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THE LAW SCHOOL 1947-1948

The academic year 1947-1948 opened with the largest student enrollment in the history of the University of Michigan Law School, overflowing the Law Quadrangle and making the year notable for

large classes and keen competition. The 417 beginning students, 329 second-year students, 345 seniors, 10 candidates for advanced degrees in law, and 6 special students, all add up to a grand total of 1107 prospective lawyers. This figure compares with an enrollment of 956 at a corresponding time in the fall semester a year ago, and 641 in the pre-war year 1940-1941.

The Law Quadrangle facilities were designed for a maximum of only about 900 students in the classrooms and library, and 275 students in the dormitories. However, the flood of applications, mostly from veterans of World War II, has induced us to open our doors wider than the best educational results might dictate. Even so, many hundreds have been turned away. The veterans are competent, serious, and industrious, and will give an excellent account of themselves, both in the Law School and at the bar after graduation.

An innovation of the year has been the inauguration of a "Preliminary Week," devoted to introducing beginning law students to the Law School, the study of law, and the use of the Law Library. The entire beginning class was required to report on the Monday preceding the opening of the regular semester. Lecture hours were devoted to such matters as methods and objectives of law study, the reading and briefing of cases, the examination of a transcript of record for the purpose of learning the meaning and function of the principal steps in a lawsuit, together with certain general philosophical considerations related to the ends and purposes of law. The solution of several extended library problems introduced the class to the Law Library collection and its use. The experiment was pronounced a success.

There have been a few changes in the law faculty. Professor John P. Dawson has been asked by the Department of State to spend the year in Greece, working with the American Aid Commission in charge of imports and exports from that troubled country. He will return to his teaching duties at the beginning of the academic year 1948-1949. Professor Hessel E. Yntema has accepted an appointment at Yale to engage in graduate teaching and research primarily in the Comparative Law field. However, he is still with us this year on a part-time basis, carrying his course in Conflicts of Law. Then there are two additions to the law faculty. Assistant Professor Allan F. Smith, formerly Assistant Professor of Law at Stanford University Law School, joined the staff during the 1947 summer session. Professor Smith is a graduate of the Nebraska State Teachers College, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1933. He received the Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Nebraska in 1940. Thereafter he pursued graduate work at the University of Michigan Law School, earning his Master of Laws degree in 1941. After being discharged from military service, where he held the rank of First Lieutenant, he

accepted a position at Stanford University Law School, from which he was called to Michigan.

The other addition to the faculty is Assistant Professor Charles W. Joiner, a graduate of the University of Iowa, with the degrees of A.B., in 1937, and J.D., in 1939. Mr. Joiner practiced in Des Moines, Iowa, with the firm of Miller, Huebner and Miller, continuously from the time of graduation until his call to Michigan, with the exception of three years spent in the United States Army Air Corps as a bomber pilot. Mr. Joiner has specialized in the trial of cases and in the Law School he will engage primarily in teaching courses in Procedure.

A few words concerning the research program will be of interest. During the coming year we expect to receive from the publishers the second volume of Doctor Ernst Rabel's notable study entitled *The Conflict of Laws: A Comparative Study*. The first volume came off the press in 1945 and the third volume is proceeding rapidly toward completion of the manuscript. This is a monumental study, written by a learned scholar and jurist, with research assistance from the Cook Endowment Fund. It bids fair to become a classic in its field. The year will also see the publication of an annotated and documented translation of the Soviet Civil Code, the principal part of the work on which was carried on by Doctor Vladimir Gsovski, a pre-revolutionary member of the Russian bar and now a member of the staff of the Library of Congress. The only English translation of the Soviet Civil Code should prove of substantial utilitarian value to persons in this country who have commercial relations with the U.S.S.R., if and when such relations become politically feasible. Moreover, the materials thus made available will afford to interested persons a better understanding of legal institutions behind "the iron curtain." During the year we shall publish the initial volume of lectures in the newly established Thomas M. Cooley Lectureship. The lectures, entitled "The Constitution and Socio-Economic Change," were delivered during March, 1947 by Professor Henry Rottschaefer, a member of the law faculty of the University of Minnesota and an eminent authority on constitutional law. The second series of Cooley Lectures will be delivered early in 1948 by Professor Burke Shartel, of our own faculty. His general title will be "Our Legal System and How it Operates." The third volume of the William W. Cook Lectureship on American Institutions will also come from the press during the present academic year. This volume will be entitled "Alternative to Serfdom," the lectures having been delivered by Professor John Maurice Clark, of the Columbia University Department of Economics. The fourth series of Cook Lectures will be delivered in the spring of 1948 by Arthur T. Vanderbilt, a member of the New Jersey bar, former President of the American Bar Association, and Dean of New York Univer-

sity Law School. The foregoing items are some of the concrete results of the Law School research program made possible through the generosity of Mr. William W. Cook, '82 Law, who endowed legal research at his Alma Mater.

E. Blythe Stason, Dean