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## Denver Bar Association Hears Cervi

At the December 3, 1945, meeting of the Denver Bar Association, Eugene Cervi, publisher of the Cervi News Service, spoke on the subject, "The Lawyer's Future in the Rocky Mountain Area." A summary of Mr. Cervi's remarks follows:

The lawyer is supposed to supply the imagination which the business man lacks. Progress has been slowed down more by conservative lawyers than by any other group except the conservative bankers. There is nothing wrong with the West, what is wrong is wrong with Westerners.

We have abundant economy in the West but have been slow in developing our resources. Of the eleven western states, California, Washington and Oregon are well on their way to progressive business development. Denver and Colorado dominate the economy of the rest of the western states and until the war they were a drag on this economy. Until the war there was a concentration of capital in fewer and fewer hands and a concentration of legal business in fewer and fewer law firms. The war economy has hit the smugness of the Denver economy and this smug economy will have to give way to new progress.

Salesmen used to operate out of Denver within a very limited area. But this area is now increasing and some salesmen go even as far as Mexico. The old economy is giving way to new thoughts. The immediate problem is that of overcoming the drag of our "best citizens" who have grown tired and do not have the desire or energy to change the status quo. However, the citizens who are holding back progress are few and becoming fewer and their sons do not always hold to their views.

Pressures are moving in from outside, forcing upon us a new economy. More and more advocates of a bigger, better and more prosperous West are being recruited. The war forced a new economy upon us. Little operators became big operators and had large credit balances. They became large operators, they had money in the bank, they became powers and liked it. Now they want to go forward. The idea that Denver should not be industrialized is not popular.

Foreign capital is coming in to compete with local capital. Foreign capital is buying Colorado property. Montana is losing residents because there is a restrictive point of view—there is too much power in the hands of too few people. A basic steel industry is coming to the state. The steel plant at Geneva will be activated by someone, somehow. How it will be coordinated with the C. F. & I. is a problem for the business leaders to figure out. This prediction is made—any efforts to develop either the Geneva plant or the C. F. & I. under cover will fail. There will be a lively debate over having two steel plants in the West.

There will be a westward migration as soon as the reconversion economy has been levelled off and stabilized. Transportation will be developed and expanded. People don't live in crowded conditions because they like to do so. The idea that the West produces a superior type of man is erroneous. Men can be good wherever they live and our people are not superior.

Of the three plants which developed the atomic energy, two are in the West, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Pasco, Washington. The West also has deposits of uranium.

There is an increasing knowledge among people that this is a desirable place in which to live. There is an abundance of cheap power. This cheap power is here and cannot be taken away from us. The fight in the next five years will be a fight to control the transmission of the power which is already here.

We have the continuing spirit of the pioneer. This does not recognize party labels—there are pioneers in both parties. The lawyers are in a good position to take hold of this spirit and indoctrinate it in their clients. The lawyer must become the encouraging force in the development of the West. He must persuade his client to enter into the development of the West. The lawyer must find a way to overcome problems. It is not his function to be stopped by problems. He must stop telling his client that the client cannot do something—he must show his client how to do what his client wants to do and why it should be done. There are lawyers who tell their clients they cannot do something and then turn around and do it themselves as principals. The lawyer must find the way to make a client's business go.

With all our opportunities are we willing to be the real radicals of the age? Pioneering is the finding of new ways to make and distribute. We must restore business to the positive, expanding social force it was. In view of the history of business development, how did business ever allow the socialists to walk off with the slogan, "The greatest good for the greatest number"?

### **Lawyers Honor Judge Luxford**

A number of Denver lawyers recently gathered in the court room of District Judge George A. Luxford to honor him for his suggestions regarding the rehabilitation of criminals. Judge Luxford was originator of a plan of rehabilitating criminals on the Denver farm north of Denver. Violators are granted probation and go to the farm, where they work without guards, enabling them to build themselves up physically, learn a trade and become self-sufficient. This plan works to the benefit of the men and also to the benefit of the taxpayers, who are thereby released of the expense of their keep. It is anticipated that the plan will be given further study and extended.