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## With Fear and Trembling

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# BAR BRIEFS

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### WITH FEAR AND TREMBLING

We have become accustomed to being shocked. Not so long ago we received the last one. It came with the request to refrain from publishing the report of one of our committees. The subject dealt with might be deemed somewhat controversial, of course, but the committee's work was of a high order. It dealt with that controversial subject comprehensively, fairly, honestly, intelligently, in a straightforward, helpful manner. The service rendered by that committee was not only to the Bar, but to the people of the State.

About a year ago we had a similar situation, and our belief has grown, notwithstanding the peculiar conditions that now seem to justify some fears, that the Bar is doing itself an immeasurable amount of harm in adopting this "fearsome" attitude. Even at this moment, when the attitude of the average individual is twisted by conditions, existing or imagined, and warped by selfish, unfair propaganda, there are still hosts of people who look upon our courts with a great deal of respect. They know, well enough, that an independent judiciary is our only hope in time of stress. We, therefore, suggest that admiration would be added to respect if we changed our fearsomeness into a high type of courage. Let the Bar, particularly, present to a misguided and often misinformed people the honest, thought-out, truth-telling results of deliberation and study, and thus throw a bulwark about the Bench, now, apparently, our only safeguard and security.

The world will never be entirely rid of demagogues, high-binders, mavericks, spell-binders, et cetera, whose whoops ascend like sky-rockets, but, eventually, descend in burnt-out wheelies; and the fiery glow of enthusiastic endeavor, based upon knowledge and truth, will in the end, light the way back to sanity and an appreciation of the unselfish efforts of a profession which has, in every time of emergency, rendered the highest type of public service.