

1959

## Notes: Aritcles, Reports, and Notes of The National Association of County and Prosecuting Attorneys

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## NOTES

### A Governor's Appreciation of the Practical Problems of Law Enforcement

First-rate law enforcement nowadays takes brains, skills and more money than the public has been accustomed to spend for it, Governor Robert B. Meyner of New Jersey stated in his address at the July 30, 1958, dinner meeting of the National Association of County and Prosecuting Attorneys during its annual convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Earlier in the evening Governor and Mrs. Meyner were hosts at a reception for the convention's delegates and guests.

"People who enforce our laws must have skills and facilities equal to the considerable resources of those who break them," the Governor declared. "Good enforcement costs money and the public must be made to realize it."

Governor Meyner expressed the view that the constitutional bar to self-incrimination and the situation with respect to wire-tapping helped complicate the work of the crime fighter and make it more costly. "We are accustomed to associating a Fifth Amendment plea with suspected present or former Communists," he said, "but the refuge of the Fifth harbors many more people than that. This is not to suggest that we should sweep away personal rights and considerations of privacy but rather to say that law enforcement is a great deal more complex than a sidewalk game of cops and robbers. I suppose the most striking and spectacular exercises in law enforcement in recent years have been the Congressional investigations into

various recesses of the underworld. The average person, watching these unfold on his television screen, is apt to conclude that bringing the criminal to book is a simple matter of serving subpoenas and dealing out the searching questions. The average person probably does not realize that what he is watching is a last act and that into its production went many thousands of dollars, many manhours of legwork and the professional skills of a small army of lawyers, accountants, investigators and other specialists. Some more recent Congressional investigations seem to indicate that the standard personnel in the future will include press agents and private ears as well as private eyes."

Governor Meyner praised the prosecuting attorneys for conducting "the daily bread-and-butter work of your offices that never makes the headlines."

"A good part of the job of protecting our citizens from the criminal element and protecting persons and property is routine and colorless work, but it is important that it be done faithfully and well," the Governor said. "And not the least among your functions is the duty to protect people from unjust accusations, to proceed discreetly where reputations are at stake, and to dispose quietly of charges that are unfairly laid. This reflects a concern for the worth and dignity of the individual, a cardinal principle of our society."

### The NACPA "Furtherance of Justice" Award to J. Edgar Hoover

The first "Furtherance of Justice" award of the National Association of County and Prosecuting Attorneys was presented to Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in ceremonies in Washington, D. C., immediately

preceding the Association's 1958 Annual Meeting. At the meeting itself, in Atlantic City, New Jersey, a sound movie was shown to the Association's members of the presentation of the award to Mr. Hoover in his F.B.I. office in Washington.



Presentation of "Furtherance of Justice" Award to J. Edgar Hoover, by Frank E. Moss, Retiring President of the National Association of County and Prosecuting Attorneys. In the background are (l to r) Frank Holt of Little Rock, Ark.; Vincent P. Keuper, Freehold, N. J.; Edmond F. De Vine, Ann Arbor, Mich.; Edward S. Silver, Brooklyn, N. Y.; J. Harold Grady, Baltimore, Md.

### The New Officers of the National Association of County and Prosecuting Attorneys

At the 1958 Annual Meeting of the National Association of County and Prosecuting Attorneys in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on June 27-30, the following officers were elected:

*President:*

J. St. Clair Favrot, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

*Executive Vice-President:*

Edward S. Silver, Brooklyn, New York

*Secretary:*

Vincent P. Keuper, Freehold, New Jersey

*Treasurer:*

Victor H. Blanc, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*First Vice-President, Criminal:*

Patrick Brennan, South Bend, Indiana

*First Vice-President, Civil:*

James H. DeWeese, Troy, Ohio

*Second Vice-President, Criminal:*

Keith Mossman, Vinton, Iowa

*Second Vice-President, Civil:*

Blaine Ramsey, Lewistown, Illinois

*Third Vice-President, Criminal:*

Garrett H. Byrne, Boston, Massachusetts

*Third Vice-President, Civil:*

William B. McKesson, Los Angeles, California

*Historian:*

George M. Scott, Minneapolis, Minnesota

*Associate Member, Executive Committee:*

Melvin G. Rueger, Cincinnati, Ohio



Officers of the National Association of County and Prosecuting Attorneys  
1958-59

VICTOR H. BLANC, GARRETT H. BYRNE, VINCENT P. KEUPER, WILLIAM B. MCKESSON, BLAINE RAMSEY,  
JAMES H. DEWEESE, J. ST. CLAIR FAVROT, EDWARD S. SILVER, PATRICK BRENNAN, KEITH MOSSMAN.

### Criminal Law Fellowships at Northwestern University

Members of NACPA may be interested in knowing that several \$4,000 criminal law fellowships are available at Northwestern University for the academic year beginning next September. The recipients of the fellowships may pursue graduate studies in criminal law leading to a degree of Master of Law or Doctor of Judicial Science. At the present time two NACPA members are at-

tending Northwestern on criminal law fellowships. They are Duane Nedrud of North Dakota and Douglas Cook of Michigan. Anyone interested in further details may write to our fellow member, Professor Fred E. Inbau, who is in charge of Northwestern's criminal law program. His address is 357 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago 11, Illinois.