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Final
Issue

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JOINER ON CON-CON:

Modern government and protection of individual civil rights have been the goals in preparing the new Michigan Constitution. Although the Constitutional Convention has taken seven and one half months to mold a finished product, these goals have been substantially achieved. This is the opinion of Professor Charles W. Joiner who is a member of the research and drafting committee that advised "Con-Con."

Professor Joiner believes that the proposed constitution goes far in making more efficient and economical government possible in Michigan. He cites as examples a provision which permits the legislature to audit as well as appropriate state funds and a provision creating a new system of intermediate level courts. An explicit civil rights provision plus the creation of a non-discrimination commission will safeguard the rights of citizens. Likewise, provisions requiring all judges to be qualified lawyers and prohibiting payment to judges of fees enhance the citizen's chance of a fair trial before a qualified, unbiased judge.

Con-Con provides an interesting glimpse at the gestation of a modern constitution. A constitutional convention is authorized by the present Michigan Constitution. When the present convention met, proposals from the delegates were heard and these were then sent to the advisory and drafting committee (of which Prof. Joiner was a member). While these delegate proposals were being drafted, hearings were held on such proposals by another committee which made its own proposals to the convention. The convention then debated the committee and delegate proposals and sent its conclusions to be drafted. The drafting committee once again submitted the drafted proposals to the convention which made a second reading and, after more redrafting, a third reading. The new constitution was now in final draft form and was accepted by Con-Con, thus ending a seven and one half month period of negotiation, compromise and politicking.

The product of Con-Con is still only a proposed constitution and will not become effective until ratified by the people of Michigan. Even the process of ratifying the proposed constitution has been fraught with complications. Submission of the proposed constitution to a popular vote in November 1962 would seem desirable. However, a law suit is now pending in which the plaintiffs assert that ratification of the proposed constitution before April 1963 would violate the present constitution and would thus be void.

Professor Joiner's general impression of Con-Con's child is a favorable one. He is noncommittal concerning the possible outcome of the pending suit. When asked to hazard a prediction of the result he cannily replied, "I'll let the courts decide it."

FACULTY ODYSSEYS

The wanderlust of the Law School faculty seems to be at a fever pitch this summer. Professor Kimball will be in Europe from May 24 through June studying various aspects of insurance law. Professor Stein will continue his work on European Community organization this summer and will be on leave all next year. Professor Wright is in Brussels now, and will stay through this summer. He is working on a book dealing with comparative tax procedures in Common Market countries.

Professor George returns once again to Japan. He will stay there all next year, doing research in comparative criminal procedure and teaching at Tokyo University. He will also teach at the Institute for Legal Training and Research in Tokyo. Professor Reed this summer will teach at the Salyburg, Austria Seminar. This is an international school for advanced legal studies. Professor Gray will be in Munich continuing his studies of Soviet law. Professor Harvey assumes a temporary deanship at the Law School at Ghana University next fall. This appointment arises from his research on African law and national development. The law faculty will now for the first time be separate from the University proper. Professor Kauper will spend the summer in Heidelberg continuing his studies in comparative constitutional law.

SPORTS

Rugby Tilt:

To those among us who are seeking a release from pre-exam frustrations, the members of the Michigan Rugby Club here present at the Law School extend a cordial invitation to participate vicariously in the mayhem which is to occur Saturday at 3:00 at Wines Field, when the M squad takes on the "Canucks," a hard-charging Toronto outfit.

Faculty Clashes with Michigan Law Review:

This Sunday at 2:15 p.m., the faculty once again accepts the challenge of the Law Review editors and seizes ball, bat and glove. The famous baseball game will take place at the Ferry Field I. M. diamond.

AT THE FLICKS:

MICHIGAN - Second Big Week

"Judgment at Nuremberg"

STATE -

"Sweet Bird of Youth"

CAMPUS -

"Through a Glass Darkly"

CINEMA GUILD -

Tonight - "The Blue Angel"

Sat. and Sun. - "The Body Snatcher"

Res Gestae Needs a Cartoonist

Practice your cartoon drawing over the summer, for the coveted position of Cartoonist for the Res Gestae is vacant.