



1925

A Judicial Council

North Dakota State Bar Association

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A JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Chief Justice Christianson has called a conference of the supreme and district court judges of the state to be held at Bismarck, May 19th and 20th, 1926. This is intended to serve for the time being as a judicial council. There can be no doubt that there will be great advantage in having a permanent official body organized to make a continuous study of the organization, rules, methods and practices of the courts of the state, the work accomplished and the results produced, to investigate the means adopted for the improvement of judicial administration in other states and countries, to devise such changes in procedure as appear suited to our needs and as may be given effect without legislative action, and to recommend to the legislative assembly such remedial legislation as is believed necessary to assure the more efficient administration of justice. The value of a permanent council is manifest from the early results produced by the Federal Judicial Council, or more accurately, the Conference of Senior Circuit Judges, and the comprehensive report of the Massachusetts Council. Temporarily, however, the conference of judges can, and no doubt will, function beneficially. The interchange of ideas alone should be helpful in making for greater uniformity in practice of the trial courts and in settling uncertainty as to government rules. After conference, the supreme court, in the exercise of its constitutional and statutory supervisory powers, possibly can effect helpful changes by the promulgation of new rules. And where new legislation is deemed advisable the recommendations of the entire judiciary of the state will carry great weight with the legislative assembly. The conference welcomes suggestions by members of the bar of possible improvements in procedure. The profession should seize upon this invitation as an opportunity to contribute something to judicial progress.