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The ADR movement was slow in coming, and developed from a sense that the traditional methods of litigation were often not addressing the needs of the litigants.¹ Although the various forms of ADR have been around in one form or another for many years, the American ADR movement as we know it today had its genesis at the ABA Sponsored Pound Conference of 1976.² Led by Chief Justice Warren Burger, this conference reviewed the paper presented at the 1966 ABA Annual Meeting by Professor Roscoe Pound entitled, "The Causes of Popular Disatisfaction with the Administration of Justice."³ As a result of the Pound Conference, the ABA created the Special Committee on Resolution of Minor Disputes in 1976.⁴ In 1983, this committee metamorphosed to become the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution. According to the ABA, it "is one of the ABA's newest and fastest growing Sections . . .".⁵

¹ "It is time, therefore, to ask ourselves whether the tools of procedure, the methods of judicial process that developed slowly through the evolution of the common law, and were fitted to a rural, agrarian society are entirely suited, without change, to the complex modern society of the late 20th and the 21st century." Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, Keynote Address, pg. 23-25 of *The Pound Conference*, on page 32, Vol. 1, p. 1 (1976).

² ABA Criminal Justice Section Report to the House of Delegates p. 2 October 1976.

³ Rev E. Lee, *The Profession Looks at Itself — The Pound Conference of 1976*, 1991 B.YU. L. Rev. 77 (1991).

⁴ ABA Journal July 1976, Vol. 63, p. 5 (written by ABA Pres. R. Shepard Teitel).

⁵ http://www.americanbar.org/groups/dispute_resolution/about_section.html (last visited July 27, 2011).