



1930

## What Others Are Doing/Annual Meeting 1932

North Dakota Law Review

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### Recommended Citation

North Dakota Law Review (1930) "What Others Are Doing/Annual Meeting 1932," *North Dakota Law Review*: Vol. 7 : No. 12 , Article 5.

Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr/vol7/iss12/5>

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Clarence G. Mead, of Lisbon, acted as Secretary pro tem, and reports action of the Third District on the matters submitted by the annual meeting as follows:

1. Shall counsel for all parties make their opening statements to the jury before the admission of evidence? Answer in the affirmative.
2. Shall the Court instruct the jury before argument of counsel? Answered in the negative.
3. Shall cases be transferrable on notice of trial from one county to an adjoining county when no jury term has been held in the county for six months prior thereto? Answered in the negative.
4. Shall a general denial be stricken on order to show cause why it should not be made specific unless it is made specific? Answered in the negative.

In view of the answer to the last question, we take the liberty of quoting Section XXIII-a of the Code of Ethics, as the principle involved might be considered somewhat similar:

"Sec. XXIII-a. Before verifying pleadings on information and belief, attorneys should carefully inquire and investigate so as to conscientiously satisfy themselves that they have before them sufficient facts to enable them to truthfully verify the cause of action or defense that they represent in the true spirit of the law that permits their so doing. The practice of verifying pleadings upon information and belief merely for the purpose of delay, when the truth of the allegation sworn to has not been carefully ascertained, is unprofessional and a violation of the duties of an attorney as provided by law."

#### WHAT OTHERS ARE DOING

The annual meeting of the State Bar of California adopted the following recommendations:

That a publicity campaign be carried on to demonstrate the reason for and necessity of the rule against solicitation of professional business by laymen or lawyers;

That the fact-finding committee on unlawful practice be continued, and legal proceedings be instituted if other inducements to discontinue fail;

That no attempt be made to induce the Legislature to define the practice of law;

That legislative enactment to stop ambulance chasing be sought, carrying the following provisions: (a) "Any adverse written statement secured from an injured person by an adjuster, agent or other person in behalf of the person committing the injury, or his insurance carrier, within thirty days after the injury is sustained shall be inadmissible as evidence in any court"; (b) "Any settlement, compromise, release, discharge or satisfaction of claims procured from any injured person within thirty days after such injuries were sustained, and without an order of court approving the same, shall be voidable at the option of the injured person."

#### ANNUAL MEETING 1932

Since the annual meeting at Jamestown, Fargo's informal invitation to meet there in 1932 has been formally presented, and the Executive Committee has selected the Gate City as the meeting place. No definite date has been chosen, as yet. Lynn U. Stambaugh is President and G. T. Westlund is Secretary of the Cass County Association.