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Foreword to Symposium on Government Contracts

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SYMPOSIUM ON GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

FOREWORD

HENRY B. KEISER*

“There’s always room for more”—in the area of useful writings on Government contracts problems. Indeed, there is a positive need for clear, thoughtful articles in this kaleidoscopic field—where the dynamics of the defense and civilian Government market not only raise a continuous series of new questions but cast fresh lights upon the old. For this reason, the Marshall-Wythe School of Law is to be commended for devoting an issue of its *Review* to a *Government Contracts Symposium* and for filling it with the works of a truly distinguished group of authors.

“Five old hands and one comer” is how we would capsule-describe the authors—admittedly not the most elegant turn of phrase, but apt. All, of course, are members of the Bar and specialize in Government procurement law. Now, for a bit more detail about each.

Harold F. Blasky was formerly Chairman of the Army’s Corps of Engineers Board of Contract Appeals; Deputy General Counsel of the Corps of Engineers; and Vice President and Counsel of Paul Hardeman Construction Co. An expert on appeal Board proceedings, he presently practices law in Washington, D.C., as Resident Partner of the New York and Washington firm: Max E. Greenberg, Trayman, Harris, Cantor, Reiss and Blasky.

E. K. Gubin is that increasingly rare bird—a single practitioner—but one who has concentrated in Government contract matters for over

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twenty years. A pioneer in continuing legal education, he has been instrumental in organizing a number of procurement seminars and lectures at many. His offices are in Washington, D.C.

Walter F. Pettit is from the other end of the country—San Francisco—where he is a senior partner in Miller, Groezinger, Pettit, Evers & Martin. One of the best known procurement attorneys on the West Coast, he is a prolific writer, a much-in-demand speaker, and was a former Chairman of the Public Contracts Section, American Bar Association.

J. Edward Welch and the General Accounting Office are—to those of us steeped in contracting matters—practically synonymous. He has spent his entire thirty-three year professional career with GAO, has been its Deputy General Counsel for the past ten, and is the leading procurement law authority within that agency. A frequent speaker at professional meetings, he is a much respected figure in procurement circles.

John Wm. Whelan, Professor of Law at the University of California's Davis campus (and formerly on the faculty of Georgetown University) is a renowned scholar and educator. Author of numerous thought-provoking articles on the Government's contracting processes, he is (in addition to his academic position) a consultant to the Atomic Energy Commission and Editor of the *Yearbook of Procurement Articles* series (Federal Publications Inc.).

These are the "old hands." The "comer" is:

Allan J. Joseph, a junior partner in Miller, Groezinger, Pettit, Evers & Martin (San Francisco). Recently launched on the lecture-and-writing circuit, Mr. Joseph's performance reflects a keen intellect and an ability to communicate which mark him as one of the rising young men in this specialized area of the law.

The articles contributed by the above authors are timely and entertaining; they will assuredly constitute valuable additions to your procurement library. Consequently, rather than keep you from them by here inserting a series of synopses which cannot really do justice to the originals, I shall end this *Foreword* and delay you no longer. It is with pleasure, then, that I direct you to a reading and learning experience of considerable merit.