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## Demonstrations of Pre-Trial Procedure at the American Bar Association Meeting

North Dakota State Bar Association

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### DEMONSTRATIONS OF PRE-TRIAL PROCEDURE AT THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION MEETING

A feature of the American Bar Association meeting, on September 12, which it is believed will be of great interest to lawyers and judges, will consist of demonstrations of actual pre-trial hearings by federal and state court judges under the auspices of the Section of Judicial Administration and Judge John J. Parker's Committee on the Improvement of the Administration of Justice. Judge Alfred P. Murrah, of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, who used pre-trial extensively during the time he was a district judge in Oklahoma, will conduct the first pre-trial. He will be followed by Judge Joseph A. Moynihan, of Detroit, Presiding Circuit Judge of Michigan, who has been an enthusiastic advocate of the procedure for many years and who was chairman of the Pre-trial Committee appointed by Judge Parker in 1938. Judge Bolitha J. Laws, of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, who was the first pre-trial judge in the District, will follow and the last pre-trial session will be put on by Judge Harry M. Fisher, of Chicago, Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, where pre-trial has most recently demonstrated its efficiency in clearing a congested docket.

The meeting will be presided over by United States Circuit Judge Orie L. Phillips, who is chairman of the Section of Judicial Administration, and the actual pre-trial demonstration will be preceded by a statement by Judge Parker, chairman of a committee of the Judicial Conference on this subject. Comment on the methods used will be made by Professor Edson R. Sunderland, of the University of Michigan, and there will be an opportunity for general discussion by those present.

While much has been written about pre-trial procedure since its inclusion in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, it is still a closed book to many lawyers. These pre-trials of actual cases, presided over by experienced trial judges and acted out by casts of lawyers, should be of great interest. It is planned to make the scripts available to any state or local bar associations which desire to use them at bar meetings.

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### ANNUAL MEETING OF SOUTH DAKOTA BAR

The Annual Meeting of the State Bar of South Dakota will be held at Huron, South Dakota, on August 10th and 11th, 1944. The meeting will convene at one p. m. on Thursday, August 10th, and adjourn at noon on Friday, August 11th. The meeting will be strictly "stream lined."

The program consists of an address on "Actual Practice Under the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act." One on "Probate Homesteads" and the final one on "Some of the Worries and Doubts of Chapters 175 and 176, Session Laws of 1943."

The banquet is to be held the first evening, Thursday, August 10th, and the speaker is Dean Albert J. Harno of the College of