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Help - Help - Help Yourself

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BAR BRIEFS

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—BY—

STATE BAR ASSOCIATION OF NORTH DAKOTA

M. L. McBride, Editor

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HELP! HELP! HELP YOURSELF!

Hanging on the wall of my private office is an old calendar on which is printed these words;

“The strength of a nation is determined by the courage and the faith of its people in their own salvation.”

I don't know who originated that sentence, or when or why it was written. There are more words to the phrase, but that one sentence may be paraphrased so that the thought expressed may aptly apply to our own State Bar membership. Let's try! Let us say, the strength of an organization is determined by the courage and faith of its membership, and their belief and faith in their own profession. Your committees and officers just cannot do the job which you as members would like unless they know what you would like. To get that information I suggest that you have group or district gatherings, and often. Only one district of the state has met and organized within the year. That district has a regularly elected member of the Executive Committee. The other members of the Executive Committee have been appointed and now approved by the Committee. Will each district association, which have not done so, please call a meeting and elect a president of your district organization? Elect your district officers and then get going.

I will be happy to know about those meetings, will be there, if I can know about the time and place of the

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(continued from front page)

meeting, or, if I am unable to get there will have some member of the Executive Committee with you. Your State Association needs your cooperation; needs your help. Talk it up fellows! Show some life. Exhibit some faith in the officers you have elected. Get that hump out of your back. Get some courage into the work of the Association.

A little spark popped out of our news items on the question of OPA fixing prices on estate or guardianship sale of property when one of our active past presidents began asking questions of the OPA about order Rev. SO-10. Result; a printed copy of the order to every sheriff, county judge and other court officers in the state. Wasn't that helping ourselves? Let's have some more from around the state.

Sincerely,

WM. G. OWENS,
Pres. SBA of N. D.

THE AWARD AND THE CHALLENGE

The American Bar Association's 1944 Medal for "conspicuous service to the cause of American jurisprudence" has been awarded to the Honorable Hatton W. Sumners of Dallas, Texas, the Chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary in the National House of Representatives.

In accepting the medal Judge Sumner said, in part,

"There is no way in which I could properly express my gratitude for the great compliment which this great body has bestowed, but I am thankful because this testimonial of your confidence helps me in doing my humble job in accomplishing the greatest thing which at this moment challenges the lawyers of this country and the people of this country, and that is, the preservation in America of free government. There is nothing more that can be said than that.

"Each of us has his own little job to do. When we look at the picture of the world tonight, when we see the sacrifice that our men are making on the battlefields of the world, we should realize the fact that in America we are challenged to attempt to do that which we know is a difficult thing, have for them when they return a government worthy of their sacrifice. There is not a man or a woman in this audience tonight who can be certain that he can leave or she can leave to his or her children the heritage of living under a free government.

THE GREATEST OF CHALLENGES TO OUR LAWYERS TODAY

"It is a wonderful thing, it is a fascinating thing to me, to see the Bar of America meeting this challenge, the challenge of the ages, in the greatest tests that have come in the history of Anglo-Saxon governments. When as a people we have wandered away, say what you please, it has been the lawyers who have aroused the people and led us back to the discharge of neglected duty."—ABA Journal—October.