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Dicta Observes

Dicta Editorial Board

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The lawyer, probably more than any other professional man, seems to be singled out from time to time as a fruitful field for disparagement and for attack. The situation is nothing new except that there seems to be a tendency somewhat to place the lawyer in the class of an insurer. For instance, recently in Colorado a cause of action was filed by a plaintiff in which the plaintiff's attorney was named as a defendant presumably on the ground that he failed properly to represent her, although the action in which he represented the plaintiff was filed and closed a number of years ago. Not very long ago another individual in Cleveland, Ohio, brought suit in which his attorneys were named as defendants, also presumably because they had failed properly to represent him.

Anent the recent congressional investigation in Wall Street one columnist, at least commented disparagingly concerning attorneys and suggested that the bankers, Wall Street operators and other financial lights would not have been able to conduct their respective businesses, allegedly in violation of law or, at least, on the border line, unless a resourceful lawyer showed them out. Another newspaper writer recently suggested that when a lawyer advised his client concerning his legal rights, and the advice was wrong and the client was obliged to suffer a penalty because he stood on his legal rights, the lawyer and not the client would be forced to suffer the penalty. The Federal Government, possibly as an outgrowth of the congressional investigation above referred to, is now interested in knowing whether or not any person assisted the individual in making his income tax return.