Lawyer Presents--

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THE LAWYER PRESENTS

It is the privilege of the Notre Dame Lawyer to present in this issue the addresses delivered at the Symposium on safeguards for witnesses in legislative investigations, held at the Notre Dame Law School on December 9, 1953.

The Symposium was inspired by an address before the Southwestern Legal Foundation by Mr. William T. Gossett. It was altogether fitting, therefore, that Mr. Gossett should preside at the Symposium. Mr. Gossett is vice president and general counsel of the Ford Motor Company and a member of the Company's board of directors and its executive and administration committees. Following his admission to the bar in 1929, he began practicing law in New York City as an associate of the firm of Hughes, Schurman and Dwight, and became a member of that firm on January 1, 1935. He became a member of the firm of Hughes, Richards, Hubbard and Ewing when the predecessor firm was dissolved in 1937. He specialized in corporate finance and litigation. In 1947 he withdrew from his law firm and joined the Ford Motor Company. Mr. Gossett is a member of the board of visitors of Columbia Law School, and a member of the American, Michigan, Detroit, New York State and New York City bar associations and of the New York County Lawyers Association.

After being presented by Dean O'Meara, Mr. Gossett introduced the other members of the distinguished panel. The first speaker was Mr. Marshall Smelser, Associate Professor of History at the University of Notre Dame. Professor Smelser has an A.B. from Quincy College and an A.M. and Ph.D. from Harvard. He has contributed to American Historical Review, American Neptune, Illinois State History Review, Louisiana History Quarterly, Review of Politics and William and Mary Quarterly. He is a member of the American Historical Association and is president of the Notre Dame chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

Professor Smelser was followed by Mr. Abe Fortas of the law firm of Arnold, Fortas and Porter, Washington, D. C. After five years as assistant professor at the Yale School of Law, Mr. Fortas joined the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission in 1937. From that time until he joined his present firm, Mr. Fortas held a variety of responsible governmental positions. In 1942, at the age of 29, he became Under Secretary of the Interior. In 1945 and 1946 he was adviser to the United States Delegation to the United Nations. He is a member of the American and Federal bar associations. He is also a contributor to legal and other periodicals.
Next to speak was Congressman Kenneth B. Keating. Congressman Keating is a member of the law firm of Harris, Beach, Keating, Wilcox and Dale, Rochester, New York. He served with distinction in both world wars and holds a reserve commission as brigadier general. Among his military decorations are the American, European and Asiatic Ribbons with three battle stars and the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster. He is a member of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and Chairman of the Subcommittee to Investigate the Department of Justice. He is a member of the Rochester, New York State and American bar associations, and of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Reserve Officers’ Association.

Congressman Keating was followed by Mr. George Morris Fay of the law firm of Fay and Anderson, Washington, D.C. Mr. Fay served in the Navy in World War II. From 1946 to 1951 he was United States Attorney for the District of Columbia. In that capacity he successfully prosecuted 34 alleged Communists for contempt of Congress, including Eugene Dennis, Gerhardt Eisler, the so-called “Hollywood defendants” and officers of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. Mr. Fay is a lecturer at the Catholic University Law School. He is a member of the American, District of Columbia and Federal bar associations.

The final speaker was Mr. Telford Taylor of the law firm of Landis, Taylor and Scoll, New York City. Mr. Taylor holds the Distinguished Service Medal for wartime services in the United States Army Intelligence Service. After the war he served at the Nuremberg war crimes trials, first as deputy to Mr. Justice Jackson and later as Chief Prosecutor. In 1946 he was promoted to brigadier general and holds that rank in the Army Reserve. Before the war Mr. Taylor was General Counsel of the Federal Communications Commission. He has written frequently on political, legal and military subjects, as well as television problems. In 1952 he published a book, Sword and Swastika, dealing with the role of the German generals under Hitler. Last year he lectured on congressional investigations for the Woodrow Wilson Foundation at Princeton University. He is the present Commander of Willard Straight Post, No. 842, of the American Legion.

The Notre Dame Lawyer publishes the papers read by these gentlemen in the belief that they are a constructive contribution toward the solution of a grave and difficult problem.
"Under a government of laws the lives, the fortunes and the freedom of the people are wholly dependent upon the enforcement of their constitutional rights by an independent judiciary and by an independent Bar.

"The legal profession is a public profession. Lawyers are public servants. They are the stewards of all the legal rights and obligations of all the citizens." Reginald Heber Smith, *Survey of the Legal Profession: Its Scope, Methods and Objectives*, 39 A.B.A.J. 548 (1953)