



1936

## A Fine Tribute

Ward County Bar Association

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### Recommended Citation

Ward County Bar Association (1936) "A Fine Tribute," *North Dakota Law Review*. Vol. 13 : No. 7 , Article 1.  
Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr/vol13/iss7/1>

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# BAR BRIEFS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT DICKINSON

—By—

**STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
OF NORTH DAKOTA**

M. L. McBride, Editor

Entered as Second Class Matter Dec. 9, 1936, at the Postoffice at  
Dickinson, North Dakota, Under the Act of August 24, 1912.

**VOL. 13.**

**JUNE, 1937**

**NO. 7.**

## A FINE TRIBUTE

Full of years and laden with honors granted by the citizens of North Dakota to him as a great citizen, publicist, lawyer and judge, honors bestowed by the President of the United States, and honors vouchsafed to him by the Bench and Bar, John Burke, Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of North Dakota, has passed on.

The dominance of Judge Burke and the position which he attained as a citizen and lawyer, was not the result of over-weening ambition, nor the desire for personal glorification; he was a simple man with simple tastes, an honest, straightforward man, a brilliant and accomplished trial lawyer, but the faith of the people in him was not begotten by reason of his brilliancy or high ability as a public speaker, but was born of an abiding belief in the minds of the people of the State of North Dakota that John Burke was capable and willing to serve the state to the best of his ability and in the interest of every citizen equally. As governor of this State he had the distinction, being a Democrat, of receiving the suffrages of a strong Republican majority, not once, but several times, and he justified his selection by giving to the State an honest, intelligent and capable administration. In the late years of his life the people again called upon this man to serve them in the capacity of a Supreme Court Justice and again he received, not once but several times, a large and im-

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pressive majority of the votes cast, and in this office as in that of the governor, he justified the belief of the people and the members of his profession in him by serving capably, intelligently and honorably.

It is granted to but few humans to go through such a long life in the bright light of political publicity and yet never have had to face anything except friendship, esteem and regard, from friend and foe alike. It is sad that in the last period of his life he should have been beset with physical disorder and suffering, but it is characteristic of the man that these conditions were met with courage and without complaint. A great man passed to his reward.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the members of the Ward County Bar Association, that we deeply appreciate the qualities gathered together in the personality of Justice Burke. We revere and applaud his character and his fidelity to principle, especially in the matters of our profession. We express the sympathy of the Ward County Bar Association to his widow and family and we inscribe upon the tablets of memory this epitaph:

Oh heart sore tried, thou hast the best  
That Heaven itself could give thee: Rest.  
Rest from all bitter thoughts and things,  
How many a poor one's blessings went  
With thee beneath the low green tent,  
Whose curtain never outward swings.

Passed and adopted by Ward County Bar Association.

Resolutions Committee.

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## EDUCATION IN GOVERNMENT

On the eve of that last transcontinental trip which ended so disastrously, former President Harding expressed himself in a letter in sentiments which we feel like quoting, the following: "Let me offer this suggestion: We live under a government of and by the people. The source of power is the people. The people rule. Is not the supreme purpose of education, therefor, to train men and women to rule? Under other forms of government it has always been thought necessary to educate the ruling class in the science of government, that they might have knowledge and understanding of the institutions which they would be called on to administer. Here, we are all the ruling class.

"Wise and just and righteous government in a democracy must depend upon the wisdom and justice of the people. Those who study will learn to value the Constitution as a sacred heritage from those who ordained and established it in order to secure the blessings of liberty for themselves and their posterity. They will come to know that the fabric of government which it created has