



1927

The Lawyer

Silas H. Strawn

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bulletin of the Association of Grand Jurors of New York County, lists the following as important changes made by the new statute, which is Chapter 485 of the Laws of New York for 1928:

1. The action of the Board of Parole in releasing prisoners shall be deemed to be a judicial function and shall not be reviewable if done according to law. (Sec. 212.)

2. Persons shall not be released on parole merely as a reward for good conduct or efficient performance of duties assigned in prison. In granting parole the interests of society must be considered, including consideration of the probability that the paroled person will not commit crime while on parole. Released persons shall be in legal custody of the prison warden. (Sec. 213.)

3. The parolee shall contribute to the support of his dependents and shall make restitution for his crime. (Sec. 215.)

4. The Board shall satisfy itself that the released person will be employed in self-sustaining employment if released. (Sec. 214.)

5. Re-parole is prohibited for any parolee convicted of a felony while on parole, and the remainder of the unexpired maximum sentence must be served before service of sentence for the latest conviction is commenced. (Sec. 219.)

6. Release on parole must be on the initiative of the Board, and applications by prisoners are not to be considered. (Sec. 214.)

7. Conditional and absolute discharge from parole are abolished. Such discharge shall be only on expiration of the full maximum term for which the prisoner was sentenced. (Sec. 220.)

8. The State Central Bureau of Identification shall keep complete records of parolees, including photographs, finger prints, etc. (Sec. 221.)

9. Pre-parole reports and records are provided for, so that parole and prison authorities will have complete records at their disposal.

THE LAWYER

"The practice of the law necessarily involves a combination of the ideal with the practical.

"The successful lawyer must have ideals. He must be intellectual in order that his knowledge may be continually increased and his view broadened, and yet however idealistic or erudite he may become, he will accomplish little if he is not able quickly to apply his fund of information to the practical solution of the problems which are his to solve.

"A capable lawyer must be honest, mentally as well as commercially. He is commercially honest because his business instinct tells him that is always the best policy. He is mentally honest because he cannot be effective if he rides a hobby or sees red on any subject.

"If the lawyer today is to measure up to the requirements expected of him by society; if he is to shape and guide aright the thought and action of the people and mould the public sentiment of his community, his city or his State; if he is to do his full duty not only as a lawyer, but as a citizen, he must be qualified by education and training. The more thorough the qualification, the better the lawyer and the better the citizen."—*Silas H. Strawn, Past President of the American Bar Association.*