

Editorial: Courage

Clifton Williams
City of Milwaukee

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COURAGE.

BY CITY ATTORNEY CLIFTON WILLIAMS.

It can not be denied that this is a progressive age as far as chemistry, electricity, mechanics, surgery and many other branches of the world's activity are concerned. On the question as to whether or not it is a progressive age as to the law, we will admit that the great bulk of new laws does not necessarily indicate progress in the field of law. We prefer to think that the remedial character, rather than the quantity of new laws, is the sole test of our progress. It takes greater courage to propose a sweeping correction in time-honored laws than to propose something entirely new in the law. Just the contrary is true in most fields of activity. The man who first proposed to fly in the air had more courage than he who proposed a change in steam engine construction. The man who now proposes to change our recording system has the courage of the one who first proposed to fly in the air.

We admire courage, and when it is along remedial lines of the law, suggesting remedies for admitted abuses and antiquated methods already contained in the law, the Review will be found more readily on the side of this kind of progress, devoting its pages to the worthy suggestions for reform than it will in favor of radical, new and untried propositions. We will welcome the needed change in our recording system, and we deem ourselves fortunate in being permitted to publish in this issue a courageous article on the subject.

EDITORIAL.

The management of the *Marquette Law Review* desires to express its gratification for the hearty reception accorded the initial number. The subscriptions sent in without any other inducement than that offered by the magazine itself, were especially encouraging. If this and succeeding numbers meet with the support rendered our first number we can assure our readers of a bigger and better publication within the near future.

We have procured for the readers of our next number an assortment of leading articles which will be hard to duplicate. Mr. E. H. Flick of the Seattle Bar has favored us with a timely and interesting treatise of the law of *Community Property* as it has worked out in the western states. Mr. H. Mahoney's learned treatment of the *Federal Employers' Liability Act* should be in every law office. The article by Mr. Edward W. Spencer, former dean of the Law School, on *Spurious and Questioned Documents* supplemented by photographic illustrations will prove a legal gem to the law student and to the practitioner. The latter article will embrace the important legal phases of the subject, and also the methods by which handwriting experts arrive at their conclusions and form their opinions.

If your patronage warrants and our resources permit, we hope within a short time to graduate into the class of monthly publications. Before undertaking to do so, however, we intend to add a few other departments which we are assured will be heartily received by the profession. In order to carry out our plans we must first obtain a good sized circulation. If your name is not indexed among the elect as yet, you can do no better than follow the words of our good friend Mr. Woodmansee: "Clear the record and land on the right side of *our* index."