

Association submitted recommendations for appointments to the Magistrates, Traffic and Peoples Court in the City. The majority of my appointments came from that list. Mr. Robert France, the President of this Association, although not an applicant for the position accepted my urgent request that he become the Chief Justice of the Traffic Court. Three other members of this Association were chosen to be associated with him.

The incoming President, Mr. Frederick W. Brune, accepted appointment, at my request, on the Commission of Inferior Courts and, with other attorneys and public-spirited citizens, made a valuable contribution toward the solution of that perplexing question.

Considerable progress has been made this year to remove politics as far as possible from the functioning of courts of every description. Our citizens are mindful of the fact that Maryland enjoys a judicial system of which the State can well be proud. No effort should command your support more than that which has as its object the maintenance of the majesty and dignity of the law.

It is to be hoped that renewed effort will be made whereby the election of judges will not be enmeshed with the highly controversial questions pertaining to so many unrelated offices at a busy election period. While one suggested method, sponsored by this organization, was not adopted by the Legislature at its last session, despite our earnest efforts in its behalf, we must keep on until this fight is won.

In this connection, there is much room for encouragement in the experience in New York of the Association of the Bar and of the New York County Lawyers Association during the past several months. In order to obtain independent and capable judges, these Bar groups publicly called upon political leaders of the two major parties to agree on candidates to be nominated and thus avoid needless political contest. The effort was successful and, instead of the Bar being asked to ratify or reject names already decided upon, their request was followed with the result that political leaders agreed upon the candidates acceptable to the Bar.

I sincerely trust that, in accordance with my request, a way will be found by the Maryland State Bar Association to have available judicial material in the counties of the State for appointment when and as vacancies may occur on the Court of Appeal and in the nisi prius courts. It is my earnest desire to leave nothing undone to maintain the standards of the judiciary on the highest possible level. It is a matter of profound satisfaction that of the various branches of the government, the judiciary has established the best record. Throughout successive steps in American history the courts have stood the test remarkably well and have deserved and are receiving from the citizenry acclaim for independence and integrity.

A most interesting comment was made by Dean Emeritus Roscoe Pound at the American Bar Association Convention last July. He stated that of the three coordinate branches of government the judiciary was not equipped to compete with the other departments of government. He explained that it necessarily operates under handicaps of tradition and precepts and is markedly restricted, whereas the freedom of the executive and legislative branches is far greater because these branches are not bound down by the same traditions and requirements. But one important aspect of the situation emphasized by Dean Pound requires constant attention. He said that the executive and