

Scandal rocks legal community

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for Monroe and Lawrence counties, activities to be investigated:

- Fred Thrasher, age 24, alleged horse thief;

- Judge John C. Robinson, Owen County, appointed by Judge Wilson to preside at disbarment proceedings, and

- Bloomington attorneys Joseph Henley, Rufus East and John East, appointed by Judge Wilson to investigate alleged unethical activities of Matotte, Hadley and Miller.

Judge Wilson was hard-pressed to find three Bloomington lawyers who were not representing any of those being investigated, particularly since there were only approximately 20 attorneys in town. It was a problem for Wilson, because most of them were tied up in partnerships, thus eliminating their partners as disinterested parties. For example, Duncan & Batman and Miers & Corr were all representing Prosecutor Miller.

Hadley's case was the first one to be heard, since Thrasher was one of the persons who accused him of unethical conduct in his case. Specifically, it was alleged by the young man that Hadley took \$450 to "influence the official action of the prosecutor."

Next week: The cases unfold.