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The Law School in 1953-54

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THE LAW SCHOOL 1953-54

Each year advantage is taken of the pages of the *Law Review* for the purpose of reporting some of the principal items of interest in connection with the program of the Law School. In this report I wish to devote attention first to students and students' problems, then to faculty and some of the special activities of members of the staff, and finally, to the Law Library.

Scholarships and Student Aid. The availability for the first time of the income from the million dollar Frederick L. Leckie bequest has

made it possible for the Law School Scholarship Committee to relieve much hardship among the students in the School. The cost of legal education has become a severe burden, and, especially in view of the fact that a very large number of students are compelled to rely upon their own resources to meet law school expenses, the availability of a substantial number of scholarships and other forms of aid has proved a very valuable asset to the School. During the summer session of 1952 and the academic year 1952-53, the Scholarship Committee approved the following grants:

14 scholarships for incoming freshmen	\$ 4,565
7 prize awards given on Honors Day	1,425
22 scholarships for second and third year students . . .	8,275
46 special scholarships under the Leckie Endowment .	14,950
35 loans (primarily from Leckie Funds)	8,645
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124	\$37,860

The Leckie scholarships are especially interesting because of the provision inserted by the testator in his will to the effect that all such scholarships should carry a moral though not a legal obligation to repay the grant when the recipient, after entering upon the practice of law, becomes able to do so. Arrangements have been made with the Cashier's office to keep account of repayments, and the totals will be watched with interest. There is good reason to believe that repayments received in years to come will far exceed the original grants, and, since such repayments will be currently expendable, they will permit an increased number of awards each year. Mr. Leckie has conferred much good upon future students at his alma mater, and as a continual reminder of his generosity Room 236 of Hutchins Hall, a large seminar and faculty meeting room, has been named in his honor the Frederick L. Leckie Room, with a handsome portrait of the donor mounted on the wall.

Although the Leckie Endowment, added to other scholarship gifts previously received from other donors, now makes available to the Law School a very helpful number of scholarships and loans, it is a fact that great good could be accomplished by even more generous provisions for these worthy purposes. Tuition is high—\$500 for nonresidents and \$250 for residents of Michigan. Living costs are ever increasing. It is an unfortunate fact that a very large number of worthy young men and women, who would become excellent members of the legal profession, are unable to achieve their desires under present day conditions without some kind of outside financial assistance. By way of comparison,

Harvard Law School is currently granting over four times as much financial assistance to more than three times as many students. Of course, with us the situation is relieved somewhat by the fact that many students engage in outside work to provide self-support in whole or in part. However, the bulk, complexity and difficulty of law study have increased enormously during recent decades, and in order to cope with contemporary demands, the full time of the law student is virtually a necessity if he is to obtain good results. If the Law School were enabled to make twice as many grants as are now available, there would not be too many for meritorious purposes. It would then be possible for many capable persons to study law at Michigan who cannot do so under present conditions, and, in addition, we would ease the burdens of many students who are now attending law school handicapped and often even injured by the struggle for self-support. Accordingly, to those of us in close touch with students of the School, no single benefaction seems more likely to produce long-time beneficial results than an increase in the number of scholarships to assist worthy students in difficult financial circumstances.

Special Foreign Graduate Student Program. For about twelve years the Law School has been carrying on a small but effective program designed to attract outstanding graduate students in law from foreign nations. With the help of the Fulbright funds and other State Department grants in aid of inter-cultural relationships, together with the assistance of a modest grant each year from the trustees of the William W. Cook Endowment Fund, the Law School has been granting a number of foreign fellowships and has enrolled from eight to fifteen well-selected foreign students in each of the last several years. These students are given a series of orientation lectures in American legal institutions, but in other respects they adjust themselves to the regular courses and seminars of the School. Many of them have done outstanding work warranting the awarding of Master of Laws degrees. Those who fall short of the high degree standards are given certificates testifying to the work which they have completed. Since 1941 we have enrolled 124 such foreign students, 42 from Latin-American countries, 34 from Germany, 8 from Switzerland, 7 from Japan, 6 each from China and the Philippines, 5 from France, 4 from Finland, 2 each from Sweden, India, Italy, England, and Korea, and 1 each from the Netherlands and Iraq. These students make a unique and interesting contribution to the life of the School. By intermingling with American students, they broaden the horizons of those who are being trained primarily for the practice of law in this country. In consultation with

members of the faculty, they teach us much concerning legal institutions in various other parts of the civilized world. Returning to their own countries they carry with them a knowledge of the institutions of this country and the laws under which we live, thus promoting international understanding and good will. We hope not only to continue but to expand this foreign graduate student program. Additional fellowship funds are needed for that purpose.

Senior Placement Counseling Service. One of the most important tasks of the Law School senior is to find an opportunity to engage in professional life that will be both congenial to him and suited to his abilities and talents. It is one of his most important decisions. The Law School affords placement counseling and assistance for its graduates. Contacts are maintained with individual alumni, with groups of alumni, with firms of attorneys in all of the more populous centers throughout the country, and with corporate and government legal offices. Through these contacts every effort is made to assemble current information concerning available openings. A great deal of time is spent by the Dean and other members of the Placement Counseling Committee in counseling and discussion of individual placement problems, endeavoring to place the members of the graduating classes in contact with positions which meet their desires and for which they are best qualified. We are glad to report gratifying success in the handling of the placement problem. During the past year upwards of 60 firms and corporations sent their representatives to the Law School to interview members of the senior class. In addition, approximately 300 openings in various law offices throughout the country have been brought to our attention by mail, telephone or personal interview, and have been posted and made available to those interested. Every member of the senior class desiring such assistance has been placed in personal contact with numerous opportunities for professional service. It is to be hoped that an increasing number of law firms and corporations will undertake systematic recruiting policies which will induce them to come to Ann Arbor for the purpose of interviewing our senior students on the ground. So doing, they can be afforded an opportunity to compare the students readily with one another, to examine their office records and other pertinent information, and to interrogate members of the faculty with respect to the comparative merits of those who are of principal interest to the interviewers. It is to be hoped that law firms and corporations will undertake their recruiting processes by utilizing this means, but, if it proves impossible to do so, contact can readily be established by communicating their needs to us in some other way.

The Faculty and Some of Its Special Activities. Only one new member has been added to the faculty this year. Professor Olin L. Browder, Jr. has been brought to Michigan as a Professor of Law, coming from the University of Oklahoma Law School where he has served on the faculty since 1946. Professor Browder received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1935 from the University of Illinois, and an LL.B. degree in 1937 from the same institution. In 1937-1938 he engaged in graduate study at the University of Michigan Law School under a William W. Cook fellowship and was granted the S.J.D. degree from this school in 1941. Admitted to the Bar in Illinois in 1939, he practiced for a short time in Chicago, and thereafter embarked upon the teaching profession, first at the University of Alabama, later at the University of Tennessee, and finally at the University of Oklahoma. During the war years, he served in the Legal Department of the Tennessee Valley Authority at Knoxville, and later with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the United States Department of Justice. A specialist in real property law, in which field he has written extensively, Mr. Browder comes to Michigan after having been honored at Oklahoma by being appointed to one of the five distinguished professorships in that University, the David Ross Boyd Professorship. He brings to the faculty valuable maturity, experience and teaching skill that will add strength to our courses in the law of Real Property.

Last year in the report which appeared in Volume 51 of the *Michigan Law Review* beginning on page 261, we set forth the titles of the volumes that had been published to that date in the legal research program of the School, carried on during the past fifteen years with the financial assistance of the William W. Cook Endowment Fund. During the past year several interesting volumes have been published by members of the faculty or under its sponsorship, and they should be added to the list. They are as follows:

Handbook of the Law of Evidence, by *John E. Tracy*. Prentice-Hall, pp. 382.

Cases on the Law of Torts, by *Marcus L. Plant*. Bobbs-Merrill, pp. 695.

Effective Legal Writing, by *Frank E. Cooper*. Bobbs-Merrill, pp. 313.

Labor Law, Cases and Materials, (2d ed.) by *Russell A. Smith*. Bobbs-Merrill, pp. 1003.

The Pursuit of Happiness (William W. Cook Lectureship on American Institutions), by *Howard M. Jones*. Harvard University Press, pp. 168.

Proceedings of Institute on Industrial and Legal Problems of Atomic Energy. U. of M. Law School, pp. 280.

Current Trends in State Legislation. By the staff of the Legislative Research Center, pp. 580.

Institutes and Lectureships. During these post-war years the Law School has been carrying on with good success a substantial institute program. Institutes take various forms. Some of them are practical, bread-and-butter, practicing lawyer affairs. Many of them are designed for scholarly purposes, or perhaps to penetrate the frontiers of the law. They are participated in by members of the bench and the bar as well as by the students and faculty of the Law School and other interested members of the University community. The speakers are sometimes members of the faculty, but more frequently they are experts drawn from the bench and bar or possibly from other law faculties. Two to four such institutes have been conducted in each of the post-war years.

Four institutes have been held during the past year, each attended by four to six hundred members of the bar. The Fourth Annual Institute on Advocacy was held on February 13 and 14, 1953. It dealt with such topics as investigation of facts, discovery, use and abuse of demonstrative evidence, and various other phases of courtroom practice. Lloyd Paul Stryker of New York City was one of the principal speakers, addressing the audience from the standpoint of a lifetime of experience in the criminal courts. On March 27 and 28 an Institute on Michigan Probate Practice and Procedure was held. Later, on June 17, 18 and 19, an unusually successful institute was held on the subject of Federal Antitrust Laws. This was one of the series of "summer institutes" sponsored by the University Summer Session and aided each year by a generous supporting contribution from Mr. Gilbert H. Montague of the New York Bar. The fourth and final institute of the year was held on July 30, dealing with the new Business Receipts Tax enacted by the Michigan State Legislature in its 1953 session. This tax measure, which is raising upwards of \$35,000,000 annually, affects all businesses within the state, and presents many new and unusual legal problems which must be solved by Michigan lawyers. The institute was designed to point out and, in appropriate instances, to suggest solutions for some of these problems. The Law School will continue to offer institutes so long as the legal profession continues its most gratifying response to them.

The Law Library. A few words should be said concerning the Law Library, the laboratory for the law student and the workshop for the lawyer. During the year the library has accessioned an unusually large number of volumes, a total of 10,638. During the same period, 184 volumes of superseded materials have been withdrawn from the acces-

sioned list, leaving the net accessions for the year 10,454. As of July 1, 1953, the total number of volumes in the law library was 241,270.

With the passage of time and the ever continuing process of accessioning new volumes for the collection, we have very nearly reached the end of available space in the Legal Research Building. Within the last two years we have been forced to install temporary shelving in the corridors to take care of new accessions. In another year or two we shall be in an extremely difficult position unless relief is afforded. However, I am glad to report that we are now definitely started on a program of addition to the stack portion of the library. Plans are being drawn by the architectural firm of York and Sawyer of New York City to add four stack levels on top of the present structure which now contains six levels. Preliminary estimates indicate that the total cost of this addition will approximate \$700,000. About \$450,000 is available in the unexpended reserves of the William W. Cook Endowment Fund. Most of these reserves were accumulated during the war years when legal research was at a minimum level. An additional \$250,000 to complete the project is being sought from the Michigan State Legislature. In view of the fact that all of the present Law School facilities have been erected out of donated funds rather than state appropriations (the state, however, furnishing the land on which to build), this modest request for assistance in connection with a stack addition should meet with favor at Lansing. If we can complete the stack structure within the next two or three years, we will not only provide essential shelving for the library collection, but we shall also provide much needed additional space for research and faculty purposes.

E. Blythe Stason, Dean