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Denver Bar Association Bar-B-Q

By JACK GARRETT SCOTT, (*By Request*)

ON Wednesday, June 27th, The Mount Vernon Country Club and environs witnessed a spectacle which had never before been presented to a waiting and thrill seeking world. Dignified judges of courts of record chased baseballs through the underbrush; barristers and solicitors of high repute and lofty mein exposed portions of their anatomy to be shot at in "nigger baby"; jurists of international repute wore blisters on their fingers tossing horseshoes at pegs; strong, silent lawyers swore fluently and forcefully as they searched for golf balls in the mesquite; men who frown at gambling fought bitterly at bridge to win checks of doubtful validity; others bounded after elusive tennis balls; and, all in all, a strenuous and hilarious time was had by all.

The program of events was varied and interesting, reaching its climax with the baseball game between a team of judges, captained by Judge Robert W. Steele, and one of lawyers, led by Wilbur Denious. For the first two innings it was anybody's game. But upon the retirement of Judge John T. Adams from his position at second base, either from exhaustion or stage fright, the game developed into a debating contest, Umpire Foley upholding the affirmative, and everyone else the negative. We are sorry to be compelled to report that there were strong rumors of undue influence having been exerted on the umpire, even reports of bribery being frequent; and Bill himself admitted at the close of the game that he had it fixed to prevail in all of his demurrers and motions for the rest of the year. It is perhaps on that account that the judges were allowed seven outs in the last inning, and that their side was reputed to have won the

game by a large margin. This reporter witnessed Judge Calvert score three runs all by himself on one hit, at a time when he was not even on base. As an exhibition of baseball, the game was a failure; but as a spectacle of repartee, informality and hilarity, it was a grand success.

The Bar-B-Q itself followed the athletic events, after which all of the participants gathered around a great camp fire, with this same Bill Foley in the role of speaker of the evening, umpire and master of ceremonies. Members were entertained by the Denver Bar Association Quartet; Josiah Holland and Will Shafroth in the guise of two partly legal black crows; Floyd Miles and his Swedish friends; Will Bond and his bed side stories; and terminated with the presentation of prizes to those who had demonstrated their superior skill in the various events of the day.

To Morrison Shafroth and Hugh McLean went the prize for tennis which consisted of a tennis racquet each; although in selecting the winners of this event, a tie between the above two and E. V. Dunklee had to be resolved by the flip of a coin borrowed for the purpose, and the loser of the flip was presented with a dozen tennis balls.

Jack Phelps was the Bobby Jones of the crowd, winning first place in all of the golf events. He was presented with a set of matched wooden clubs as the prize for the low gross score, but he very graciously relinquished his right to the prize for low net, a golf bag, which went to L. B. Johnson. The prize for low twosome, a dozen golf balls each, was given to Jack Phelps and James Woods.

The evidence of the superiority of

the judges baseball team, a pennant, was presented to Hon. Robert W. Steele, the captain of the Judicial Benchwarmers.

For his outstanding achievements and blisters in the "nigger baby" game, Otto Friedrichs received a canteen, from which, presumably, he might lave his wounds.

Albert J. Gould, Jr., received a set of horseshoes for conquering the field in that game. Mention should be made of the fact, however, that he waited until after dark to play against Judge Wilbur M. Alter of Colorado Springs, being the only way he could beat him.

Cass E. Herrington and Robert J. Pitkin were handed checks in token of their having cleaned up at bridge. The amounts thereof and the losers' names were not made public.

James A. Woods, the official census taker, reports that 135 members of the bench and bar were present, and that

120 were served barbequed steak and fixings for dinner. The reliability of his count is open to question, but the figures are approximately correct. Judges Dennison, Walker and Adams of the Supreme Court, Judges Sackmann, Starkweather, Calvert, Bray, and Alter of the District Bench, and Judge R. W. Steele of the Juvenile Court honored the Bar with their presence. They are all complaining of aches and pains, aggravated by severe sun burns, but are apparently happy at having won the ball game, even though it required the active assistance of Bill Foley to do it.

The Bar-B-Q was such a success in every particular it should be made an annual event, and a tradition of the Association. And to the committee which so efficiently planned and arranged the affair, and the officials of Mount Vernon Country Club goes the thanks of all who attended.

Legal Ethics Committee

June 12, 1928.

To
Mr. Robert L. Stearns,
President of the
Denver Bar Association,
Denver, Colorado.

In compliance with your request that the Committee furnish an opinion respecting the practice of some lawyers in obtaining and retaining rebates from the publishers of newspapers in connection with the publication of legal advertising the following is submitted:

STATEMENT

A letter from the Secretary of The Colorado Editorial Association accompanying the request reads as follows:

"My dear Mr. Stearns:

"Within the past few weeks on different occasions it has been

called to my attention that attorneys in Denver and the State of Colorado are requesting and in some cases demanding, that publishers pay them a fee or commission on legal publications. This practice, I am sure, is contrary to the ethics of the legal profession, and I wonder whether or not you can help us to eliminate this evil. While in some cases it may be true that the commission is credited to the account of the client, yet we have evidence in other cases that the money so received is being retained by the attorney himself.

"We do not wish to reveal any specific instances at this time, rather feeling that a general reference to this matter to your members might be sufficient. However, we have evidence on hand, and if we find the situation does not improve, we shall reveal the specific instances.

"While we realize it is not un-