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The Annual Meeting of the State Bar Association Will Be Held at Devils Lake, N. D., on July 15-16, 1938

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ing both among the laity and those engaged in the legal profession. Let us not be misled and seek to plunge either the lawyer or the law into any hasty changes, but let these work it out in a systematic and gradual method. Let experience justify a change before the same is made, and let us give the various Bar Associations and their committees every possible assistance.

In other words, let us build up and not tear down these institutions that are doing a worthy work, even though they are not rushing it by unjustified experiments.

L. J. PALDA, JR., President.

ANNUAL MEETING

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
WILL BE HELD AT DEVILS LAKE, N. D.,
ON JULY 15-16, 1938

This is your Bar Association — your annual meeting. It offers you an opportunity to meet your brother lawyer, discuss your problems and tell your Executive Committee what policies you wish them to follow. If you want to know what good the organization is and what good it has done and is doing for the lawyers in this state, etc., let the questioning brother come to Devils Lake on July 15 and 16 and repeat his query.

You, Mr. Lawyer, may feel that your Executive Committee is "asleep at the switch" on the matter of curbing the unauthorized practice of law. Very well. Come to the Committee on Unauthorized Practice and "make your squawk".

You, Mr. Attorney, may feel that definite legislative action should be taken to make the world safer for lawyers. You complain that you are losing your business to government agencies—you are unable to collect your fees or costs and that different agencies are stealing your business. Very well, make your complaint to the Committee on Legislation. Tell them what changes you feel would better your condition.

Perhaps you think the Bar Association should conduct a campaign on education or publicity to better its relations with the public — to secure a better understanding by the public of the lawyer's place in the community. OK brother, attend the convention, listen to the report on public relations and shout your suggestions and criticisms.

What good is this organization if its members do not attend, discuss and solve the many interesting, if vexatious problems confronting it? Discipline, fees, unauthorized practice, legislation, public relations, ethics, economic condition of the members, "business solicitors", "ambulance chasers", "fee cutting", all are living issues. Remember, that this Association can do nothing unless you assist it. It is alive or dead, depending upon your in-

terest. So if you want to be affiliated with a dead organization stay at home and howl. Who wants to hold hands with a corpse? We point out as your duty, and recommend for your pleasure, attendance at the annual meeting. Our meeting will be held at one of the scenic cities of the state — Devils Lake. The committee reports will start on the first day of the meeting and under them, discussion will be devoted to the most interesting current questions. The conclusions reached will be acted upon by the members. Do you feel that the policies of this association should be determined by thirty or forty percent of its members? If you do, stay at home! If, however, you would like the majority of the lawyers to direct the actions of the Executive Committee for the coming year, come prepared to express your views on the questions you are concerned about.

Now a final word to the member who is unable to attend the meeting, or unwilling to do so. Send your suggestions to the President of your District Bar Association or send them by your neighbor, who is attending the convention. Make known your suggestions, instructions and demands. Finally, if you must stay at home, and fail to make your suggestions, don't find fault and complain about what the members are doing and not doing. You are one of the stockholders in this corporation. You now have had notice of this annual meeting. Come to that meeting in person or by proxy and express yourself, or hold your peace.

LAWYERS AND THE COLLECTION AGENCIES

The desire of lawyers to uphold the ethics of their profession is based not upon self-aggrandizement, but rests upon the conviction that the continued usefulness of the profession as an instrument of public service must depend upon the maintenance and upholding of a correct professional attitude toward the public, toward their clients, and toward the courts. Lawyers generally regard this as self-evident. But the business men do not grasp this situation. The question, from their point of view is a very simple one; if all the lawyers were honest and lived up to the standards of the profession, there would be no abuses. If John Q Public wants to give a claim to a collection agency, he does so because he does not think he needs a lawyer at all. So why interfere with collection agencies? And anyway, what right has the bar to insist upon the direct relationship of lawyer and client, if the client prefers it otherwise?

And yet, here in this field of commercial law, we face the extraordinary difficulty of reconciling a relationship between laymen and lawyers which has its inception in a simple situation, not necessarily involving a lawyer, yet generally resulting in law practice, and the furnishing of lawyers.

During the past two years, substantial progress has been made toward a solution of the problem. The American Bar Association's Committee on Unauthorized Practice of the Law, as well