

by local, municipal, county, and state police forces. A national system of policing is not practicable. A vast Federal force would be required to penetrate each community as effectively as can local enforcement officers. Such a force would not be consistent with our system of Government. There is no purpose to try to build up a national police force to supercede, rival, or even relieve local law enforcement agencies in the enforcement of local law."

In this connection, it is important for Governors to consider carefully any proposals which would clothe volunteers with law enforcement powers or which would arm them with police weapons.

Our history, especially during war times, is replete with instances of excesses of vigilantism. As the chief law enforcement officer of the State, the Governor is responsible for keeping the volunteers under control.

How often are excited patriots prone to lose their heads and cry out, "Never mind the Law! Put down this outrage! Punish these culprits and let us not waste time on legal authority!"

There was such a case, which I am sure all of us are proud to remember. It occurred even before America was a Nation, but when the colonies were already united under the democratic ideal of justice. There was a street fight in this very City of Boston, an unfortunate demonstration which got out of hand. It was called the Boston Massacre. There were patriots then who shouted "Never mind the Law. Punish the Redcoats and punish them quickly!" But there was a lawyer here as much a patriot as the shouters were, and Mr. John Adams knew that it was much more important to keep the law in working order than to substitute—ever so temporarily—a government of men.

So the Redcoats went on trial like other disturbers of the peace. They were entitled to legal defense before the Bar, and they got it. John Adams defended them himself. That was a rather sensational example. Very few of us are likely to engage in one like it. But every one of us, as Chief Enforcement Officers of our States, have the same obligation put upon us.

Reference is intended not only to misguided and hot-tempered demonstrations. Occasionally the Law is tested as dramatically as in the instance cited above. But much more often the very same testing takes place without great publicity, as a part of our everyday life. Enforcement officials and judges and jurymen re-enact many times each day throughout the land the scene of government being carried out by Law. The humblest citizen is entitled to have his rights weighed and adjusted by some branch of our great judiciary system.

Does such a statement lack "news value" here in America, because such happenings are so commonplace? If so, then so much the better for all of us! In more than half the world today, such a statement would be news of the foremost importance to everyone. In all-too-many countries today there is government not by law but by man.

How much responsibility, therefore, falls upon us as Governors! There is no freedom, where there is no justice. There is no Democracy where law ceases to function in its joint capacity—that of upholding the State and of standing eternal watch over the rights of the people.

Of equal importance is the need for proper organization and mobilization