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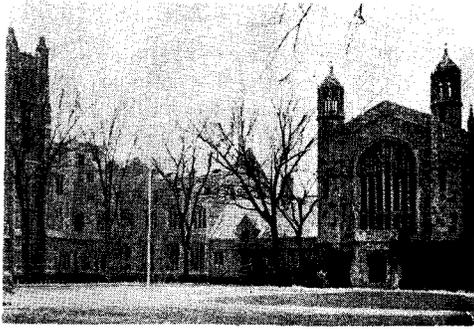


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RES GESTAE

Published by
THE STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Volume 6

March, 1957

No. 1

HONOR SYSTEM PROPOSED

A proposed Honor System for Law School examinations is being studied by a nine-man committee under the auspices of the Dean's Office and the Board of Directors of the Student Bar Association.

Its members are: Gerald L. Bader, Jr. '59, Robert L. Bluemle, '59, Frederick B. Burke '59, George F. Karch, Jr. '59, William D. Paine '59, Joseph H. Pilkington '59, Robert C. Weinbaum '59, and H. James Koehler '59, Chairman.

The committee is currently exploring several aspects of the subject in preparation for a final report to Dean E. Blythe Stason and the Law Faculty Committee on Administration in April. A subcommittee of Joe Pilkington and Fred Burke, with the assistance of Dr. Ralph Bristol of the Economics Department and Dr. John Owens of the Political Science Department, is drafting a questionnaire to be distributed later this spring to law students. Dr. Charles Cannell, Director of Field Research, Survey Research Center of the University of Michigan is acting as counselor to this group. Under consideration is a recommendation to arrange small group meetings among students, committee members, and faculty to discuss the Honor System.

Bill Paine, Bob Bluemle, and Bob Weinbaum are investigating the operation of Honor Systems at the University of Michigan Engineering and Medical Schools, as well as previous attempts to institute such a system on the undergraduate campus.

Jim Koehler is directing a survey of bar association committees on ethics and admission to learn whether three years of study under an Honor System would aid in their determinations of the character and fitness of an applicant; or conversely, whether

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MESSAGE FROM DEAN STASON

The reactivation of Res Gestae is a significant event, and on behalf of the faculty I wish to express our interest in, and encouragement for, the enterprise. We hope that as a medium of communication and interchange of ideas among the students and the faculty, Res Gestae will succeed and prosper. Certainly to the extent that we can be of assistance or service in connection with the paper, the editorial staff should feel free to call upon us.

Interestingly enough, the faculty has recently determined to publish, twice a year, a Law School news bulletin which will be distributed far and wide among the alumni of the School. The first issue will be off the press very soon. These two new publications should permit us to keep our friends more nearly apprised of the activities in the Law Quadrangle.

In short, all success to Res Gestae!

E. BLYTHE STASON, Dean

INSTITUTE ON ADVOCACY

On March 22 and 23, the eighth annual Institute on Advocacy will be held in the Rackham Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan. The featured speakers for this meeting will be Mr. Irving Goldstein of the Chicago bar, who is widely known for his writings and lectures in the field of trial technique; and Mr. Wilfred R. Lorry, member of the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania bar. He is one of the most popular lecturers throughout the United States for the Committee on Continuing Legal Education. The theme for the institute will be "Selling your Case to the Jury." Students are invited to attend the lectures without charge. A program of these lectures will be available on the Hutchins Hall Bulletin Board.

CHANCELLOR'S COURT IN SESSION MARCH 9th

On Saturday evening, March 9th, the annual Chancellor's Court Ball will be held in the Michigan Union Ballroom. This dance has become one of the highlights of the social season at the law school. Its location from the standpoint of the calendar year provides an ideal time for the students to take a few hours out from the studies for relaxation, without feeling as though they were getting behind in the race to the Coif.

The dance will be preceded by enumerable pre-parties and dinners, as has been the custom in the past. Don Kenney's Orchestra will start playing in the ballroom at 9:30 p.m. Additional entertainment will be provided by the Psurfs. Refreshments will also be served at the dance.

This will be the sixth consecutive year that The Chancellor's Court has been held. The first of these dances was held February 24, 1951. The latter affair was one of the first activities undertaken by the then, newly created Student Bar Association. A search of the school archives revealed that the SBA officials in 1951 desired to establish this dance as one of the traditions of Michigan. To accomplish this purpose they sponsored a contest to select an appropriate name. One of the judges of this contest was Professor Charles W. Joiner.

This year, the dance is under the chairmanship of Charles Gerlinger, President of the Junior class. His committee consists of Frank Carrington, Jerry Bader, John Kehoe, and Jim Koehler. This committee decided on a new approach to advertising for this year's dance, and as a result, Frank Carrington, designed the contemporary style posters utilized in the advertising campaign. Roger Law assisted Frank in this endeavor.

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The Res Gestae has once again gone to press and it is hoped by those of us connected with the SBA that it will continue to be published quarterly. We further hope that it will be valuable and enjoyable as a law school newspaper and serve to bring the SBA closer to the student body. It would be impossible in this brief letter to bring you up to date on all of the SBA activities, but I would like to mention a few of them that might interest you. As some of you know, the Michigan SBA is a charter member of the American Law Students Association (ALSA) which was founded by and is affiliated with the American Bar Association. The ALSA offers a number of programs that you might like to take advantage of. Presently, there are several contests open. One is a writing contest, consisting of writing a sample letter to a client, with prizes totaling \$900.00. There are also two trial technique scholarships to be awarded to applicants who have special interests in trial work. The ALSA also provides us with information on placement opportunities and other matters of particular interest to the law student. These notices are usually placed on the SBA bulletin board on the first floor of Hutchins Hall. We also have available copies of the Student Lawyer Journal, a very interesting and informative magazine published by the ALSA and distributed on the table below our bulletin board.

The SBA Board was very pleased with the results of the poll taken last fall regarding library hours and the possibility of a snack bar. We appreciate the very worthy recommendations which were made. We are looking forward to a very interesting and somewhat larger Quad this year under the competent editorship of Frank Reed. Through the efforts of our Vice-President, Henry Hancock, there are now available in the library

Moving now to our local activities, the SBA was very fortunate to have Mr. C. C. O'Brien, a member of the United Nations Delegation representing the Irish Free State, give a tremendously interesting talk on the UN a few weeks ago. This spring we hope to have more interesting speeches and movies. We are presently planning a trial technique demonstration by Mr. Irving Goldstein of Chicago and a round table discussion of various types of legal practices.

copies of several of the past bar examinations from various states for those who might like to use them in their review. We have been particularly pleased with the interest the Freshman Class has taken this year in their school activities, notably the Freshman party in the Law Club which met with great success as well as the work which has been done for the SBA by so many of this year's Freshman Class.

We certainly encourage any ideas or suggestions that anyone might have concerning the operation or future activities of the SBA.

See you all at Chancellor's Court.

Sincerely,

JOHN D. HERBERT



FIAT LUX

With this edition of the law school newspaper, an integral part of campus life emerges from hibernation. This paper was founded in 1895. It has been laid to rest on several occasions for various reasons. The most recent endeavor was made in 1950, and for two subsequent years was a focal point of campus life. This last effort met defeat due to the high cost of production.

We shall publish the paper quarterly. It will vary from issue to issue to present as full a variety as possible of news and entertaining reading. Res gestae as a rule of evidence, applies to expressions made at the time an act occurs. In short, it is an extemporaneous as distinguished from a deliberative expression. Bouvier says it is one "where there is neither time nor motive for misrepresentation or invention. It precludes the idea of deliberate design."

As you, the students, read this edition, please realize that this is your newspaper. We will appreciate hearing your comments concerning it, and the methods possible to improve it. Any assistance which you are able to give this endeavor, whether this assistance be by suggestion or actual work on the newspaper, will be greatly appreciated.

THE EDITORS

(Each issue this column will be devoted to items for the interest and entertainment of the reader. Even though the authenticity of the facts presented might be questioned, nevertheless, as with all fiction, some truth does prevail.)

For this issue, the column will consider an excerpt taken from the transcript of the case of State v. Bilzenotes, 777 Michigan. 33.

"State - Will you please tell the court what you were doing in the girl's dormitory on the evening of 15 January?

Defendant: It was the only place I could find where I could concentrate on my books.

State: Will you kindly tell us what provoked you to abandon the Law Library for the more austere surroundings of the women's shower room?

Defendant: Well, I used to be able to keep my mind on my books, and study at the library, but it got so that I couldn't even get a seat.

State: You couldn't get a seat?

Defendant: Yes sir, I never got there in time to get a ticket. All I could get was standing room. I work until 7 p.m.

State: But there aren't that many law students who use the library to fill it up at one time.

Defendant: They weren't law students. It was mostly girls. They came from all over campus; even started a club, Women's Law Library League, I think they call it. Until the league came in, it wasn't too bad. We used to wear earmuffs and second hand horse blinders, and it worked out pretty well.

State: If you couldn't concentrate in the main library, why couldn't you use the area downstairs?

Defendant: The smoke was too thick.

State: But there are signs there that read "No Smoking."

This publication is edited by the students of the University of Michigan Law School under the sponsorship of the Student Bar Association. Communications should be addressed to: RES GESTAE, Hutchins Hall, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

RES GESTAE

EDITOR	John T. Kehoe
ASSOCIATE EDITORS	Fred P. Furth Michael Ryan
SPORTS EDITOR	Kevin Smee
ART EDITOR	Frank Carrington

Defendant: Can't even read those signs through the haze and besides, that's where the League practices the sorority songs. It's worse there than upstairs. Upstairs, at least with earmuffs, the giggles sound sort of melodious sometimes. It's usually the shorts and sweaters that get most. It's a wonder that I held out this long myself. I thought I'd had it when one of the League members came in wearing a bikini and a raccoon coat. She left the coat on the back of a chair, I think. Nobody paid too much attention to the coat. That night the blinders really came in handy. Even then, I read my briefs the next day and found I had written 'A quasi contract will not usually be held if there is WOW! full performance on the part of a bathing suit.'

State: You have said these conditions in the library led up to your breaking into the women's dormitory. Will you tell us please just what was the specific reason?

Defendant: Well, that night I managed to get a ticket from a scalper who knew someone in a sorority over on Hull, (They had purchased a block and someone wasn't using hers.) I wanted to pick up a copy of Corbin, but the librarian told me someone had checked them all out. I found that a short girl had checked them all out and was using them to stand on. She said something about being better able to see the room that way. I tried to talk her out of a copy, when someone turned on a portable and I was asked to dance. I thought it was a portable, but I saw that they had brought a five piece band with them. I started for the exit and was just missed by a bolo...exchange student from Australia. I saw my buddy dragged back in and his brief case thrown out. He flunked the exam three days later. Anyway, that was when I went over to the dormitory. Honest, your Honor, it was the only place. There wasn't a soul there..."

(Note: The defendant was acquitted on the grounds that his actions were justifiable. The court, however, pointed out that a women's dormitory was no place for a law student to study, and recommended to the governor that the State National Guard be called in and placed around the library until the situation was alleviated. This was done and though a few skirmishes

occurred, casualties were reported as being light. The library now is firmly in control of the law students. Oh yes, the defendant is now a member of the state bar, and happily married. Mrs. Bilzenotes reports that they met between the New York Supplement and the New York Misc. Reports.)

"PLACE AUX DAMES"

The Student Bar Association Auxiliary consists of the student law wives banded together for entertainment and conversation during the long winter months while the husbands study. Most of their program is concerned with acquainting the ladies with what law practice is like, and what is expected of a law wife. The group also keeps informed on current legal issues as presented by speakers, consisting of law professors, and authorities in the legal field. So far this year, these lectures have been given by Judge James R. Breakey, and Professors Jack Pearce, Richard V. Wellman, Roy L. Steinheimer, Jr., S. Chesterfield Oppenheim, and L. Hart Wright.

The Wives have also had the following social events: a newcomers tea, monthly bridge meetings, Student Wives and Faculty Wives Tea, a potluck supper with the Washtenaw Bar Association Wives, a luncheon for newly elected officers, and a husband-wife party. During the coming semester many additional social events are planned.

The officers of this group are: Mrs. David R. Smalley, President; Mrs. Richard Day, Vice-President; Mrs. Arthur Greenberg, Secretary; Mrs. John P. Schaeffer, Treasurer; Mrs. Frank R. Morris, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Robert Knauss, Bridge Chairman; and Mrs. Robert Steele, Art Chairman. In the event there are wives interested in joining this group, they may contact any of the aforementioned officers for more details.

WANTED

At the present time, the Executive Council of SBA is looking for an aspiring young man who would like to serve as manager of the SBA Book Store. A monetary remuneration is given for this activity. Anyone who is interested, please contact John D. Herbert, President of SBA.

SPORTSCOPE

The Law School is provided with a well rounded group of athletic endeavors for the Spring semester. Through the intramural program offered by the University, the variety of organized athletics includes everything from ice hockey to baseball and golf. There is some discussion of having a Law School cricket team, but as yet nothing definite has materialized.

Ping pong has not only become a very interesting past time to take part in at the Law Club, but it also provides quite a bit of interest to spectators. The Law Club, during the past month, had the play-offs to determine the team to represent the Club in the annual all campus professional fraternity table tennis play-offs. The fans turned out in large numbers to watch the hard hitting team of PADsters, made up of Jack Fingerish, Steve Weinstein, and Frank Drinan stop the Law Club's bid for a fifth consecutive championship in the play-offs. The Law Club was ably represented by Len Toboroff, Tom Hughes, and Paul Komives, who survived the rugged elimination tournament for the right to defend the title. The decisive victory makes the Phi Alpha Delta trio a solid favorite to go on and capture the title in the final play later this month. Some solace for Club members lies in the fact that a PAD victory will keep the cherished trophy within the confines of the Law Quad.

In the race for the sports plaque awarded annually to the Organization amongst the professional schools which acquires the highest point total for participation and success in intramural sports, the PADS are in second place. A victory in the table tennis tourney would narrow the overall lead now maintained by the Nu Sigma Nu medical fraternity.

RUSHING BEGINS

The four legal fraternities began the Spring rushing program this week. Rushing Chairmen Bob Ritchie of Delta Theta Phi, Ray Olson of Phi Delta Phi, Scott Hodes of Tau Epsilon Rho, and John Kehoe of Phi Alpha Delta held a meeting on February 22 to determine the dates for the rushing functions, and to establish a mutual "code of ethics" to govern the rushing procedure. The rushing period this year will extend from March 4th to March 27th.

STUDENT BARGAIN

Law students who are members of law school organizations affiliated with the American Law Student Association (i.e. SBA) may continue to subscribe to the American Bar Association Journal for the reduced rate of \$1.50 per year. The regular subscription rate is \$5.00 per year. This applies to new subscribers as well.

HONOR SYSTEM (con't from p. 1)

a breach of honor would enter into their deliberations. The American Law Students Association, a subdivision of the American Bar Association, is rendering advice and service in this survey.

In charge of financing the activities of the committee through the Student Bar Association is Gerry Bader, Freshman Class President.

Various suggestions have been made to the Honor Committee, among them the proposal that the service of the proctors, who are instructors from the Economics and Sociology Departments, be eliminated. From this the Law School would realize a savings of approximately \$4000 annually. Possibly, this money might be used for additional scholarships.

Student discussions this fall about an Honor System for the Law School sparked the formation of a committee to thoroughly study the subject. The Honor Committee would be most appreciative of suggestions or comments offered to any of its members.

DANCE (con't from p. 1)

Even though the dance falls into the category of a "formal," the usual emphasis on that word will apply only to the ladies, and as a result, the men will be able to venture forth with dark suits with no fear of violating the social mores.

The tickets are being sold by the members of the SBA Executive Council. At the present time, the tickets are being sold at the reduced rate of \$2.75 to all members of SBA. By the night of the dance, the regular price of \$3.25 will be charged for these tickets.

FACULTY FACTS

One of the busiest individuals on the faculty of the Law School is Dean E. Blythe Stason. Besides his administrative duties as head of the school, Dean Stason is presently teaching a course, Administrative Tribunals. Just recently, with Professor Frank Cooper, he has revised his case book for the course. In the field of publications, Dean Stason has recently finished several pamphlets on atomic energy law in collaboration with Professors Samuel D. Estep, and William J. Pierce. In addition to the aforementioned activities, Dean Stason serves on numerous state and national committees concerned with the development of law in America.

Last semester, in connection with the work of these committees, Mr. Stason traveled to Europe in a dual role. He was a representative of the Fund for Peaceful Atomic Development of the United States, of which he is the Managing Director, and also, he served as a representative of the American Bar Association. In the latter capacity, Mr. Stason spent some time in London making arrangements for the meeting of the Section on Administrative Law of the American Bar Association to be held in that city next July. This will be the second time in twenty-five years that the American Bar Association has traveled to England for its annual meeting. Dean Stason made arrangements for the program and the speakers for the section of the meeting which will be concerned with Administrative Law. In doing so, he worked closely with Sir Oliver Franks, former British Ambassador to the United States, and now president of Lloyd's Ltd.

In his role as Managing Director of the Fund for Peaceful Atomic Development of the United States, Mr. Stason visited the Calder Hall reactor power plant in Northern England. He also attended a conference in London on reactor technology and electric power. From England, Mr. Stason traveled to Brussels, Belgium, where he took part in another conference, which was a one week discussion between representatives of governmental atomic commissions, industrialists, and educators. The main concern of this conference was the process by which the people could be best educated in the peaceful use of

atomic energy, and the unique legal, economic and technical problems arising in connection therewith.

THIS COULD MEAN MONEY

When it comes to money, there are few law students who could not be classified as being needy. The emphasis on study required by students of the law gives very little time for seeking finances from extra-curricular sources. However, the facet of legal contest provides a way to learn, and possibly earn. The American Law Student Association, which was founded by the American Bar Association is currently offering two contests of general interest to law students.

One of these contests deals with the preparation of an advisory letter to a client. This letter should contain no more than 2500 words, which set forth solutions to problems in regard to personal finance law. The first prize is \$500.00 cash. The second prize is \$250.00 and the third prize consists of \$150.00. The deadline for entering this contest is May 15th. For more details, the bulletin boards in Hutchins Hall contain additional information.

The second contest consists of two scholarships in trial technique. These scholarships are offered to the graduating seniors having outstanding ability and special interest in the field of trial specialization. Mr. Irving Goldstein, nationally known trial expert, will personally conduct the clinics, using his "learning by doing" technique. For this contest, it is necessary to write an essay of 250 words or less on the applicant's interest in trial work and in becoming a trial specialist. Al Germain, Secretary-Treasurer of the Student Bar Association should be consulted for further information concerning this activity.

