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NINTH REUNION
CENTURY LAW CLASS
U. of M.

JUL 31 1946

The "Century Laws" met for their 45th anniversary or 9th reunion in conjunction with the General Victory Reunion of the University and spent three most enjoyable days at Ann Arbor, June 20 to 22, 1946. Even the weather was ideal. They were domiciled at the Wenley House Dormitory immediately west of the Michigan Union, headquarters being maintained at the Union. The twenty-two members of the class with some wives and guests made a good representation. Thursday afternoon was given up to registration and visiting with one another there and at headquarters. Most of them attended the General Victory Reunion Dinner Thursday evening at the Michigan Union. President Ruthven of the University, presided. Walter G. Kirkbride, President of General Alumni Association as well as President of the Class, with others, was scheduled to speak, but he had been seized with a high blood pressure attack on the preceding Tuesday and was resting at the University Hospital. He was also unable to attend the class meeting on Friday or other class affairs, but made a short address at the General Alumni Luncheon on Saturday, June 22,

On Friday, June 21, Reunion Day, members of the class started their activities by breakfasting together at the Michigan Union Cafeteria, after which the class meeting was held at Room 150, Hutchins Hall in Law Quadrangle. Members enjoyed looking at the many old pictures which had been brought, reading recent letters from classmates, and after signing the roll the class was called to order by Henry A. Converse, Vice-President, who informed the class of the illness of Walter G. Kirkbride. Associate Secretary George E. Fink acting as secretary was directed to write to him expressing the sympathy of those present on his illness and their regret that he was unable to be present at the meeting.

At the direction of Vice-President Converse, all present stood in silence with bowed heads while the names were read of the thirty-three members of the class who had died since the 1940 Reunion of the class. The list disclosed that eleven members of the class who attended the 1940 reunion had since passed on.

A very fine letter was read from Mrs. C. L. Converse of Columbus, Ohio, expressing the appreciation of C. L. Converse and herself for the funds which were delivered to her following the 1940 reunion. "Con" Converse was continuous secretary of the class from 1900 to his death on March 30, 1942. He was very ill at the time of the 1940 reunion and unable to attend. At one of the early reunions he had been elected class secretary for life. An appropriate reply was directed to be made to the letter of Mrs. Converse. A letter in the form of a speech was read from Shigetsuma Furuya, a member of the class, located in Sao Paulo, Brazil, expressing his inability to be present and outlining his activities since his graduation, starting as a journalist and later entering the diplomatic service in which he served in Korea, Belgium, England, Canada and Washington, D.C., having for many years been engaged in the growing of bananas in Brazil. He has a family consisting of three sons and two daughters. He plans to visit the United States within the next two years.

The report of George E. Fink, Associate Secretary, showed that all expenses of the reunion had been paid and there was ample funds on hand to pay for the printing and distribution of new class directory, a copy of Reunion Alumnus to each member of the class and later reports to the class.

Attention of the class was called to the fact that Louis Elbel, author of the "Victors" had never received a degree from the University and a resolution was unanimously adopted authorizing the incoming president to appoint a committee of three to ascertain the facts and see that he be granted a degree if possible.

It was learned that classmate Henry A. Converse had written a "Brief Biography of Lincoln's Life" which is now in a bronze plaque at Lincoln's tomb in Springfield. He was asked to provide a copy for the class records which he agreed to do.

MEMORANDUM
FOR THE RECORD

The first part of the report deals with the general situation in the country and the progress of the work during the year. It is found that the work has been carried out in accordance with the plan and that the results are satisfactory.

The second part of the report deals with the work done in the various departments. It is found that the work has been carried out in accordance with the plan and that the results are satisfactory.

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Former President Paul W. Voorhies reported on the class memorial fund as follows:

Principal of fund	\$5,245.00
Outstanding loans	
to law students	<u>639.35</u>
Available for loans - -	\$4,605.65

The class election resulted as follows:

President - Henry A. Converse
1st Vice-President - Bert E. McLaughlin
2nd Vice-President - Ralph Jernegan
Secretary - George E. Fink
Assistant Secretary - Maurice Weigle
Chairman 1950 Reunion Committee - Walter G. Kirkbride

The other members of the 1950 Reunion Committee since appointed by the Class President, are as follows: William R. Fox, Jerome J. Crowley, William C. Geake and Paul W. Voorhies.

Immediately following the class meeting the members went in a group to the Alumni Memorial Building where the picture was taken. The native Malay cannon which was brought from the Philippine Islands by Captain Jess Tarbell for the class reunion of 1910 and which following the reunion was presented to the University, was brought forth and placed immediately in front of the group and will accordingly appear in the class picture.

The next event was the class luncheon in a private room at the Michigan Union. After the luncheon the members scattered to be on their own until the class dinner at 6:00 which was held on the terrace off of the first floor of the Michigan Union Building. Toasts and speeches were enjoyed for at least an hour following the dinner.

Following the dinner was the Alumni Sing and Band Concert directed by Don Chown of Radio Station WJR. The campus was softly illuminated by colored lanterns suspended from the trees. The Glee Club participated in this affair and the orchestra was led in the "Victors" by Louis Elbel. Classmate Ralph Jernegan was a roommate of Louis Elbel while in college and aided Elbel in writing the "Victors". Classmate Carl Mohr lived in the same rooming house and claims to have contributed by his approval of the finished product. Another classmate, Jerome Crowley claims to have been the first person to have sung the "Victors" after its completion. It was fine that these four men could all be present at this reunion. Following the adjournment of the Alumni Sing, some members of the class found themselves with Louis Elbel at the Graduate Club where Elbel again entertained all present by rendering the "Victors" on the piano.

Saturday morning the class had breakfast together in one of the Alcoves off of the main dining room of the Michigan Union where the members lingered for over an hour, indulging in reminiscences, speeches and toasts. The General Alumni Luncheon on Saturday closed the reunion.

In attendance were the following from seven states:

Pleasant I. Phillips	Bert E. McLaughlin
Peter M. Lippert	Maurice Weigle
Floyd R. Olmsted	Paul W. Voorhies
William R. Fox	Richard Taper
William O. Lee	Carl Mohr
George E. Fink	Ralph H. Jernegan
Henry A. Converse	Fred W. Hartsburg
Hon. R. E. Barr	John C. Spaulding
Hon. John Adams	Walter G. Kirkbride
John Braden McAdoo	Hon. John E. Brondige
Jerome J. Crowley	Frederick R. Austin

Henry A. Converse, Pres.


George E. Fink, Secretary

