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## Annual Meeting of American Bar Association

Dicta Editorial Board

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bedded in the foundations of our national system; only occasionally ignoring it, as when we allowed Great Britain to acquire a slice of our northern territory under the arrangement known as the northwest boundary treaty.

Among our national crown jewels consistency seems not to be numbered. Justice McReynold's brave warning, like a bugle blown in a sleeping encampment, did not arouse us as it should. We yawned and slept on. It had all happened before. A generation ago we learned we could not take over a few islands in the Pacific without being nagged by those who adored the firm restraints of the constitution. But after each wreck the constitution seemed even better than before: the more liberties we lost the more remained. We have come to believe that Webster's sonorous climax in his reply to Hayne should have been: "Union and Liberty, one and inseparable, adaptable and elastic!"

"Facit ex albo nigrum ex nigro album" is an old law maxim assuring us that under certain circumstances black can legally be white. It was never truer than now.

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## ANNUAL MEETING OF AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

An old carpenter's mallet, glorified beyond its estate with bands of gold and silver, will, for the fifty-seventh year, boom out its command for silence when the American Bar Association members assemble in Los Angeles on July 15 for the opening day of the annual meeting.

Trimmed by the Colorado Bar Association for the second time in 1926 with bands of virgin silver and gold from the Pikes Peak Region, the hickory gavel is in reality an old carpenter's mallet that was purchased for seventeen cents in 1878 when the American Bar Association was founded. Since that date the mallet has made its appearance at every meeting.

Nearly five thousand lawyers will hear its command on July 15 when Scott M. Loftin, president of the association, raps for order. Advance hotel and special train reservations indicate that the national gathering will be well attended.