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Res Gestae

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JOINER SPEAKS OUT AGAINST THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS:

The Council of State Governments movement could change the whole character of government in the United States, warned associate dean Charles Joiner. Speaking in reaction to three constitutional amendments recently proposed by the movement he said, "Today we are a national government, governed by a national constitution. Tomorrow, if the Council has its way, we will move in the direction of becoming a mere confederation of states."

The first proposal would alter the amending process of the federal constitution to circumvent Congress or a national convention. It would permit amendments merely by state action. The second proposal would remove the guarantees of equal protection of the laws as these guarantees have been applied to establish standards for legislative apportionment. The third one would establish a super-Supreme Court. This would be made up of the chief justices of the 50 states, and would be called upon to pass on federal-state matters.

"These are radical proposals," Joiner explained, "proposals that we would normally associate with political extremists." He went on to point out that the legislatures of ten states have already adopted each of two of these proposals. If 34 states should approve them, Congress would then be petitioned to call a national constitutional convention. "If they become law, we will backtrack 175 years."

He went on to point out that it would be hard to imagine the changes that would take place in the delicate balance between state and federal powers. Henceforth there would be no balance. The weight would all be on the side of the states.

Taken as a group, Joiner said, these proposals would have four major results: First, they would be a step towards the abolition of a republican form of government. Second, they would be a step away from the "United States" moving closer to the "Confederate States." Third, they would mark a trend to remove government from the hands of the people and into the hands of the state legislatures. Finally, they would "fractionalize responsibility to the extent that the forms of government could be changed without national consideration."

Joiner declared that one or more of these proposals would "eliminate national deliberation with determination of our fundamental law--either through Congress or a national convention." They would permit the delicate balance of state-federal relations "to be determined by a body selected regionally, without expertise in the field of federal constitutional law." He further warned that, "the rights of individuals to equal protection of the laws would be seriously diminished."

"These radical proposals must be challenged," Joiner concluded. "They must be defeated. All intelligent, thoughtful people, liberal or conservative alike, should rally to defeat them."

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT:

Tom Palmer, newly elected President of the Lawyers Club, recently gave the Res Gestae a sneak preview of what lies ahead for the Club. In response to the rumors that there is to be a major policy change regarding social privileges of Club residents, Palmer said, "Social liberties will not be curtailed." He also noted that there will be certain changes in the social calendar necessitated by the changes in exam times. At the same time, the Board of Directors hopes that it will be possible for the Club to sponsor some additional social events. There will also be some changes in the procedures of the Board aimed at establishing better communications between that body and the residents; and at bringing more fairness where matters of conflict arise, such as the appealing of fines.

COOK LECTURER NAMED:

Dr. Lester J. Evans, M.D. will deliver the Cook Lectures this fall. Dr. Evans is executive director of the New York State Committee on Medical Education. His overall topic for the five lectures will be "The University and Medicine." Dr. Evans has been in medicine for over 40 years. His credentials include service in an advisory capacity to the World Health Organization, National Institute of Health and the Surgeon General. He has also held posts with the Commonwealth Fund, The Center for Rehabilitation Services of New York University, and the Medical and Health Research Association of New York City, Inc.

CREASE BALL A SUCCESS:

Nobody is quite sure how many paying guests attended the annual Crease Ball, but estimates have gone as high as 25. Thus the Barristers Society, most of whom are still dodging process servers, can safely label the dance a success. Special entertainment was provided by the Psurfs; a stimulating musicale by John Twomley, later joined by R. Conant Wolf on harmonica; and a singing sextet who refuse to give their names. Piano and banjo music was provided in the lounge by Lee and Arnold. The high point of the evening was the annual awarding of the Meyer Sniffen Award to Peter Williamson.

MISCELLANEOUS:

PhiD officers for next semester are: President, Henry Cashen; Treasurer, Chuck Frisbie; House Manager, Rick Riordan; Historian, Bill Crowley; and Clerk, Bill Potter....The Quad is due to come out on May 13. There will be a limited number of copies still available for sale at that time. The going price is \$3.00. Persons wanting to put refrigerators in their room next year are advised to get an application blank from the Club office as soon as room assignments have been announced....Persons walking in the area of D and E entries are warned to be on the lookout for a vicious fiend, identified only as the "Phantom Beanshooter," who is known to be operating in that vicinity.

AT THE FLICKS:

Cinema: Fri.- "Romeo and Juliet"; Sat. - "Days of Thrills and Laughter"

State: Fri.- "The Man From the Diner's Club"; Sat.- "Come Fly with Me."

Campus: "David and Lisa"

Michigan: "To Kill a Mockingbird."

QUADSVILLE QUOTES:

I cannot forecast to you the action of Russia. It is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma.

- Churchill

The law is like a jealous mistress (especially in May)."

- Anon.