

University of Michigan Law School  
University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository

---

Yearbooks & Class Year Publications

Law School History and Publications

---

Class of 1886

## Minutes of Quarter Centennial Reunion

Follow this and additional works at: [https://repository.law.umich.edu/class\\_pubs](https://repository.law.umich.edu/class_pubs)



Part of the [Legal Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

"Minutes of Quarter Centennial Reunion" (1886). *Yearbooks & Class Year Publications*. 105.  
[https://repository.law.umich.edu/class\\_pubs/105](https://repository.law.umich.edu/class_pubs/105)

This Reunion Material is brought to you for free and open access by the Law School History and Publications at University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Yearbooks & Class Year Publications by an authorized administrator of University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact [mlaw.repository@umich.edu](mailto:mlaw.repository@umich.edu).

1911

Minutes of  
**Quarter Centennial Reunion**  
Law Class of '86  
U. of M.

To the members of the Law Class of 1886 University of Michigan:—

I find among my memoranda taken down at our last reunion a rough outline of the minutes. They are submitted to you in advance of the June meeting for your consideration. If I have not made the record full enough—or what I have noted is not the truth, feel free to make suggestions. Come to the reunion June 26 and 27, and have the proper corrections made when the minutes are read.

JOHN T. MOFFIT, Secy.

Tipton, Ia., May 5th, 1916.

Ann Arbor, Mich, Sunday, June 25, 1911.

The Members of the Law Class U. of M. 1886, commenced to gather for the quarter centennial celebration, which was arranged to be held on Monday and Tuesday.

James A. Crawford of Heathman, Mississippi, with his wife and daughter, Julia, were the first to drift in. They came yesterday, Saturday.

By evening there were gathered in the office of "The Allenel" this is the old Cook House re-built and re-modeled:—Aldrich, Brunson, Crawford, Creveling, Lydick, Merithew, Moffit, Nieman, Searl, E. L. Smith, Spears. Indeed a goodly number for the advance guard.

During the afternoon and evening there were numerous showers. It was on this account, and this alone, that kept the members from attending the Baccalaureate in the evening. A very pleasant evening was spent and many interesting things were told. The Secretary retired about 11:00 p. m.

What happened after that I am not able to record from personal observation. Have heard various reports; each one, however, telling me what the other one did. The landlord, however, informed me in anger that the guests in one section of the house were greatly disturbed in their slumbers. At 3:00 a. m. the noise was finally stopped by threats to call the police.

Monday, June 26, 1911.

The Law Class of 1886, U. of M. met in room "B" of the Law Building at 10:00 a. m., in pursuance to the call for the quarter centennial

anniversary. The room was changed from "C" to "B", for the reason that the old Class picture taken at graduation time has been preserved and not consigned to the junk pile, and now decorates the walls of lecture room "B".

The Class was called to order by the President, W. H. Brunson of St. Johns, Mich.

The Secretary was directed to call the roll and it was found that there were present:—R. L. Aldrich, Detroit, Mich., Lincoln Avery, Port Huron; John I. Breck, Jackson; W. H. Brunson, St. Johns, James A. Crawford, Heathman, Miss., George B. Creveling, New York City, Captain H. S. Lydick, Pittsburg, James McNamara, Detroit, Mich., H. D. Merithew, Detroit, John T. Moffit, Tipton, Iowa; H. W. Nieman, Elmore, Ohio; Judge K. S. Searl, Ithaca, Mich.; W. J. Spears, Vassar, Zeb, V. Walsar, Lexington, N. C.—15.

The minutes of the meeting of Monday and Tuesday, June 18, and 19, 1906, were read and approved. The Secretary then read the list of the members of the class who had died since the last reunion

Charles H. Carlson died at Santa Cruz, Cal., June 26, 1906; buried at Hampton, Iowa. William L. Marquardt died May 25, 1908 at Port Angeles, Wash. Rollo B. Oglesbee died August 17, 1908 at Indianapolis, Ind. James E. Cross died May 19, 1909 at Chicago, Ill. Roger Miller Lee died Sept. 2, 1909, at Cleveland, Ohio. John C. Shaw died Jan. 23, 1911, while temporarily at Denver, Col., buried at Bay City, Mich.

The Secretary then read the list of the deceased members as follows:—

Brady, Burlingame, Carlson, Cross, Dimmitt, Haggerty, Hamble, Healy, Hibner, Higgins, Hull, Ishii, Lee, Marquardt, Miller, C. F., Nye, Oglesbee, Peele, Shaw, Wright Francis.—20.

The members of the class arose and stood with bowed heads and many with tearful eyes in kind remembrance of the twenty brothers who have gone to join the innumerable throng.

Judge Searl and Mr. Aldrich, who happened to have been more fortunate than the rest of us, came to Ann Arbor in their autos. They took the members of the class on several trips around the grounds, passing the old boarding houses and through the city. There have been so many buildings built on and around the campus that many of us cannot remember the names of them.

Crawford stopped and called on his old landlady. She was apparently so glad to see him and wanted to collect the old bill, that she threw herself upon his neck and kissed him.

Lydick called at his boarding house and found it unchanged. It neither had been painted nor new carpets since he was there twenty-five years ago.

Aside from these two, the remainder of the boys did not have the nerve to make even a formal call.

The Secretary had made arrangements with President Hutchins for the class in a body to call upon him in the afternoon.

Adjourned until 2:00 p. m.

2:00 p. m.

The Class re-convened at 2:00 p. m. In addition to those present at the morning session:—Milton Krause, Peru, Ind., W. H. Talcott, South Lyon, Mich., and Judge T. B. White, Plainwell, Mich. joined us making present at this time,—18.

The Class went in a body to the alumni room in the Memorial Building and registered.

The Class left the Memorial Building and went to the President's office in the main University Building. Our old lecturer, afterwards the Dean, and now the President of the University, Harry B. Hutchins, welcomed us very warmly. After a short visit we again re-convened in room "B" in the Law Building.

The afternoon was spent, and the time was all too short, in examining the class picture; pictures of the members at the reunion in 1906; a very beautiful farm scene sent by Prewitt showing a scene on his farm in Kentucky; a picture of Crawford and some friends he made while on a visit to Cuba. Picture of A. C. Wright, his mules and his cottage on his Brownsville, Texas, ranch. A picture of Servis in Seattle and lastly of Tom Healy,—poor fellow.

A report was given as to Wendell and of his ill health. A letter was at hand showing that he was bedfast at the time of the reunion with little chance of any permanent relief.

Many interesting letters were read from the boys; interspersed with the reading of the letters were many interesting reminiscences and stories and accounts of absent ones.

Mr. Aldrich was requested to make arrangements with a photographer to come to the Law Building, Tuesday, morning and take a picture of the members present.

On motion adjourned until 10:00 a. m. Tuesday.

The whole class re-convened on its own motion at the office of the Allenel Hotel. After each man registered, "law '86," was written on the register in front of his name. The result was that much attention was paid to the class about the hotel lobby. The younger men looking upon us with awe and wondering if it were possible that they would ever be out of school for twenty-five years. We told them we were

just boys. Many chairs were drawn in a circle and the class continued to occupy them until well into the night. Many a happy story was told and many pleasant recollections recalled.

Tuesday, June 27, 1911, 10:00 a. m.

The Class re-convened pursuant to adjournment and were called to order by the President. Present:—Aldrich, Avery, Breck, Brunson, Crawford, Creveling, I. N. Huntsberger, of Los Angeles, Cal., who had arrived during the night; Kraus, Lydick, McNamara, Merithew, Moffit, Nieman, Searl, Spears, Talcott, Walsar, White,—19. All were present except E. L. Smith, who was compelled to return to his home Sunday evening. The whole number present during the reunion having been 20.

W. H. Brunson, President, called Mr. Nieman, the Vice President to the chair and election of officers was the first order of business.

W. H. Brunson who has been the Class President for twenty-five years, thereupon moved that James A. Crawford of Mississippi be un-animously selected as President by a rising vote. The vote was un-animous.

Mr. Brunson then resumed the chair. On motion of H. W. Nieman of Ohio, who likewise had been Vice President for twenty-five years, Zeb. V. Walser of North Carolina was un-animously selected as Vice President.

On motion of Krause, John T. Moffit was elected as Secretary.

On motion J. W. Houser of Rock Island, Ill., was named as as- sistant Secretary. The thought being that in the event that the Sec- retary should be ill, or unable to look after the work, that Mr. Houser would be located conveniently so that matters could be easily arrang- ed.

Letters from those unavoidably kept away were read from Stephens, Andrews, Volney Miller and W. L. Mason.

Many letters were called for and read and the Secretary gave as much information as he could about everybody who was inquired about, and that included everybody.

On motion it was decided to hold the next reunion, thirtieth anni- versary on Monday and Tuesday of Commencement week 1916.

Lydick suggested the holding of a banquet on Monday night of the next reunion.

On motion of Spears, the President and Secretary were authorized to arrange for a banquet on Monday eve, with power to delegate, or call upon any of the members living near Ann Arbor, or Detroit, for assistance in making arrangements.

Spears in addition said that he would be pleased to look after any deficiency in the banquet account.

Avery suggested that the banquet be held at Detroit on Monday evening. McNamara said he would be glad to arrange for a car to take us down to Detroit. Also would be glad to render any assistance he could in arranging for the banquet, if decided best to hold it at Detroit.

The question of the place where the banquet should be held was finally left unsettled, being thought that the President and Secretary could arrange for it taking into account the conditions as they would exist in 1916.

Mr. Huntsberger asked all the members of the Class, their wives and members of their family present, to be his guests at 3:00 p. m. at the production of "As You Like It", on the campus. Mr. Huntsberger very earnestly urged all the members of the Class to not forget to call upon him when visiting Los Angeles.

Walser extended a similiar warm invitation to visit him in North Carolina.

Crawford again renewed his invitation of five years ago to pay him a visit at his cotton plantation in Mississippi.

Some of the married members of the Class, who were present and listened to the warm and earnest invitation of these gentlemen, felt there might be three proceedings for divorce in three different states, if this whole push should be able to raise the money to pay the car fare in order to accept the hospitality.

At this time the photographer arrived and the class picture was taken.

Arrangements were made by Breck for the class to dine together at the Allene Hotel.

A loving cup, properly engraved, was presented to the Secretary and three pieces of silver were sent to Mrs. Moffit with the compliments of the Class.

Some very pleasant things were said of the Secretary and the members quite generally expressed themselves as pleased with his efforts in doing what little he could to hold the class together and keep in touch with them. All of this was very pleasing, and the Secretary felt that he was unworthy of the many compliments paid him; in the best words at his command, told the class that he did not want any more such foolishness; that he did not want the hat passed around for him. He just wanted them to come to the reunion for a good time and not with the thought always in their minds that they were going to be touched for a contribution every time they showed up. His experience has been that some people stay away from church because they do not like to face the contribution box every Sunday. It is to be hop-

ed that this thing will never happen again. Let's get everybody to come without having a secret fear at heart that he is going to have to keep putting up.

Adjourned to 2 p. m.

A long table was spread at the Allene Hotel, at which all the members were seated. A very pleasant hour and a half was spent. Mrs. Crawford, after finishing her dinner, came over to the table and proposed the toast, "to our wives and our sweethearts may they never meet."

2:00 p. m.

The Class re-convened with all the members, who had been at the re-union present, except E. L. Smith.

The Secretary showed up his bank book. It showed that he had deposited the \$23.50, and the \$19.00 received at the last reunion; also \$5.00 donated by Evans; \$1.00 by Doe; and items of interest of 75c, 40c, 8c, total \$49.73.

That he had paid out on June 21, 1906, for allowance of postage up to that time, \$10.00. For printing the first class roster of Jan. 8, 1907 \$37.50, leaving a balance of Jan. 1, 1908, of \$2.23.

That on June 12, 1911, Shepherd had sent a check for \$10.00. Leaving cash in Secretary's hands of \$12.23. At that time nothing had been drawn out for postage since the last reunion. He reported that his stenographer had kept track of the postage for the last three months, while sending out the class letters, and this amounted to \$9.39. This did not include postage for gathering the memoranda and data about the members and sending out the roll, which probably would amount to about twice the above item. The Secretary was unable to give the amount of postage, could only approximately; except as to the \$9.39 item. Printing bills have not been paid.

A number of additional letters were read and visiting continued.

It was noticeable that in nearly all the letters the absent members expressed regret at not being with us and promised, if we would advise them of the time of the next reunion their arrangements would be such, that they would be present.

The Law Class of 1886 will have the greatest reunion that any class ever had in 1916, or else it is composed of the biggest class of liars that ever went unhung.

3:00 p. m. arrived too soon. Aldrich took Avery, McNamara, Lydick and Creveling with him in his auto across the country. These gentlemen were not able to remain to accept the hospitality of Mr. Huntsberger.

We all bade them farewell, and then went with Mr. Huntsberger to the open air theatre arranged under some large trees over beyond the main building. The stage was built in the open and covered with grass and boughs. In fact the stage was built of small trees, lilac bushes and briar bushes. There was no covering over either the stage or the audience. It was a beautiful afternoon. A part of the time the sun was under a cloud.

The Ben Greet Company of Woodland Players presented the forest scenes of "As you like it." Rosalind was great.

After the play was ended the class again met under the trees in front of the law building and were loathe at six o'clock to leave the scenes of their boyhood days.

On motion the class adjourned until Monday and Tuesday of Commencement week A. D. 1916.

All the members remaining repaired to the hotel, where the rest of the evening was spent in visiting until about 8:30 p. m. when the members commenced to take their various trains to start for their homes. Creveling to New York; Huntsberger to Los Angeles. Thus we had brought together our chums of boyhood days across the continent from ocean to ocean. Measured by the good times; the warm expressions of friendship and the happy recollections re-called, this has sure been a great reunion.

.....  
President.

.....  
Secretary.



1415

FIMU

F99

