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THE BULLETIN

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No. 22

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1927

PROFESSOR THOMPSON'S METHOD OF LECTURING

By JOHN T. WAGNER

Probably the least obtrusive and withal one of the most beloved of the professors to whom we had to report for lectures, in October, 1892, was Professor Bradley M. Thompson. In imagination, I still see him on the high platform in the lecture room, his glasses high upon a rather prominent nose; with a head of bushy, iron-gray hair and a beard of generous proportions; and of figure somewhat rotund, though not obese.

Probably the one thing about him that impressed me more firmly than anything else was the fact that he permitted us to use his lectures in book form. I then thought that he was by long odds the best professor in the lot, for he made it possible for us to get openly the lectures that he delivered, and to get them just as he delivered them.

Under the other lecturers if you could write shorthand, or could remember accurately enough, you got the lectures. If you were not that fortunate, you might get them and use them surreptitiously in mimeographed form. This was, however, a heinous offence, and rather than be caught with the interdicted mimeographed lectures, I relied upon my memory and my slow pen.

How restful it was in "Tommy's" lectures. You had his lectures in book form in your hand. You followed his explanations of the text; marked the important cases that he advised you to read. You could go from the lecture room knowing that in the stillness of the night you might con the lectures exactly as they had been given, knowing that the canniest wiles of the quizmaster could not possibly trip you in anything that "Tommy" had discussed.

Speaking at a distance of thirty-three years, I still say that his method was the better. He knew that many students would buy the mimeographed lectures in secret, or would get the import of them very imperfectly from memory or from inaccurate notes. He cut the Gordian

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'94 LAWS AND SIGMA CHI

By L. A. STONEMAN

The Sigma Chi fraternity had been established at Michigan some twenty years when the hand of Destiny assembled at Ann Arbor that fertile array of material that was later to issue forth as the Law Class of '94. The fraternity was then occupying a rented house, bleak and bare, on East Huron Street, but later moved to South State Street and for many years now has enjoyed its own comfortable home adjoining the Michigan Union. As this organization was not strictly a legal fraternity, it had but a limited number of representatives in the Law School, and some of these had affiliated at other schools. However, there were Holliday and Burtner—colon and semi-colon, who dozed side by side over in that rather dark amen corner of the lecture room. There was Herrick, even then alert and keen, but with a humorous twinkle in his percing eye; and busy Hugh Smith, who knew something about all those intensely green '94 Law decorations that startled Ann Arbor the morning after our first Hallowe'en; and Henning, the flaxen-haired baby of the class, with his Southern polish, and always supplied with a pocket full of Old Hickory smoking and chewing twist. Then there were Freeman, with his charming personality; Crozier, of Hanover, who knew George Ade and all the other Hoosiers; serious Dan Orear from "Jimtown," Indiana, with his trusty corn-cob pipe; and Stoneman, who wondered what it was all about. The Sigma Chi fraternity played no startling part in class affairs, but its members were loyal and always tried to take their part in class activities. They also contributed cheerfully out of meagre allowances to the support of the town and such merchants as Parker and Goetz, and took a keen and substantial interest in the man who published the printed lectures. With the exception of Holliday, who died some years ago, all of the above are living, and, notwithstanding the diversity of college interests, have attained some measure of success in later years.

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The Bulletin is issued, throughout the year, in February, June and October.

PROFESSOR BRADLEY M. THOMPSON

To venture the assertion that this or that member of our class faculty was the most popular professor would probably invite as animated a discussion among our classmates as that this or that political party has the best available timber for the next presidential election. (Our new class directory shows that the '94 laws are liberally distributed among the two great political parties.)

Comparisons are odious, so they are not attempted here. Yet to appraise an outstanding figure is always illuminating. God has made us all "different," and it is these differences that create and stimulate our interest in human nature. Professor Bradley M. Thompson had a personality that was both unique and wholesome. As a teacher, he was a "prof" of the old school. As a lawyer, he perhaps suggested something of the old English country barrister. He was a fluent and pleasing speaker. Neither unlearned nor scholastic, neither astute nor complaisant, his words carried conviction to his hearers. He excelled in presenting the subjects of his lectures, even the simplest of which were problems to the raw law student's mind, in a manner very helpful to the youthful understanding. "Tommy," as he was affectionately known among the students, could always be depended upon to help us over the hard places, of which there were many, especially in Equity Jurisprudence, one of his assigned subjects for lecture. He was always approachable and ever cognizant of the shortcomings, as well as of the "longcomings," of the young. Is it any wonder, then, that he worked himself, unconsciously, into the recesses of the student's heart?

He liked to be in touch with his students. That he was. Not with each individual student, for that was an impossibility. The law school then had about six hundred members on its roll. Only a few years after we were graduated the system of teaching by lectures went into the discard, which somewhat broke up the democratic method of teaching law that had obtained since the founding of the law school, or law department as it was then called,

from the days of Professors Cooley, Campbell and Christiancy. Some years after the above change had been made, the writer, on a trip west, dropped off at Ann Arbor and visited the old law building. Professor Thompson's hair and beard had turned white. In talking over the old times when we were his students, there seemed to be an undertone of sadness to his words as he spoke. He said that things were not as they used to be—that under the new system the old spirit of comradeship between student and professor had disappeared.

Thirty-three years have not dimmed the remembrance of this kindly and likeable man, though many of the occasions and episodes that reflected his personality may have passed out of mind.

'94 LAWS NOT IN THE LAW

By B. F. WOLLMAN

The new '94 Law Directory shows that one-quarter of the members of the class have died. It is surprising to observe the number of our classmates who have drifted from their chosen profession into various other vocations. Nearly one-half of the surviving members have left the law.

It is most interesting to note the different kinds of business or profession other than the law that they have gone into. We have farmers, grain buyer, poultryman, hotel clerk, journalist, telephone engineer, monument dealer, assayer, teachers, Comptroller of a state university, owner of a summer resort, physicians and surgeons, dentist, superintendent of a sanatorium, Chamber of Commerce representative, Department of Public Works clerk, heating and piping contractor, owner of a collection agency, secretary of a U. S. Senator, secretary of a municipal civil service commission and a wholesale dealer in cigars and tobacco; we have members in the real estate business, in the insurance, in the oil and in the feed and hay business, in advertising and in the business and manufacture of school furniture and supplies; and a number of our classmates are heads of some of the largest business concerns in the country.

Limited allotted space prevents me from going into further detail. I will give a substantial list of those not in the law, together with the business, profession or occupation of each.

Presidents: U. S. Gypsum Co., S. L. Avery; Michigan Telephone Co., F. C. Kuhn (recently deceased); Trinity Portland Cement Co., W. H.

L. McCourtie; Hassinger Lumber Co., J. H. Hassinger; United Steel and Wire Co., G. J. Genebach; Salem (Ore.) Water, Light and Power Co., C. A. Park; Detroit Fidelity and Surety Co., A. H. Bunting (deceased); Columbus Tire and Rubber Co., J. W. Zuber; Blue Earth Valley Telephone Co. (Minn.), W. E. Eckles. Chairman of the Board, American Sugar Refining Co., Earl D. Babst. Vice Presidents: Pacific-Southwest Trust and Savings Bank, W. R. Hervery; Union Trust Co. of Cleveland, H. D. Messick; Western States Life Insurance Co., T. G. Crothers; Chicago Title and Trust Co., S. C. Spitzer. New York Stock Exchange firm of W. J. Wollman & Co., B. F. Wollman. Secretary and Treasurer, Columbia School Supply Co., J. C. Moore; Assistant Secretary, American Sugar Refining Co., H. G. Cleveland.

Army: Col. G. N. Kimball, Lieut. Cols. D. P. Quinlan and H. C. Smith. Physicians and Surgeons: Drs. R. E. Minahan, G. D. Fairbanks and J. F. McGregor. Dentist: Dr. J. A. Lentz. Supt. of Sanatorium, J. E. Swanger. Farmers: George Gerlach, F. A. Kies, E. C. Owen, H. C. Mehan (poultry), L. B. Lindsay (cattle), and Grant Conklin. Flour, Grain or Feed: D. J. Marshall, A. Bull and J. H. Crowell. General Mercantile: Ira A. Clark (retired). Salesmen: B. F. Friend and C. A. McKnight (latter deceased). Real Estate: O. E. and R. G. Scott, H. E. Candler, L. H. Chatterson, G. E. Leonard, Ira M. Long, C. W. Chapman and M. L. McLaughlin. Lumber: J. J. Sheridan, Joe E. Kirby and W. S. McConnell. Hotel Clerk: C. R. Bishop. Mining: C. C. Stearns, A. R. Nichols and J. Conrick. Insurance: Richard Apperson. Teachers and Education: J. F. Chambers, H. S. Harris and J. M. Taylor; H. T. Condon, Comptroller of University of Washington, and D. A. Edwards, President, Columbia Correspondence College. Advertising: J. T. Wagner, Advertising Manager, Pottstown, Penn., News, and Rex R. Case. Investments and Brokerage: C. A. Denison, W. C. Hartman, C. A. Pratt and C. W. George. Oils: Luther Freeman, Sinclair Oil Co.; J. H. Westcott, Examiner of oil securities. Monument dealer: M. D. Bryce. Assayer: E. E. Carr. Wholesale Cigars and Tobacco: M. F. Coleman. Telephone Inspector: H. L. Yartin. Collection Agency: C. A. Fitzgerald. Collector: C. H. Rector. Journalism: V. A. Geringer. Special Representatives: Chamber of Commerce of Los An-

geles, C. D. Gordon; Royal Baking Powder, J. B. Newman. Department Public Works, Clerk: H. P. Lewis. Bankers: J. Monroe Mohny and Jesse Foulks (latter retired). Contractor, Heating and Piping: L. P. Paul. Corporate Enterprises: J. F. Peters. U. S. Mail Service: J. L. Poston. Writer and Traveler: C. H. Towle. Registrar, Federal Land Bank, 4th District, M. R. Todd; Secretary, Detroit Civil Service Commission: F. C. Smith; Secretary to U. S. Senator Shipstead (Minn.): H. T. Ronning.

Some found that they did not like the law; others that they were not fitted for it, and still others that business life was much more profitable to them than the law.

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knot. He was, in my judgment, years ahead of the others in the application of psychology to their lectures. I have never been able to reconcile the position of the other professors who expected us to know all that they said, but made it impossible, as far as they could, for us to get it fully, except by stealth or fraud. Bringing '94 down to '27, I will say that "Tommy" had a common sense complex.

OBITUARY

The death of L. Ogden Wadleigh, on May 26, 1926, at Syracuse, N. Y., was reported in the new class directory as it was about to go to press, and did not contain the details of his demise. Wadleigh had been ailing for some time with an ear trouble that required several operations, but without bringing complete relief, which led ultimately to his retiring from a successful law practice. The constant fear that his illness might derange his mind finally prompted him to take his own life. He was a prominent member of the University M. E. Church, having held lay offices in the congregation for many years. He was also an active member in the Citizens Club of Syracuse. For further details of his career see the new class directory.

CLASS ITEMS

John T. Wagner has been Advertising Manager of the Pottstown Daily News, of Pottstown, Pa., since 1921. He is President of the Kiwanis Club and is a Vice Councilor, for the State of Pennsylvania, of the Junior Order of United Mechanics.

We have finally been able to locate Richard Apperson. His sister, from

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Mt. Sterling, Ky., writes: "My brother, Richard Apperson, is married and living in San Francisco, Cal., 200 Russia Avenue being his street address. For several years he has been totally blind and, being very sensitive regarding his affliction, lives almost the life of a recluse. Perhaps some reminder of brighter days at Ann Arbor may cheer him."

Sherman C. Spitzer, apparently, has lost none of his old-time enthusiasm for athletics; we hear that he is the golf champion of Oak Park, Illinois.

A recent issue of the Rotary magazine contained an article, by its founder, that spoke most complementally of our former quizmaster Arthur F. Sheldon, at the same time publishing his picture; the writer credited him with having originated the great Rotary phrase "he profits most who serves best."

Lott R. Herrick paid us a visit in December, on his way to New Haven, Conn., on business. He is in partnership with his younger brother in Farmer City, Ill., in the heart of a farming section. He reports that the farmers are much in need of farm legislation. His two daughters, only children, are now both married.

Oreon E. Scott is on the committee of the Christian Church for creating a large pension fund for old and enfeebled ministers of that denomination.

Julius C. Travis was re-elected one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Indiana, last Fall, representing the 5th District. The term is for six years from January, 1927, which means that at the end of the present term he will have been a member of that court for twelve years.

Samuel P. Irwin's son Phillips has been admitted to the Bar of Illinois.

Harry H. Patterson attended the U. of M. National Dinner, at the Bellevue-Stratford in Philadelphia on October 29. William H. Merner was present also, by proxy, being represented by William H. Merner, Jr., his son also a graduate of the law school.

After the breakfast tendered the Varsity football team in Washington, D. C., on their way to play the Navy last Fall, by the Army and Navy Club

of that city, Col. Quinlan presented the members of the team to President Coolidge.

Alexander G. Burr has been appointed a member of the Supreme Court of North Dakota, to take the place of Judge Johnson who has become a Professor in the Law Department of the University of Illinois. On account of the appointment, Judge Burr has moved from Rugby to Bismarck, N. D., which will be his present P. O. address.

John B. Newman has left the National Wholesale Grocers Association to become affiliated with the Royal Baking Powder Co., 100 East 12th Street, New York City, as one of its special representatives.

James Mark Harvey, known to his friends as Mark, has been doing well in Kalamazoo, Mich.

The present address of Adelbert Mosher is 412 Genesee Street, Lansing, Mich.

Ralph Hartzell acted as toastmaster at the dinner tendered to President Little in Denver last Fall, on the occasion of the visit of Dr. Little to that city at the time.

Lewis C. O'Connor, who was postmaster of Geneseo, N. Y., for sixteen years, is a member of the law firm of Newton, O'Connor & Newton, of that city, the senior member of which was Attorney General of the State of New York.

Charles H. Mattingly is in the general practice of law at No. 206 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, Cal.

Clarence E. Pope, whose law office is at No. 24 North Main Street, East St. Louis, Ill., does chiefly corporate law work.

Lindsay Russell of No. 36 West 44th Street, New York City, is much interested in, and has written some on, our foreign relations and diplomatic service.

Robert B. Mitchell, of Freeport, Ill., though in general practice, has had a great deal of experience in municipal law.

Webster V. Moffett, of Bloomfield, Indiana, is a busy lawyer; however, that does not interfere with his interest in public affairs; he is an ardent Wilson Democrat and in favor of the League.