to elections is that the Secretary-Treasurer in advising the membership of the business agenda include therein a list of offices and a request for recommendations to be made to the nominating committee. Though the By-Laws do not state how soon the agenda notices should be sent out before the meeting, they do provide for "due notice." It seems to me we should allow time for the notices to go out, time for replies, for a decision by the nominating committee and for mail balloting.

The procedure that Jane and I have been following is that I would make up a form letter when she requested it for any general mailing, such as the adoption of the Constitution and By-Laws, and she having available mimeographing facilities would send out the letters to the mailing list. I would suggest that our logical procedure be to determine what our business agenda would be, if anything, in addition to the election, and include therein the list of offices with request for nominations to be sent to the nominating committee. The nominations would be deadlined for an early date so that the ballots may be sent out and returned prior to the meeting.
I am in entire agreement with Jane's suggestion that a Nominating Committee be appointed from the North Carolina - Duke area.

It is my feeling that the business agenda and request for nominations should be sent only to members who have paid dues since they are the only ones who are actual members of the Chapter.

The appointment of Dorothy Salmon and Mrs. Von Allman as local arrangements committee seems to me to be an excellent choice.

Jane's suggestions for program sessions sound good to me. I do not have anything to add along this line, and can see no objection to having the members of the program committee from the same area.

I hope that my opinion concerning the election procedure is in line with your thinking and that of Mary's. Please let me know what you think about the agenda and our next step. I shall be glad to do anything to be of help in lining up the meeting.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Sarah Leverette
Secretary-Treasurer
Southeastern Chapter, A.A.L.I.

cc: Miss Mary Oliver
University of North Carolina Law School
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

P.S. Do you think we should work out some type of membership card for those who have paid their dues to Southeastern?

S.L.