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RES GESTAE

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE LAWYERS CLUB OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL

Vol. 12

February 23, 1962

No. 3

"THE PRACTICE COURT IS NOW IN SESSION"

During this past week and in the week to come the Law School students have the opportunity of seeing some of their fellow students in action in a trial courtroom situation. The practice court of the Trials and Appeals class is now in session; Professor Devine, criminal law professor, prominent trial lawyer, and one time prosecuting attorney, is presiding.

These cases that are now being tried, have been designed to be as realistic as possible. Several months ago the parties and witnesses saw movies of the incident (usually an accident involving personal injury) taken from various positions where witnesses might be standing. The student attorneys were then given the names of their respective clients, from which point they were on their own. They had to talk to the clients, and then search out the witnesses, just as they would have to do in a real case. It didn't take the students long to find out that no two people see the same thing in the same way. But, soon, up from the masses of conflicting testimony came a theory for a cause of action or a defense. Pleadings were filed, trial briefs written, the law was thoroughly searched and instructions written and many fingernails were bitten as the day of the trial approached.

One of the interesting aspects of preparation has been the gathering of medical testimony for the damage arguments. Several of the medical students have shown a great interest in the medical aspects of the law. These medical students are permitted to pretend that they are doctors and may appear as expert witnesses in their practice trials. They take this task very seriously, and in some ways their attitude reflects the "doctor's" attitude toward the "lawyer". These students cringe at the thought of being asked how long was a needle used in an injection, or how red the patient's blood looked as it was withdrawn from his arm for a blood test. They balk at making any sensationalism out of routine medical treatment.

These cases are heard before a jury generally selected from students in the undergraduate school. The trial counsels are finding out that these juries are not as susceptible to emotional arguments concerning pain and suffering as they might sometimes like (defense counsels love it).

The practice courtroom is located on the second floor of Hutchins Hall on the side facing Monroe Street. For an afternoon of courtroom drama, complete with jury, fancy diagrams, colored slides, medical charts, and perhaps some good old advocacy try visiting the University of Michigan Law School Practice Court - now in session.

SOME NEW TOYS

For the benefit of the law student who wishes to sharpen the analytical powers of his mind with a quick bridge game, or who wishes to exercise his wrath against his roommate in an active gin rummy game, the Lawyers Club now provides playing cards "on loan". These cards will be kept at the switchboard and may be checked out at any time. They also must be returned. These cards have been supplied by one of the leading cigarette companies. Had that company paid for a little space in RES GESTAE we would have mentioned it here, but. . . . Anyway, the company's name is printed all over the cards, so you can't miss it.

And we have another new toy (although the devotee would hardly call it a toy) -- chess sets. Those who play this game well don't need to have their minds sharpened. They must already have analytically oriented minds. This is why no cigarette company writes its name all over chess men. Cigarette adds or not, these too may be checked out from the switchboard. Rumor has it that soon there may be a position open for another switchboard operator; one to operate the telephone and another to check out cards, irons, chess sets, bowling balls, auto repair tools, and Christmas tree lights.

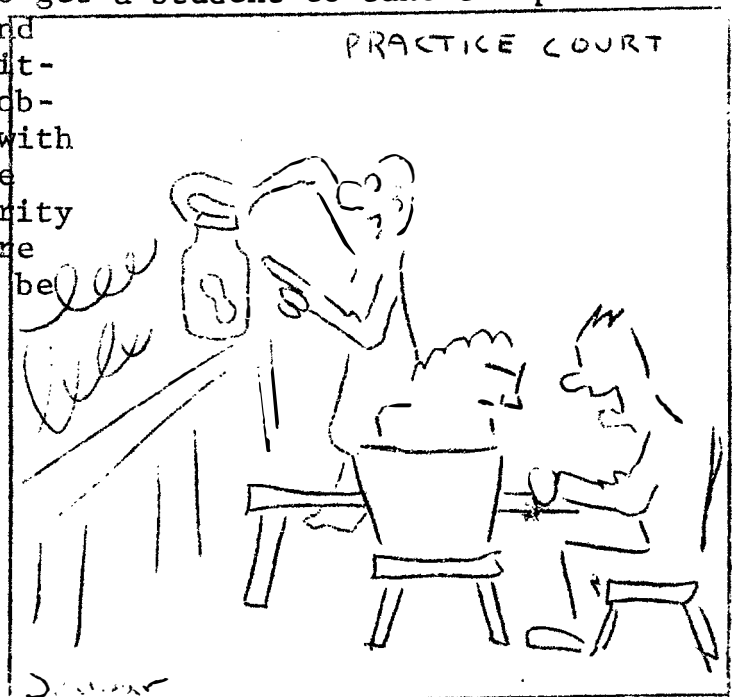
"MY WHAT A HANDSOME CLASS YOU HAD"

Seniors!!!! Do you want beautifully bound (in genuine paper) volume containing the photographs and addresses of you and your fellow Michigan Law School '62 graduates? Or, would you rather have an artfully done composite photograph of the entire, or would you just plain rather not be bothered. These are the questions that have been going through the minds of the members of the Board for the past few months. As plans have solidified the Board is now able to put the alternatives before you. Read them carefully, and then fill out the form at the end of this issue. Sign your name just so we can be sure that we are getting response from seniors. You don't obligate yourselves at this time.

To have a composite taken each senior would have to pay \$1.50 when the picture was taken and then pay an additional \$1.50 for the composite. This system has its advantages. A professional photographer takes the pictures and then sends you proofs from which portraits can be made. The only problem with this system is that perhaps a number of the seniors won't pay the \$1.50 and then the composite wouldn't have pictures of all the class.

Another possibility is to get a student to take the pictures for a little more than cost and then have them printed in a little book. This book would probably cost at least \$3.00 but with a low cost initial picture the odds of having a greater majority of the class in the picture are greater. These pictures will be taken on a mass production basis, and only one picture of each student will be made. No portraits.

Read this carefully and then fill out your form and place it in the box provided either in Hutchins Hall or the Lawyers Club.



FRATERNITY NEWS

The Delt's will start off "You mean that's my spleen?" the weekend with a "post jazz and hockey spiritual" Saturday and hope to be cleaned up in time for a Sunday Collins Party. The Sunday party will be from 4 to 6 and will feature entertainment and refreshments. Tickets will be \$2/male

Michigan - Starts today: Lover Come Back Architecture Auditorium:

State - Thru Thursday: King of Kings Tonight: Funny Face
Starts Sunday: The Asphalt

Campus - Now playing: Kanal Jungle

SENIORS--Read Article #3 and fill out this form. Then place it in the box in Hutchins Hall or the Lawyers Club. Check your desire.

- 1) I would like a composite picture for a total of \$3.00 _____
- 2) I would like a photo book for at least \$3.00 _____
- 3) I'd just as soon forget the whole thing _____

Signature