



1931

What about This Constitution?

Richard E. Wenzel

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr>

Recommended Citation

Wenzel, Richard E. (1931) "What about This Constitution?," *North Dakota Law Review*. Vol. 8 : No. 10 , Article 1.

Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr/vol8/iss10/1>

This Note is brought to you for free and open access by the School of Law at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in North Dakota Law Review by an authorized editor of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact und.common@library.und.edu.

BAR BRIEFS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT BISMARCK

—By—

STATE BAR ASSOCIATION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Richard E. Wenzel, Editor

Entered as Second Class Matter Jan. 15, 1925, at the Postoffice at Bismarck,
North Dakota, Under the Act of August 24, 1912

VOL. 8

SEPTEMBER, 1932

NO. 10

WHAT ABOUT THIS CONSTITUTION?

In the light of reported statements being made throughout our state at the present time, Constitution Week this year should prove a rallying point for those who still hold that document in profound respect.

Today we possess a land where those of every class and creed may labor and mingle in common brotherhood; where men may freely build upon foundations inscribed with the sacrificial blood of those who trod this way before them; may hold, and hold securely, that which is the best fruit of their own labor, their own ability, their own personality, their own taste.

True, we have not attained perfection. Improvement is possible. In fact, there is need for change. And the change should be in the direction that will enable the common, average man more easily to keep in sight of the happiness which the Declaration of Independence says he has the inalienable right to pursue.

But the fundamental things have been ours. They are ours today. Equality of opportunity, equality of rights, equality before the law are vouchsafed and secured to us. They are secured and vouchsafed to us by reason of the fact that other men had the vision to rest our republic upon the firm foundation of a written Constitution. That document it is the duty of citizens generally, and lawyers particularly, to defend and support.

It is the right of all men to proceed, by peaceful, lawful means, to better conditions. We stand ready to defend that right. We stand equally ready, however, to challenge the right of any man, no matter how great or powerful, to defy the Constitution and the institutions founded upon it.

Lawyers, the challenge is plain. Shall we accept the challenge and stand ready to pledge our all, our lives, our property, and our sacred honor, to that end?