

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Association of Clerks
of District Court,
State of Minnesota
February 11, 1972

A second year of serving as your president is drawing to a close. Goals have been reached and goals have been missed. You have all been constantly on my mind. How I wish I might have achieved a stronger leadership for each of you. The response you have given to any request made of you has been amazingly cooperative. That has been appreciated quite beyond words.

We have had our seventh annual seminar this past summer at Brainerd. We had an informal meeting in Mankato in September to consider the County Court Act in action in that "pioneer" county. Increasingly we have found it a good idea to have meetings in our districts and to cooperate closely within those districts.

The passage of the County Court Act has posed challenge after challenge to the Clerks of Minnesota. It has meant that in many counties the Clerk of the District Court is or will become the Clerk of the County Court, thus changing, possibly for all time, the unique character of the office we have held. In other counties this has not happened as yet and for various reasons. To the everlasting credit of each of you; the decision to become or not become Clerk of the County Court was not made without careful thought and consideration of the people you serve. As court unification is still a possibility in the future, our offices may be even more changed. It is my firm belief that whatever change comes, the integrity and hard work of the Clerks as I know you, will make the best of it, bringing forth order out of disorder, establishing procedures where no direction appears, and at all times demanding quality in records.

The changes in the licensing laws for drivers has brought about some turbulence, which is now settling into patterns of control. You have already shown how change can be handled. You have been flexible and able. The Highway Department will continue to need your good efforts to get the change-over into smooth operation. There is a colossal job, even with modern methods. They need our patience and encouragement.

The Clerk of District Court's office is "under the gun" on the ballot this fall of 1972. Now the question must be faced by the voters, not just the Clerks..shall this office become appointive? It is a fundamental change, one not to be countenanced as frivolous. It will require our very best thinking and doing, and what we say and do will make its mark at that election. On the other hand, what we may fail to do will also speak.

We have adopted new by-laws and we have begun a sort of manual which will grow with the years, I hope. It is needed. I would urge you to turn to your neighbor Clerks, your District Chairman or your state officers when you have questions concerning your office. As some of you struggle with the County Court Act, turn to the Clerks near you working on the same problems. Your District Court experience will be a good guide in this expanded area.

I would strongly urge every Clerk to attend all meetings of the districts, the seminars and the state conventions. It is imperative that you keep yourself informed of everything affecting your office as it goes through the changes facing us now.

I commend you all to the capable leadership of your new president, confident that we walk together in paths of service to Minnesota people with common goals and high ideals of what justice becomes when it is reduced to writing and preserved in record form. So I end my two years with many sighs about "the might have beens" but with the hope the next two years will be the best yet for our Association.

Thanks for your loyalty and help.

Ruth Eppeland

ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS OF DISTRICT COURT
1972 convention committees

REGISTRATION AND CREDENTIALS:

Buiford Qualle,	Beltrami County
Joyce Blindt	Yellow Medicine County
Olive Peterson	Nicollet County

PARLLAMENTARIAN:

Pansy Purrington	Cottonwood County
------------------	-------------------

ORIENTATION OF NEW CLERKS

Edsel Janovsky	LeSueur Co.
David Meyer	Wabasha Co.
Myrtle Logas	Otter Tail Co.
Vivian Erbes	Nobles Co.
Pansy Purrington	Cottonwood Co.

RESOLUTIONS:

Violet Zeien	Chisago Co.
Henry Sandstrom	St.Louis Co.
Waldo Allen	Mille Lacs Co.

AUDITING:

Ray Sanders	Rice Co.
Lawrence Krause	Waseca Co.

RECEPTION COMMITTEE:

Gerald Nelson, Chr.	Hennepin Co.
Ralph Swenson, Reg. of Deeds	
Jim McConnell, Treasurer	
Erv Boelke, Auditor	

COUNTY "CONSOLIDATION" COMMITTEE:

Dave Meyer	Wabasha Co.
Keith Baldwin	Redwood Co.
Lawrence Krause	Waseca Co.
Walt Grams	Brown Co.