



1945

Blazing the Trail

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Recommended Citation

(1945) "Blazing the Trail," *North Dakota Law Review*. Vol. 22: No. 3, Article 5.

Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr/vol22/iss3/5>

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—excepting a few who already were menacing the world's peace. Flags and flowers, lights and fountains, fascinating exhibitions of technological advance, festive mingling of the men and women of many countries, gave a carnival setting for the showing of the immortal document. There were few forebodings, and no realization of the approaching destruction of the lives, spirit and homes of many millions of people.

When Axis aggressions forced Britain into desperate war and threatened to overrun England at will, the Great Charter was left in America, for safekeeping. While in the land which produced the Declaration of Independence and the American Constitution, the spirit of the great symbol of law and liberty must have sensed many disquieting changes.

Now in mid-January, the Great Charter has been taken home, but hardly to the land it left less than seven years ago. Like much of the Inns of Court and their library, the historic House of Commons building is gone, having been levelled by bombs during the Battle of Britain. The supremacy of Parliament and the prerogatives of the individual member have also suffered, through subordination of the legislative powers to the cabinet and the Government, as trenchantly pointed out by Senator Forrest C. Donnell, elsewhere in this issue.

The Commons meets now in the great hall of the House of Lords, from which the throne has been removed, to make room for the Labor members who crowd the benches; and strange new talk of "nationalization" and "socialization" is ascendant in the debates. The rights of men and their property are hardly those which were wrested from a reluctant King at Runnymede. Meanwhile, the gallant and unconquerable Churchill, who saved for Britain and perhaps the world the heritage of freedom and made possible the Great Charter of international organization is seeking rest and solace in our country, with no place for him or his sagacious leadership in the counsels of those who, in their London sessions, are starting the UNO on its first steps towards peace, justice and law.

America is proud to have been for a time the custodian of this priceless symbol of the freedoms for which men fought and died. The true "World of Tomorrow" needs more than ever the spirit of its guaranties of justice and fair play. The enduring principles of the Great Charter should animate the administration of the new Charter which is the present hope of war-weary mankind.

—February, 1946 Issue of American Bar Association Journal.

BLAZING THE TRAIL

In "Our Supreme Court Holds" you will find the syllabus in the case of the State of North Dakota, Plaintiff and Respondent versus Frank Myers an alleged delinquent child of Mrs. Eva Myers, and Eva Myers, Defendants and Appellants. This is a trial de novo from a decision of the Juvenile Court of Cass County, and we are advised is the first trial de novo on appeal from a Juvenile Court in this state.