

CLINE WILLIAMS

Roscoe and Stephen Pound

The Pound family includes several notable Nebraskans. Roscoe Pound, a member of the Firm, is perhaps the most recognized in legal circles. He joined the firm in 1905, and the next year gave a speech to the American Bar Association Convention that brought him national attention.

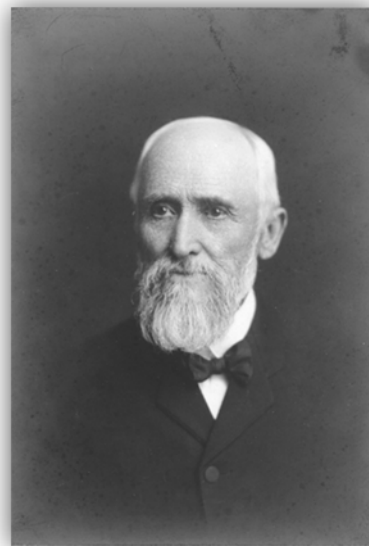
Roscoe Pound joined our Firm in 1905, while also serving as Dean of the University of Nebraska College of Law. During his tenure with the Firm, Pound delivered a controversial address to the 1906 American Bar Association Convention entitled “The Causes of Popular Dissatisfaction with the Administration of Justice.” This speech catapulted Pound to national attention and is often credited with igniting the spark of American legal reform during the Progressive Era.

After leaving the firm, Pound taught law at Northwestern, the University of Chicago, and Harvard, and served as the Dean of the Harvard Law School for over twenty years. By virtue of his lectures and many writings, he became one of the most influential American legal scholars of the twentieth century.

Roscoe Pound’s father, Stephen also practiced with the Firm from 1907 until his death in 1911. Stephen Pound was a delegate to the Nebraska Constitutional Convention of 1875, Lancaster County’s first District Court judge, and the patriarch of one of Nebraska’s most remarkable families. In addition to their son Roscoe, Stephen and his wife, Laura Biddlecome Pound, had two daughters, Olivia and Louise. Olivia was a nationally recognized educator who wrote more than 20 textbooks and contributed many articles to educational publications. Louise was a long time professor of English at the University of Nebraska, an accomplished musician and athlete, and a mentor to young Willa Cather. In the words of her contemporary, H.L. Mencken, Louise Pound’s work in the field of linguistics “put the study of American English on its legs.” The Pound siblings all maintained close ties to the Firm throughout their long and productive lives.



Roscoe Pound



Stephen Pound