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## President Cain's Farewell

Richard E. Wenzel

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### PRESIDENT CAIN'S FAREWELL

This year we have had, I believe for the first time, a Committee on the Selection of Judges and Bar activities in connection therewith. The Committee will file a report of its findings and conclusions at this meeting. It deals with a proposal that should receive the thoughtful consideration of our membership. As lawyers representing litigants, we are not interested in the least in the views of the Judge on the NRA, the New Deal or the Old, but we are interested in his knowledge of the law, his ability to try cases and decide legal issues submitted to him. We are interested in knowing whether or not he is fair and fearless and free—absolutely free from political influence.

The members of the Bar engaged in active practice should be and are in a better position than any other group to judge the qualifications of their fellow practitioners, and that knowledge should be given to the public that it may aid in selecting honest and fearless men for judicial office.

Years ago Chief Justice John Marshall said: "The judiciary comes home in its effects to every man's fireside; it passes on his property, his reputation, his life, his all. Is it not to the last degree important that he should be rendered perfectly and completely independent, with nothing to influence and control him but God and his conscience?"—*President Cain's address.*