



1945

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

Since my tenure in office as President I have tried to encourage the thought that it is up to the Bar Association as a whole to promote the best interests of the practicing attorney. It has always been my thought that this should be the main justification for the existence of the Association. One of the members of the Bar called my attention to an address given by David M. Klausner, President of the New Jersey State Bar Association, which was printed in a recent issue of "The Lawyer." He suggested that a portion of the same be published in the next issue of the "Bar Briefs" and I believe it is a good suggestion. The pertinent part of this address as it relates to the above situation is as follows:

"The bar must wake up and become militant. The best defense is a good offense. Lawyers are accustomed to represent others. As a result, they generally forget themselves. They must become active in taking care of their own profession. They must be alert to their duty to their own profession. They must join and participate in the work of the bar associations, in order to present a united front. Today, the majority of lawyers are indifferent and disregard this responsibility. Many leading members of the bar are so engrossed in the affairs of their clients, that they give no time to the protection of their own profession.

The great changes in the times and in the practice of the law necessitate a different approach to the prob-

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lems concerning the bar. To counteract false propaganda, we must use propaganda stressing the truth and the obvious. We must publicize the necessity of the lawyer in our daily life. We must herald the activities of the lawyer for the benefit of the public. We must challenge false and misleading statements relating to the bar. We must check and prevent derogatory activities against the bar in the press and on the screen, on the radio and on the stage. We should cease jesting in a ridiculing fashion about lawyers and the legal profession. We must never forget that to gain the respect of others, we should first respect ourselves. Finally, we must zealously protect our profession against unfair competition by those who are not licensed to practice law.

To maintain our self-respect, we must not cease our efforts. The bar has always fought valiantly for the rights of others. It should be courageous and fearless in its own defense. We should not be too proud to fight for our own profession. Let us always remember the sage admonition of Justice Holmes:—"Every calling is great when greatly pursued."

We are practically assured that President Willis Smith of the American Bar Association will be present at our annual meeting. I expect to receive a communication from him shortly and will then be able to definitely determine the dates of our next annual meeting.

Sincerely yours,
ROY A. PLOYHAR
President.

THE SCHOOL OF LAW

During the first semester of the school year 1945-1946, there were twenty-six students enrolled in the School of Law. Of these four were women. With the beginning of the second semester fifty students enrolled. The Veterans are returning. There will be at least seventy students by next fall.

Primarily for the benefit of the War Veterans, courses in law will be taught during the Summer Session. Non-veteran students are invited to attend. The following courses will be taught: Contracts, Damages, Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure, Legal History and Labor Law. Beginning as well as advanced students may enroll.

On June 9, four law students were granted the law degree. They were Arnold Havig of Grand Forks, Walter H. Lorshbough of Fargo, Warren A. Tripp of Marmouth and Paul R. Vaaler of Grand Forks.

Based on their scholastic records, Walter H. Lorshbough and Paul R. Vaaler were elected to the North Dakota Chapter of the Order of the Coif. Attorney O. B. Herigstad of Minot was selected as the Honorary elect for the year 1946. Francis Murphy of Fargo was the Honorary elect for the year 1945. The annual dinner