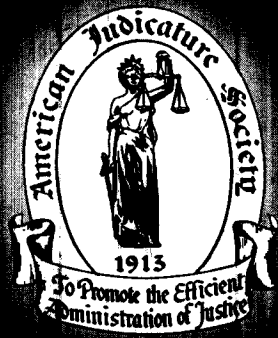


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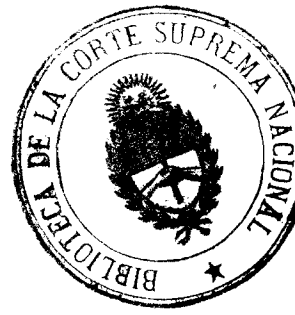
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GLENN R. WINTERS, *Editor*
 Staff: Glenn M. Hameister, *Assistant Director*;
 Rae N. Selig, *Editorial Assistant*;
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Gas Tax Money for the Courts

ALLOCATION of a portion of the state motor fuel tax funds to the state judicial department is to be proposed next month by a committee of the Illinois Judicial Conference.

It may be something of a shock to people who have grudgingly put up with the nuisance and expense of gasoline taxes in order that they might have fine highways on which to drive, to think of using such moneys for a purpose as seemingly remote from highway uses as judicial administration. Indeed, it was the many demands for gasoline tax money for all kinds of non-highway uses that led the people of a number of the states to adopt constitutional amendments forbidding it.

But judicial administration is not as remote from highway use as it might seem to be at first glance. In many places, and most of all in Illinois, the calendars of under-manned and inadequately-housed courts are jammed with cases predominantly of one class—personal injury cases arising out of automobile accidents. The automobile and the highway account for 65 per cent of all litigation and 90 per cent of the jury trials, according to Judge Cornelius J. Harrington, chairman of the judicial conference's committee on court house and jury room facilities. Condemnation proceedings and