



1929

President's Page

Kvello A. M

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr>

Recommended Citation

M, Kvello A. (1929) "President's Page," *North Dakota Law Review*. Vol. 6 : No. 8 , Article 2.
Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr/vol6/iss8/2>

This Note is brought to you for free and open access by the School of Law at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in North Dakota Law Review by an authorized editor of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact und.common@library.und.edu.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

A careful study of the affairs of the Association and its needs, both as President and Chairman of the Committee on Local Organization, has convinced me of one fundamental necessity. That is to create a greater sense of responsibility for the work of the Association among its members. This, I believe, can best be accomplished by starting at the bottom. By that I mean beginning with membership in and interest in the local organizations such as city, county and judicial district or other group associations. These groups are now organized and functioning one or more in each judicial district. These local organizations should meet not less than twice a year and oftener if convenient. Experience has shown that the best results come from a combined business and social gathering to which the wives of the attorneys are invited. But these meetings must have something to do that is of practical importance to the profession if the interest is going to be kept up and attendance assured. Academic discussion of unimportant matters will not do. The major policies of the Executive Committee of the State Bar Association should be submitted to the various judicial district organizations for study and informational advice. If the recommendation of the Committee on Local Organization, to make the Executive Committee consist of the President, vice-President and Secretary, together with the presidents of the six judicial districts, be adopted, then this will be more easily accomplished.

The more of local self government that can be devised for the district associations the more keen will be the interest of the average members in the work of the Association.

One very practical method of adding to this local self government is to give to the State Bar Association the primary power of admission and discipline of its members. If this is desirable then an amendment to the Bar Act and the general statutes will have to be made. The California Bar Act furnishes a good example. In disciplinary matters the power of investigation and recommendation would be vested in the Executive Committee who would have the power to act either as such committee or by referring the complaint to a committee within the judicial district where the alleged offense has been committed. The ultimate decision, of course, would rest with the Supreme Court as now, but the direct responsibility for a speedy investigation, report and recommendation would lie with the Association or the sub-districts within the Association.

When we consider that every practicing lawyer in North Dakota is a member of the Association by virtue of statute and that these members may be good, bad or indifferent, and that we have no direct control over them though we are as a body blamed for the short-comings of any erring one it is clear how inconsistent and unfair the situation is. With the responsibility placed directly with us I believe it would be honestly met and the result would be not only a strengthening of our profession but a raising of the estimation in which it may be held by the public. I believe with Attorney Simms of New York that:

"To set up a plan by which the incompetent lawyer who neglects his client's business, who by dilatory methods increases the expense of justice, who fails to bring his cases to trial, who disregards the convenience of court and public, shall be disciplined by his own profession, so far as it may

be necessary to remove these abuses cannot be otherwise than healthful and right, both from the standpoint of the bar and the public."

I recommend this to the earnest consideration of the Association—A. M. KVELLO, President.

ANNUAL MEETING

Program

Friday, August 15

Morning

- 9:00 Addresses of Welcome: F. T. Cuthbert for Ramsey County Bar; A. V. Haig, President City Commission, for City of Devils Lake; W. N. Nortz, President, for Chamber of Commerce.
Response: C. J. Murphy, Grand Forks.
- 9:30 Committee Reports; Executive Committee and Secretary-Treasurer; American Law Institute; Bench and Bar Ethics; Citizenship and Americanization.
- 10:30 Address, H. L. Berry, Mandan, "The Jury Impaneling System".
- 11:15 Committee Reports: Comparative Law; Constitution and By-Laws.

Afternoon

- 2:00 President's Address: A. M. Kvello, Lisbon.
- 2:45 Reports of Committees: Information and Co-operation with Press; Internal Affairs; Automobile Insurance and Regulation.
- 3:45 Address: A. W. Cupler, Fargo, "American Judicature Society."
- 4:30 Committee Reports: Jurisprudence and Law Reform; Law Enforcement.

Evening

(At Town and Country Club)

- 8:00 Musical Program.
Address: H. A. Bergman, K. C., President Manitoba Bar Association, "A Brief Outline of Some of the Principal Differences Between the Canadian and American System of the Administration of Justice."
Social Session.

Saturday, August 16

Morning

- 9:00 Committee Reports: Legal Education and Admission; Legislation; Local Organizations.
- 10:00 Address: R. E. Wenzel, Bismarck, "Workmen's Compensation Insurance."
- 10:30 Committee Reports: Public Utilities; Salaries, Term, Powers of Judges; Uniform State Laws.