



North Dakota Law Review

Volume 21 | Number 3

Article 1

1944

Another Shot

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Recommended Citation

Owens, Wm. G. (1944) "Another Shot," *North Dakota Law Review*. Vol. 21 : No. 3 , Article 1.
Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr/vol21/iss3/1>

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BAR BRIEFS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT DICKINSON

—BY—

STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
OF NORTH DAKOTA

M. L. McBride, Editor

Entered as Second Class Matter, Dec. 9, 1936, at the Postoffice
at Dickinson, North Dakota, Under the Act of August 24, 1912.

VOL. 21.

FEBRUARY, 1945.

NO. 3.

ANOTHER SHOT!

Fellow Lawyers:

Should you lawyers have an idea that I was "spoofing" about regulations and qualifications to practice before government bureaus, boards and commissions, on the "President's page" in the December number of the Briefs, then here is another one for you (Rule 5648-Pub. 844—74th Cong.—Veterans' Adm.)

"Every agent or attorney who shall, directly or indirectly, request of any member of either house of Congress, or of any trusted States Government official or representative (other than one whose duty it is under the law to supervise and administer the law, rules and regulations and for instructions governing benefits under statutes administered by the Veterans' Administration) or any organization recognized by the Veterans' Administration, aid or assistance in the prosecution of a claim, or who shall, directly or indirectly, request or advise a claimant to seek such aid in the prosecution of a claim, shall be subject to inquiry respecting his competency to fully represent a claimant and shall be considered as having forfeited his right to any fee in such case."

Well fellows, how would you like to have your head examined by some "swivel-chair guy" from Washington because you wrote your Senator for some aid or suggestions about a claim for an ex-soldier whom you were representing? What are you going to tell your

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people who come for advise on some veteran's claim? You musn't write to your senator or congressman about it for, as one of our members writes me, "apparently, members of the Congress do not rank any higher with that Bureau than do we lawyers." Another good brother practitioner writes, advising me, "If you keep on writing in a disgraceful vein about 'my day' agencies and their powers you may be cited to show cause why you should not be properly muzzled for the 'duration - - -'". Well maybe the President of the Bar Association should park his pen in the waste basket—keep "mum" on the subject; but too many lawyers are doing that very thing so some one should do something about it, so it is up to me to howl. We have a committee of our Association, Atty. H. G. Fuller of Fargo, chairman, working in conjunction with a committee of the American Bar, advocating the passage by the Congress of the McCarren-Sumner Bill. The act relates to procedure and practice before Boards and Bureaus with a right of appeal to the Courts from adverse decisions. Every lawyer should be sufficiently interested in the legislation to at least write to your Senators and Congressmen urging its passage and do that very deed right now. We lawyers pay our fare to, and are permitted to practice by, the Courts. Are we ready to bow to the dictates of those politically appointed who go to make up the Bureaus and Boards which make their own rules of procedure and prescribe penalties without a right of redress to the Courts?

Sincerely,

WM. G. OWENS,
President.

SECTIONAL MEETING COMMITTEE

Some of the members of the above Committee recently held a short meeting and here is a list of the subjects for Sectional Meetings that have been suggested to them:

1. Conveyancing and Real Estate Problems:
 - Joint Tenancy — advisability and effect
 - Estate Tax clearances as related thereto
 - Conveyances subject to life estate
 - Forms of Deeds — purposes and effects
 - Evidenciary value of affidavits
 - Homestead rights as affecting real estate transactions
 - Mortgage foreclosure titles as affecting marketability
 - Tax Titles — are they marketable?
 - Power of foreign legal representative to convey North Dakota real estate
2. 1943 Revised Code — changes in
 - Probate Court and Procedure
 - District Court Procedure
 - County Court of Increased Jurisdiction Procedure
 - Justice Court Procedure