



1930

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North Dakota Law Review

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Recommended Citation

North Dakota Law Review (1930) "Legislative Usurpation/Veterans Bureau Enters Field/May We Have The Information/Review in Workmen's Compensation/Coup De Maitre," *North Dakota Law Review*. Vol. 7 : No. 6 , Article 10.

Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr/vol7/iss6/10>

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LEGISLATIVE USURPATION

In *Bruner vs. Illinois* (evidently not yet reported) the Supreme Court of Illinois declares invalid the legislative enactment, "Juries in all criminal cases shall be judges of the law and the fact." Said the Court:

"If jurors are the judges of the law in a criminal case, then consistently their verdict in such a case cannot be contrary to the law and the trial judge has neither the right nor the power to set aside a verdict of guilty for that reason. If the legislative department may take from the courts and vest in juries the power to declare the law in a criminal case, then likewise the legislature may deprive the courts of the power to pass upon the sufficiency of an indictment, to determine the admissibility of evidence and to review a judgment of conviction. It will not be contended that such changes are within the competency of the legislative power."

VETERANS BUREAU ENTERS FIELD

Word has come to us that the Veterans Bureau is notifying all guardians of veterans in the State that legal services will be supplied, and that no bills for such services by outside attorneys will be approved. In discussing the matter with attorneys several have expressed themselves with respect to possible liability of guardians who may make investments under the direction of the Veterans Bureau without approval by and proper procedure in the courts of this State which have jurisdiction of the guardianship. This is a point that is well made, even if no consideration were given to the solicitation and acquisition of legal business legitimately belonging to North Dakota attorneys; but the latter point is just as important in many respects.

MAY WE HAVE THE INFORMATION?

Press reports tell us that a representative of the Anti-Saloon League now lecturing in this State severely criticises the legal and judicial systems of the United States, stating that they could not stand the strain of the Canadian type of liquor legislation. Liquor or no liquor, we should like to hear the gentleman tell us what is wrong with the American system, giving the basis of his comment. Apparently he is much better informed than the President of the Manitoba Bar Association, who gave us such an inspiring and instructive address at Devils Lake last year.

REVIEW IN WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

The bill providing for review of decisions rendered by the Workmen's Compensation Bureau was vetoed by Governor Shafer; rightly so, we think, for its final form was practically identical with the bill as amended by the House of Representatives. In that form it would not only have legalized ambulance chasing but made it profitable. North Dakota has few who come within the terms of the derisive designation. It did well not to encourage increase of the number.

COUP DE MAITRE

Chairman Knauf of the program committee announces the acceptance by Charles A. Boston, President of the American Bar Association, of the committee's invitation to be North Dakota's guest for the annual meeting. President Boston will be the principal speaker for this session.