

January 1925

## American Bar Association Meeting

Denver Bar Association Record

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.du.edu/dlr>

---

### Recommended Citation

American Bar Association Meeting, 2 Denver B.A. Rec. 6 (1925).

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Denver Law Review at Digital Commons @ DU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Denver Law Review by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ DU. For more information, please contact [jennifer.cox@du.edu](mailto:jennifer.cox@du.edu), [dig-commons@du.edu](mailto:dig-commons@du.edu).

---

## American Bar Association Meeting

## *American Bar Association Meeting*

---

### Federal Law Cases

At the meeting of the American Bar Association held in Detroit in the early part of September, a number of new reforms were vigorously advocated. A nation-wide campaign among lawyers to force Congress to enact a bill giving the United States Supreme Court authority to regulate procedure in law cases in the Federal Courts in order to unify and simplify such procedure was advocated in the report of the Committee on Uniform Judicial Procedure.

The Committee stated that in spite of the endorsements of President Wilson, Taft and Coolidge, yet, both houses of the last Congress failed to bring the bill to a vote.

The purpose of the contemplated bill is to give to the Supreme Court full authority to make such rules as it deems proper, governing the entire procedure in law cases. The bill introduced in the last Senate read as follows:

"That the Supreme Court of the United States shall have the power to prescribe, by general rules, for the district courts of the United States and for the courts of the District of Columbia, the forms of process, writs, pleadings and motions, and the practice and procedure in actions at law. Said rules shall neither abridge, enlarge nor modify the substantive rights of any litigants. They shall take effect six months after their promulgation, and thereafter all laws in conflict therewith shall be of no further force or effect."

### British Procedure

Professor Edward R. Sunderland, of the University of Michigan Law School, in describing the simplification with which an English jury is empaneled, said:

"Five minutes before court opens the English clerk draws the names of twelve jurors, usually ten men and two women. Then the judge comes in, bows to the barristers and the jurors, takes his seat and the trial is on. Just think of the thousands of hours

wasted every year in the American courts through our system of empanelling juries.

The calamity of a new trial is almost unheard of in England. In the year 1924 the clerk of the King's Bench Court sent back two cases for retrial. The lower courts in England do not have the power to order new trials. New trials are an economic loss. Their frequency here is the most convincing proof of the inefficiency of our trial system."

### Attorney General Sargent

Att'y Gen. Sargent, in an address delivered before the meeting, urged frankness between opposing counsel regarding the evidence to be introduced in court, and said:

"The longer I have practiced law, the more cases I have tried, the more I have become convinced of the advisability of showing all the facts I know bearing on the issue on trial, whether for me or against me, and further of advising my opponents in advance of the substance of what the evidence against them will be."

### Fees in France

M. Fourcade explained to the meeting that in France the lawyer has no contractual relation to his client, and is not permitted to sue for payment of his fees. He stated that there are about fifteen hundred registered advocates in Paris and at the head of the order of advocates is the batonnier, who is chosen by all the lawyers in that department. A council of twenty-four aid him in the administration of his duties, which council is also chosen by the lawyers. To the batonnier falls the administration of executive duties and he, with the assistance of the council, considers all complaints made against members.

### THE LOST CHORD

---

"What is your profession?"

"I was an organist."

"What made you give it up?"

"The monkey died."