



1931

## Lawyers as "No" Men

North Dakota Law Review

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### Recommended Citation

North Dakota Law Review (1931) "Lawyers as "No" Men," *North Dakota Law Review*. Vol. 8 : No. 4 , Article 3.

Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr/vol8/iss4/3>

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a larger judgment could never have been collected. Juries are smart in such matters and often look to the actual results of their verdicts rather than to follow the rules prescribed, mortality tables, earning capacities, etc. This may not be very defensible legally but there is a taste of justice in it. Five years for one bigamist and sixteen months for the other? What are their ages? Maybe the first had a lovely wife and seven splendid children, was educated, mature, and was discovered living in luxury at Palm Beach, while his family were dependent on his home city? While the other bigamist was arrested by a spiteful wife who probably deserved to be abandoned in the first instance if a man's tale of woe sounded as appealing in Court?

The District Judge is the safety valve in the administration of Justice; would that his powers in all criminal matters as regards sentence were unlimited in either direction. As I have seen District Judges function in North Dakota I am forced to admiration and I thank God I live in a State small enough so that the Judges are not rushed and have time to know their criminals individually. If you don't know what I mean visit Federal Court in Minnesota and watch men 'sent away' by 'rule' as I have.

"What you call administrative imperfections I call small community justice."

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#### LAWYERS AS "NO" MEN

A Minneapolis Fuel Company circulates a monthly magazine, in the February issue of which the following appraisal of lawyers appeared:

"The reason why lawyers collect so much money from corporations is that they are 'No' men. Successful lawyers usually serve a dozen or more clients. Thus they are independent, because the loss of a single client will not be a financial catastrophe. Further, they are detached from the details of their clients' businesses.

"This independence and detachment qualify them as excellent advisers. The president of a company calls and says, 'What do you think of this?' and outlines a plan of consolidation, a sales policy, or a new financial structure. Instead of the usual flattering compliment of staff associates, the average lawyer will immediately advance a dozen reasons why whatever is suggested should not be done. He will counsel caution; suggest bankruptcy, government lawsuits, and the penitentiary.

"If the client is still determined to proceed, the lawyer will say, 'Well, let me think it over.' In a couple of weeks, if he considers the scheme really workable and advisable, he will grudgingly give his consent, but only after he has had the satisfaction of forcing his client to answer a dozen pertinent questions, all of which are calculated to let a little air out of the bubble of enthusiasm.

"How most of us hate lawyers and their gloomy forebodings! We'd fire anyone else who had so little faith, such slight admiration of our ability and judgment. But the lawyers are usually men of intellectual vigor, trained in the art of domination. Because they tell us and bankers and railroad presidents where to get off, we should be grateful to them."—Contributed.