



1943

Annual Meeting

North Dakota State Bar Association

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part in organizing our communities for the rehabilitation of the returning men and women? Are we able to advise them as to the rights to preference as to jobs or property? Have we lawyers of North Dakota who have, during late years, been so busy rehabilitating ourselves from the distress of drought that possibly we have overlooked those present problems, and those which are now suggested as ours in governmental and community affairs. Rear Admiral T. L. Gatch said to the assembly of the American Bar in his address to its members, "The lawyers of the United States are responsible for the government of the United States." Are we assuming that responsibility? If that be true, then it is likewise true that the lawyers of a community may be charged with the responsibility of the rules of society imposed upon him by our own state.

My sincere hope as your President is to get the judge and lawyer members of our Bar together as a united working force for the good of our State. To do this our Association must have active, sincere, and working committees. Those committees will soon be announced as approved by your Executive Comittee. Will you lawyers get together in your respective judicial districts as the By-Laws of our Association require and make up a set of suggestions which you believe to be for the good of our Association? Give those suggestions to the President of your district organization—he is your member of the Executive Committee. Let us get to work, not only for the good of our Association, but for the up-building of our communities and State. Will you help build our Association?

Sincerely,

WM. G. OWENS
President of N.D.B.A.

ANNUAL MEETING

The 1944 annual meeting of the Association was held at Minot, N. D. on August 24th and 25th. And while it was a "streamlined" meeting on account of the war, it was well attended, and members were well repaid by the fine program.

As no meeting was held in 1943, the Executive Committee felt justified in having a short meeting at which National Defense and Direction of the War Effort; Function of the Red Cross on Claims of Soldiers and Sailors, and Their Dependents; Post War Road Building, and Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Acts took the forefront.

However there was no lack of interest in Pre-Trial Procedure by Judge Grimson, and former Judge Palda.

Citations by the Army and Navy for Meritorious Service for Legal Assistance to those in the Armed Forces of the United States was another high light. Major R. N. Davies awarded the Citation for the Army, and Lieutenant Commander William C. Thompson for the Navy.

President O. B. Herigstad received the awards, and then called upon the Chairman of the Committee on National Defense, Hon. O. B. Burtness, who in responding to the awards stressed that the help given was made possible only by the whole-hearted cooperation with his committee of the Legal Assistance members from every county in the State.

No report of the meeting would be complete without reference to the clarion call of the President O. B. Herigstad to the attorneys to assume the leadership in the affairs of the nation, and particularly in the war effort, and the duties involved in the return and rehabilitation of the returning servicemen.

Toastmaster J. S. Taylor, and the Hon. George F. Shafer, and Hon. P. B. Garberg as the principal speakers at the banquet served both wit and reason for the enjoyment of the members, and their ladies.

Officers elected to serve during the coming year are, William G. Owens, Williston, President, Roy A. Ployhar, Valley City, Vice-President and M. L. McBride, Dickinson, Secretary-Treasurer-Editor.

OFF THE DOCKET

(By Your President)

The attorneys should know that the OPA has stepped into our State Courts and revised our laws relating to sale of personal property by administrators, executors and guardians in liquidating estates, also have stepped on the Sheriffs and other officers conducting judicial sales of personality. We used to, and in accordance with State statutes, advertise the sales "to the highest bidders for cash." Now you add "according to the ceiling." The Administrator must get not less than 90 per cent of the appraisal, and the best price for the estates. Be careful of your appraisements. The OPA "will get you if you don't watch out."

You fellows who worked up an alibi to excuse your absence from that Minot meeting missed a lot. The Minot lawyers did a good job, put on a fine party and the program, managed by the Association officers was one of the best ever. Don't ever miss again.

"Bud" Taylor was busy around the Association sessions trying to retain a lawyer to sue Time for damages, because it stated he made out income tax reports for a fee of \$3.00. Geo. McGee thought Bud did pretty well if he earned that much.

John Layne of Fessenden wants to have meetings of the lawyers. He said so right out in meeting when the Burtness resolution came up. John made an impression.

Past President Wartner of Harvey, got out of his overalls just as soon after the rain as he could and beat it for the convention, arriving in time to greet the new Executive Committee. He missed the session, but showed the old spirit. Good for Wartner!