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President's Page

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BAR BRIEFS

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—BY—

STATE BAR ASSOCIATION OF NORTH DAKOTA

M. L. McBride, Editor

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Dear Fellow Lawyers:

The time is fast approaching when we should look forward to our next annual meeting. I hope we will have a large attendance and particularly a large attendance of the younger members of the Bar. Every lawyer should manifest a keen interest in the affairs of his Association and become personally interested in its welfare because there are forces at work which have a tendency to demote rather than promote the welfare of the individual lawyer. The same situation also exists to a certain degree in the present trends of modern business. It is my earnest conviction that the legal profession is not justified in resting its case on the laurels of the past but must adopt an aggressive attitude for the promotion of its future welfare. This is not alone my idea, but represents the thoughts of some of the ablest and best known lawyers of the country.

In the next issue of the Bar Briefs we hope to be able to furnish each member with a copy of a Committee Report prepared and submitted to the Cass County Bar Association by a special committee. This report is very enlightening and represents the type of thinking which the legal profession should follow in the promotion of their general welfare. It is planned to have this report studied and discussed at the next annual meeting and I would therefore suggest that you give the same consideration before the next meeting.

So far, I have not received any definite information

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on the prospects of obtaining Willis Smith, President of the American Bar Association, as a speaker at our next annual meeting. I hope that this can be accomplished, but it will depend a great deal upon his ability to come to this territory at the time of our annual meeting.

Sincerely yours,
ROY A. PLOYHAR
President.

ALLEN WOOD, LAWYER, DIES

Allen W. Wood, 72, of 15½ Eighth St. S., Fargo, lawyer since 1910, died Tuesday in a Fargo hospital. He had been in failing health for several months.

Born in Bloomington, Ill., Aug. 4, 1873, he was graduated from Illinois Wesleyan university in 1894. He practiced law in Chicago until 1899, when he moved to Barnesville, Minn., where he engaged in land dealings, taking care of the legal phase of the work.

After a year at Barnesville he spent the next six years at Red Lake Falls and Thief River Falls, Minn., moving to Moorhead in 1906. He came to Fargo in 1910 and had practiced law there since.

LAWYERS' PART IN WAR AND POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION†

BY ROBERT L. STEARNS*

At the beginning of the war, one often heard the remark, "Lawyers are a dime a dozen." As the war progressed it became obvious that the lawyers made a substantial contribution to it. These are some of their contributions.

Lawyers, as such, performed myriad duties of the judge advocate's office, in the contract divisions, and in the termination of contracts.

In fields not strictly legal, but in which they were able to put to use their training and ability, there were many.

Intelligence and counter intelligence. Many lawyers were in this work. There is, for example, the case of the young lawyer who became expert in German fighter tactics. So accurate was the information that his unit was able to determine in advance of any of our bombing raids over Germany just what the Germans were likely to do, where their fighter force would come from and what tactics they would employ. The value of this work was recognized and he was transferred to the Japanese theater to do the same thing there.

A group of five men, two of whom were lawyers, was assigned the task of supervision of the selection of aerial targets. They consulted economists, industrialists and engineering specialists of

†Summary of address before the Colorado Bar Association, October 19, 1945.

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