

July 2021

Dicta Observes

Dicta Editorial Board

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DICTA

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Dicta Observes

At the first meeting of the Mississippi Bar Association held at Jackson, Mississippi, September 1-2, 1932, Pres. Guy A. Thompson, of the American Bar Association, made an interesting comment to the effect that thirty presidents of the United States, forty-eight secretaries of state, fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence, and fifty-five framers of the Constitution, were all lawyers.

At this meeting the law's delay in jury cases came in for some attention. It was pointed out that in St. Louis, after pleadings are settled, it frequently takes fourteen months to get to trial; in Detroit, forty-two months from beginning; New York City, twenty-four to thirty-six months, and that this condition was not exceptional but fairly illustrative of a condition that is nation-wide.

JURORS' FEES

Trumbull County (Ohio) jurors' pay has been reduced from \$3.00 to \$2.00 per diem and mileage.

A committee report in Massachusetts recommends a decrease of \$1.00 per day in jurors' fees. At the same time it recommends an increase in docket and other fees.

TRIAL BY AUDITOR

The Superior Court at Boston, during the past year, tried the experiment of referring motor tort cases to auditors. In 1931 there were 468 cases referred; in the first nine months of 1932 there was a reference of 2,090 cases. It was thought this would be an economical and speedy method of relieving the docket.

The experiment failed to work out, as the practice—being supplemental to jury trials—increased the present cost of the courts.

OUR NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING

(DEDICATORY)

By Rees D. Rees, of the Denver, Colorado, Bar



I.

Today we're met to dedicate
This beauteous structure, grand, ornate—
A pearl in Denver's glorious crown,
Adding lustre to her renown;
Glittering bright 'neath sunny skies,
A jewel fair, we highly prize.

II.

O may it always ever be
Right's own hearthside, eternally;
May those who serve within its walls
Be honest, true, heed Justice' calls;
Never, there, may an echo rise,
Subversive where our honor lies.

III.

Invoke we now God's watchful eye,
That e'er its halls may glorify,
Our land, our flag, our people brave,
Their int'rests, rights, conserve and save.
Then generations yet unborn
Our tombs, memorial, will adorn.