



1925

A Judicial Council

North Dakota State Bar Association

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—By—

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A JUDICIAL COUNCIL

The State Bar Association, at its 1926 meeting just closed, again endorsed the principal of the Judicial Council as a means of bringing about a better administration of justice, and the incoming president was directed to select a committee of five members of the association to confer with the judges in the framing of the necessary legislation to make this section effective.

It is deemed meet and proper, therefore, to direct attention to certain questions that should be thoroughly discussed before a bill is presented for legislative action. First, comes the question of the personnel of the council. This question was answered by the association in part only through its expression that the bar should be represented on the council. Secondly, therefore, comes the question of what other agencies or departments should be represented and in what capacity. May it be suggested, here, that the attorney general's department or the State's Attorneys' Association, or both, should be represented, and that other agencies be called in to act only in an advisory capacity? Thirdly, how shall the personnel be selected? In answer to that question it is respectfully submitted that selection should be removed from the field of politics as far as possible—the members of the judiciary should be selected by the judiciary, and the members of the bar should be selected by the State Bar Association. Fourth, how many members of the bar should be on the council? It is suggested that there should be at least three members of the bar, and these should be men actively engaged in practice, not connected officially with the bar association or any department of government, and representative of different sections of the state. Fifth, to what department should the council make its reports and recommendations? May not the answer to this question be: that the council should not be limited, but that it should be empowered to make its reports and recommendations directly to the department whose action would be required?

May it be understood that these regulations are made solely for the purpose of promoting discussion.