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Bench and Bar Sponsoring Document Institute August 25

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On Thursday evening, August 25, there has been scheduled for the benefit of the bench and bar of Colorado a seminar discussion concerning the scientific examination of questioned documents conducted by leaders of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners. Judge J. Foster Symes and Judge Ori L. Phillips are sponsors of the program and hosts for the evening inasmuch as the seminar will be held in the United States District Courtroom in the Post Office Building. The Institute Committee of the Denver Bar Association is assisting in arrangements under the co-chairmanship of Chas. H. Haines, Jr. and Wayne D. Williams.

Members of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners are holding their annual convention in Denver the week of August 22. Membership in the society is limited to those scientifically trained experts who devote their full time to document investigation. They are the elite of a highly trained profession, numbering only twenty in the entire United States. There is no local member.

As an incident of the convention in Denver, Mr. Clark Sellers of Los Angeles, the president of the Society, has offered to arrange the program for the evening meeting. Four members of the society will make successive fifteen-minute, illustrated lectures to be followed by a discussion and question period with the speakers and other members of the society. The first of the four members of the panel will be Mr. Albert D. Osborn of New York who will speak on "Scientific Principles of Handwriting Identification." Mr. Elbridge W. Stein, also of New York, will discuss "Recent Scientific Methods: The Use of Special Lights and Fluorescence." Mr. Charles C. Scott of Kansas City, an attorney as well as a document expert and author of the book "Photographic Evidence," will speak on the "Relation Between the Lawyer and the Document Expert." Mr. John L. Harris of Los Angeles will speak on "Typewritten Forgeries." Mr. Sellers will act as moderator of the panel and coordinator for the question period.

Messrs. Osborn, Stein and Sellers were all experts in the trial of Bruno Hauptmann. Their testimony provided the conclusive proof on which the Lindbergh kidnapping was solved. Mr. Sellers, who is perhaps the dean of the profession, was the subject of a series of four articles in the *Saturday Evening Post* which appeared from February 8 to March 21, 1947. The experts are, of course, necessarily at home in the witness chair under cross examination.

Because of the importance of the subject to banks and peace officers as well as to the bench and bar, special invitations are being extended by Judge Symes and Judge Phillips to Denver banks and law enforcement units. Wives are included in the invitation.

Further announcement will be made of the event, but the evening meeting of August 25 should be noted on your calendar.