Class of 1886

Law Class, 1886: University of Michigan: Record of 1941 Meeting

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LAW CLASS, 1886

University of Michigan

Record of 1941 Meeting
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Record of 1941 Meeting
Tipton, Iowa, July 15th, 1941.

To the Members of the Law Class of 1886,
University of Michigan:

My Classmates and Their Friends:

1886 — 1941 — 55 Years!

Preliminary to the formal Minutes of what occurred just for a few hours during Friday and Saturday of Commencement Week, I thought it might be interesting to you to know something about the preliminaries to the holding of a Class Reunion. You might also get some notion of just a little of the time it takes to keep in touch with the Classmates and organize for the regular meeting at Ann Arbor.

Letters — letters, and many, many of them, were sent out to the Class and its friends between June 20th, 1936, and the beginning of this reunion. The last general letter was sent March 24, 1941:

"My dear Classmate:

I hope you recall that this June it will be 55 years since we left school. They have been long, long years, and I am much pleased to think that we have kept track of each other for as long as we have,—for more than half a century!

You may recall that we have a complete record of every member of our Class, except Kline and Shewmon. Kline, you remember, disappeared — assumed another name. I learned the name and sent him letters for several years, when they were finally returned. He evidently had gone on. Then, Shewmon, we have every reason to believe, was murdered during the World’s Fair in Chicago, but we have not the definite proof.

I have talked with many class officers and I have not found one yet who has a record at all as complete as we have. By the way, the Historical Division of the University has asked me to arrange to deposit all our letters and files in the University Historical Department when we are thru with them. I heard that there has never been a 55th Anniversary held of any class. Sometimes they get together but have never had a regular reunion. Let’s have one!

There are only 22 of us who are sure are living. I am writing a letter to each one today. We have now become a part of The Emeritus Club. The University now makes much of this Club, and reserves a house or a dormitory for our use. We can, therefore, all be together. I think the rooms
are only $1.00 per day. The first event we can attend will be The All University Dinner on Thursday night. Then we will visit Friday and Saturday.

Since the last reunion in 1936, 16 have passed on. Let us make an effort for ten to get back. It will be an effort for all of us. We are not so active on our feet as we were. In all probability it will be our last reunion. We can hardly dream that we can have the 60th. Write me a letter and tell me what the prospects are of your getting back. Let ten of us make the supreme effort!

Am also enclosing a slip with your address as I have it. Either okay it and return it or else write your correct address and return it in the enclosed stamped envelope. Unless I have your correct address I have lots of trouble locating you. Send this correct address by return mail, and write me as soon as you can.

I am plodding along as usual. Am proud that I have been the Secretary, but nothing could ever induce me if I was a young fellow, to become Class Secretary again. Too much work, but we have had a good time.”

Just at this time a letter was received from Robert O. Morgan, the Secretary of the Class Officers Council, which explains itself:

“Dear Judge:
The annual meeting of the Class Officers Council this year will be held in Detroit on Friday, April 4th and we are going to change the type of program somewhat this year and I was wondering if you would write an account entitled, “What I Have Done in 55 Years as Class Secretary.” For example, tell them how much you have enjoyed maintaining the contacts with all the fellows and stress your methods of keeping records.

Your report will be mimeographed and a copy given to all the class officers present at the meeting. I would very much like to have you present to read it, but time and distance are too great and therefore, I would suggest that you write to one of your classmates living in Detroit or a nearby point and see if he would be present to read your report.

Would you try to get this to me as soon as possible, as it will take several days to have it mimeographed and ready to go.”
At first I thought it was foolish to reply and felt that maybe Morgan was just writing me to urge me on toward working harder to get my Class back. Then I recalled:

"An old man going along a highway
Came at evening cold and gray
To a chasm vast and deep and wide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim;
The swollen stream had no fear for him.
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old Man," said a fair pilgrim near,
'You are wasting your time with building here,
You never again will pass this way;
Your journey will end with the coming day;
You have crossed the chasm deep and wide;
Why build you this bridge at eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head;
"Good friend, on the path I have come," he said,
"There followed after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way;
This chasm that has been as naught to me,
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be,
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim.
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him."

I thereupon wrote:

"MY FIFTY-FIVE YEARS AS
A CLASS SECRETARY"

1886 — 1941 — fifty-five years! That is a long time. I was elected Secretary of the Class the day before Commencement. There were not many class organizations then, we were informed. The Dean told us it would not amount to much—having in mind our class, how well he spoke—but he wanted the class to leave the names of two or three people with whom they could correspond in emergency. The emergency has never arisen. I do not think I have ever had a letter except where I had written and asked for a reply, in the 55 years.

If I had ever known the trials and troubles and tribulations that fall to the lot of a Class Secretary, I would have taken my hat and run from the Campus. The first twenty years, or thereabouts, I was just the Class Secretary—I did not know
much about my class and they did not know much about me, and the University of Michigan did not know anything about any of us. At the reunion I found myself and concluded that if one was to be the Secretary he really ought to do something about it.

That is when I started. Records—the first think I did was prepare and get out a printed form of questionnaire asking many, many questions about each fellow and his family. It took me a long while to get them answered—in some cases years—but I want to say this to every new Secretary, that the first thing he should do is to start with a fully answered questionnaire.

I placed this at the bottom of each man's file. I placed in top of it each letter I ever wrote him and every reply I had from him, together with the reports made on him by other classmates;—in addition, many clippings. The clippings are good, bad, and indifferent. I played no favorites. I have much valuable information about each member of the Class, gathered through the period of 55 years. At times I have shipped the files back to Ann Arbor, at the time of the reunions, with the result that sometimes certain of the fellows would sit all day long reaching in and taking out the files containing the letters and memoranda about different fellows. I told them to start reading at the bottom and read up,—thereby they had a complete history showing where he went after graduation, where he started and failed and started again, and sometimes three or four times before he found himself—before he found his place. The account of his marriage, the birth of the children, his election as County Attorney, Member of the House and State Senate, and in three cases to Congress and the United States Senate. We have one man a fugitive from justice—he changed his name, and I learned it and followed him up with the assumed name for several years, and the letters then came back. I have lost him. We have had one man murdered in cold blood. The murderer doing life.

Really the classes who elect a new Secretary and President every five years have the true plan. They do not have much trouble and they do not know much about their classmates. That is the easy way, and the way I would recommend to my Class if I had it to do over again. But, keep records and do not lose even a slip copied from a local newspaper.
The Historical Department of the University has asked me to turn over my files when we are through with them, because, having every letter and every clipping from the beginning, they will be the better able to write up a cross section of the University than they would from just general information about classes.

I am sorry I cannot be with you, and would suggest to the young fellows who are just starting, that they resign and take to the woods.”

On April 14th Morgan replied: —

"Thank you very kindly for your paper 'My Fifty-five Years as a Class Secretary.' It's just what I wanted and the class officers needed it. It was read by Mr. Elmer L. Freeman, Chairman of the Class Officers Council and Secretary of the 1900 Literary and Engineering Class. You are the best-known and best-liked of all class officers, as evidenced by the fact that as soon as your name was mentioned, there was a distinct murmuring of voices — "I know him," "He's a great class officer," and the like.

P. S. That was a dandy letter that you wrote to the surviving members of your class. Here's hoping that they all come through for the best class secretary in the world and that you have your ten present.”

T. Hawley Tapping, the General Secretary of the Alumni Association, evidently was present at the Detroit meeting, for he wrote: —

"Your grand report was read at the Class Officers Council meeting in Detroit the other day and, as per custom and propriety, some most complimentary statements were made about Judge John T. Moffit. You are always an inspiration to alumni class secretaries, Judge, whether you are present or not.”

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18th, 1941, left home loaded down with suitcases, satchels, and briefcases, containing letters, data and memoranda that was not worth the paper it was written on but so far as our Class is concerned, was of great value. As usual, I had sent out word that I would be on the Michigan Central morning train Thursday morning, bound for Ann Arbor. As in other years, that is the most popular train for not only our Class, but
for many Michigan men going back for their reunions.

Lt. Gov. (formerly of Illinois) and Mrs. Joseph Buckner Gill had arrived the night before from San Bernardino, California. Seats had also been reserved for H. C. Gilbert, of Minneapolis, who was just running down the steps when the train pulled out, so we did not have him; for A. E. Helmick, of Minneapolis, who at the last moment was taken ill and could not make the trip, and for Charles M. Humphrey, of Ironwood, Michigan, who was delayed in court and had to take a later train. We met Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Bronson, '81, from Berkeley, California; D. K. Cochran, '88, of 75 Dearborn St., Chicago, Illinois; Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Shepard, White Cloud, Michigan, who were going to visit their son in the Medical Department; Arthur D. Quaintance, '06, 716 Lyme Building, Denver, Colorado; B. F. Saltzstein, '06, Empire Building, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

It was a beautiful and comfortable day to make the trip. On our arrival at Ann Arbor, it has never failed that some members of the Class who have arrived a little earlier in the day come to the train and pick up the Secretary and other members of the Class. This year Judge and Mrs. John C. Richter, of Laporte, Indiana, with a nice new, shiny, Plymouth car, picked us up and drove us to the Helen Newberry Residence, where the Emeritus Club was quartered, and where we made our headquarters. We found awaiting us: E. N. Hartman of South Bend, Indiana; and A. W. Wolfe, of Gladstone, Michigan, both of whom had arrived the night before. That made Five—five members present Thursday afternoon. Later in the day H. C. Gilbert, of Minneapolis, who had missed the train, arrived; making six for Thursday evening. We all went over to the Alumni Memorial Building and registered; received our badges and tickets to the Commencement Exercises, and the Alumni Luncheon. In the evening we attended the All Class Dinner, given in the Ballroom of the Michigan Union. This is a comparatively new innovation—in the old times we arrived Thursday afternoon and there was no entertainment arranged for the evening and unless some of our Classmates had also come in it was rather a lonesome time. In order to correct this,
the Alumni Association has arranged for an All Class Dinner, which means just what it says. It is informal and everyone is invited. Generally a short program has been arranged in advance and the evening is very pleasant.

After the dinner we all went back to the Helen Newberry residence—it is a ladies' dormitory just across the street from the old Law Building now called Haven Hall. The girls have gone home and the second floor is turned over to the men; the third floor to the ladies. There are very nice parlors and accommodations on the first floor for meeting places. We gathered and talked and visited until the Director drove us to bed.—11:30 being the closing hour.

FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 20TH. This, in fact, is the first of the reunion days. The Emeritus Club has a private dining room arranged in the Michigan Union and we were assigned a table. We had our breakfast together. Just as we were going out from breakfast Judge and Mrs. Kelly S. Searl, accompanied by their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Alleby, drove up in front and parked their car. We then went to the Helen Newberry residence. 9:00 a.m.

The Secretary called the Class to order. He announced that Mr. Lincoln Avery, our Class President, had passed away on May 5th, 1938; said that the records recited that at the last reunion Governor J. B. Gill was elected as Senior Vice President. He was asked to preside. He took charge of the meeting. Said that he had come all the way from San Bernardino, California, for the purpose of attending this reunion and that he was greatly pleased that we were able to get the number present to return after 55 years. The roll was called. The following answered:  

A telegram was received at this time from Charles M. Humphrey of Ironwood, saying that he would arrive in the afternoon. The Class then went to the Alumni Building so that those who had not registered the night before might regularly register.

Sometime in advance arrangements had been made with President Ruthven so that we might call and pay our respects to the University. Commencing back in the time of our old and great President, James Burrill Angell, we have made a practice of calling on the President and make report that the Law Class of 1886 was in reunion. The practice continued during the administrations of Dr. Hutchins, Dr. Burton, Dr. Little, and then Dr. Ruthven. Those of us from small towns always enjoy the caller who happens to appear in the midst of a busy day—comes in, takes off his overcoat and hat, hangs them on the halltree and settles himself in a comfortable chair and starts out with the remark that he just “happened to be in town—had nothing further to do”—so he thought he would call on you. It makes you feel good that, as he has nothing to do, he is willing to stop you in your work. We fear that sometimes the President may feel this way toward us. He has been grand, however, and probably by reason of our old age and growing weaknesses feels he ought to humor us—’at least, he had fixed 9:45 a. m.—if we were prompt—to give us five minutes. He is a busy man,—has little time for individuals but by reason of the fact that from the very beginning we have made a call on the President, he still permits us to follow the custom. We were ushered in.

Hon. Delbert J. Haff, L.L.D., of Kansas City, who by common consent is recognized as the ablest lawyer in our Class, was selected to do the honors in behalf of the Class. He finally wrote us that by reason of the very serious illness of Mrs. Haff, he could not even attend the reunion. He suggested—using a baseball term—that his friend of 57 years, Judge Kelley S. Searl, “pinch-hit” for him.

Very promptly at 9:45 a. m. Governor Gill led us into the President’s office. Judge Searl, now past 80 years of age, and who at the last judicial election in April was reelected for a new six year term, did the honors. He addressed the President and presented the members of the Class, and said:
MR. PRESIDENT:

I have accepted with reluctance the place which was to have been filled by our most distinguished classmate, who has been detained on account of illness, and we most humbly pray that Mrs. Haff may be restored to her good health and be permitted to continue that wonderful companionship that has now continued for more than fifty years.

I come, my dear Sir; heading, and will present the remnants of the army—the Law Class of 1886—55 years out of school,—graduating 116, now surviving—22. While we appear only as a remnant, we refuse to admit defeat—having in mind that picture of the drum and fife—three soldiers only—the Spirit of 1776. We come with our shoulders thrown back; our heads high, and our faces to the front—our youngest 75, our oldest 84. We are a little slower of step, and our eyes slightly dim. We say to you here and now that even though suffering some of the infirmities of age, that we refuse to doff our hats to any class or other association who question our loyalty or enthusiasm for this great University. We are proud of being the last link between the original College of Law and the present. We sat at the feet of two of the original law Lecturers, Mr. Justice Campbell of the Supreme Court of Michigan, and Judge T. M. Cooley, the greatest law giver since Blackstone and the present.

I cannot but feel, when those great teachers look back at our class and see our many weaknesses and frailties, that it must be a sorrow to them to think of the way they worked with us, and we profited so little.

We are fast passing! 15 years ago we were 68; ten years ago, 54; five years ago, 38; Now 22!

We plan to come back in five years for our 60th! Rather ambitious, you say. Yes, we know we will if the Maker of all things just preserves the health of our life-long Secretary—Judge John T. Moffit, of Tipton, Iowa. He is such a fixture; now serving his 27th consecutive year as District Judge, that if one suggests Tipton, you think of the Judge; and if one mentions Judge, you say “Of Tipton, Iowa.” He has done much to keep our Class together. In fact, has been a slave,—and the University will probably testify that has done much in preserving data through a 55 year period of its existence.
In conclusion I can only repeat the words of an old president, Lincoln Avery, who has passed on, at the conclusion of his introduction five years ago:— "on behalf of the members of '86 who are here, we thank you sincerely for giving us a few minutes of your precious time to allow us to become better acquainted with you and to permit us to express to you our conviction that under your guidance the University of Michigan will continue to be one of America's greatest Universities."

Now Mr. President, I am Kelly S. Searl, now past 79 years of age, a circuit Judge of St. John, Michigan. This is:

Henry Clark Gilbert, Minneapolis, Minn.;
Lt. Gov. Joseph Buckner Gill, San Bernardino, Calif.;
Elias N. Hartman, South Bend, Indiana;
Judge John T. Moffit, Tipton, Iowa;
Judge John C. Richter, LaPorte, Indiana; and
Augustus W. Wolfe, of Gladstone, Michigan.

We then returned to the Helen Newberry residence to continue our meeting,—Governor Gill still presiding.

Prior to leaving home, as the last effort, the Secretary sent airmail, special delivery, letters urging doubtful brethren to come. A letter from Volney Miller, who had promised to be there, advised that a matter had come up which he had to attend to and could not come. The weather had changed to warm, and, — very warm.

The Minutes of the 50th Anniversary celebration of June 18th and 19th, 1936, which consisted of fifteen printed pages, were read. The members each, individually, expressed their personal approval of the data and material that had been gathered and set out in the Minutes. They also approved of the plan that the Alumni Association had proposed, of sending them out to Class Officers and the selected list of Alumni.

After the reading—and much comment—the Minutes were approved.

The Secretary-Treasurer submitted two Treasurer's Reports, one dated June 18th, 1931,—this report, with much memoranda and data and receipts and bills, together with the original bank book, which had been audited by Fred B. Shepard on July 15, 1931, and by H. W. Neiman on July 23, 1931: and their certificates of approval properly signed,
attached. Then he submitted a very full report of receipts and expenditures from June 30th, 1931 to June 14th, 1941. The amount on hand in 1931 was $264.88. The report itemized the receipts and expenditures with statements and receipts attached, together with the savings bank book in the Tipton State Bank, showing the balance on June 14, 1941 of $277.56. The Report closed with the statement:

"I am not a wizard at figures,—and have spent much more time in checking these various items than their total amount calls for. However, you may recall that the records of this Class do not show anywhere that the Law Class of 1886 ever made an assessment! We have been close to shore occasionally—on April 29th, 1906 our balance was only $2.23—but, someone has always come to our rescue. All payments have been voluntary, and we will never make an assessment—we will live within our means. I still have faith that we will be provided for."

The Report was fully discussed, and on motion, approved.

Telegram from Humphrey saying that he would arrive in the afternoon. Gilbert reported that he visited with Helmick in Minneapolis the day he left. Helmick had expected to attend but his condition of health at the last moment prevented his coming. Telegram from Kraus; — "Not possible to be in Ann Arbor at this time. With you and Classmates in thought and spirit. Hope for continuance of good health for each of you."

Mrs. John I. Breck, widow of our old Classmate who passed away July 7th, 1940, came from Jackson and joined us for the day. We were, indeed, very glad to have her, and hope that the wives and children of others of our members will adopt this plan and come join us at the next reunion.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: President.

Governor Gill asked that he be not considered as President—his health was not good and he was a long distance away. On motion Judge Kelley S. Searl was elected as President.

Vice Presidents: H. C. Gilbert, 1st Vice President; A. W. Wolfe, 2nd Vice President.

John T. Moffit was continued as Secretary under a Life election some years ago.

J. W. Houder was reelected Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.
LUNCHEON:
The Class lunched with The Emeritus Club at the Michigan Union. The Secretary, who was elected honorary chairman of the Class Officers' Council for life some years ago, could not attend the Luncheon, as he had to attend the yearly meeting of the Officers and Directors of the Class Officers' Council. On his return to the Class he reported that the Class Officers' Council had become a very important adjunct of the Alumni Association, and he thought it was doing very good work.

Returned to headquarters, at the Helen Newberry residence, and continued our meeting; the new President, Judge Kelley S. Searl, presiding.

Telegram from Mrs. Ralph Aldrich advising that she expected to be present but had "just sold my home—now settling in my apartment at 1415 Parker Avenue. Congratulations to all."

Mrs. Sarah Satherwait Leslie, Lt '86, who was Secretary of her class until they quit at the 50th reunion, called on us and sat in at the meeting for some time. We had a delightful visit with her.

The Secretary filed a report showing the list—sixteen of the Class who had passed since the last reunion, as follows:—

DECEASED MEMBERS OF LAW '86, U. of M. since 1936 reunion:

AVERY, Lincoln; died May 5, 1938, at University Hospital in Ann Arbor; buried, Lakeside Cemetery, Port Huron, Mich.

BRECK, John Irwin; died July 7, 1940; buried Woodlawn Cemetery, Jackson, Mich.

CARPENTER, Grant; died April 17, 1936, at Hollywood, Calif.


DRESBACH, Charles; died June 2, 1938, at Detroit, Mich.; buried in Forest Cemetery, Circleville, Ohio.

DUDLEY, Charles Henry; died Sept. 6, 1938, at Colorado Springs; buried Evergreen Cemetery, Colorado Springs.

MASON, Norman Thickstun; died Dec. 24, 1936, at So. Pasadena, California; buried at Mountain View Cemetery, So. Pasadena.

MEEKER, Walter Scott; died at Orlando, Florida, November 16, 1930; buried at Greenville Cemetery, Greenville, Ohio.
MERRILL, Mary (Mrs. Schwenn); died at Kirkwood, Missouri, Oct. 23, 1937; buried at Astoria, Illinois.

NIEMAN, Henry William; died August 6, 1937, at Elmore, Ohio; buried, Union Cemetery, Elmore, Ohio.

PREWITT, George Gay; died Nov. 27, 1938, at Winchester, Ky.; buried, Richmond Cemetery, Richmond, Ky.

RICE, Charles Matloche; died May 23, 1939, at Bentonville, Ark.; buried in City Cemetery.


ST. RAYNOR, Henry; died March 2, 1937, at Los Angeles, Calif.; buried in Val Halla Cemetery, Los Angeles, California.

WALSER, Zeb. Vance; died Feb. 17, 1940, at his home; buried in Cemetery at Lexington, N. C.

WRIGHT, Arthur Creighton; died April 21, 1939, at Citronelle, Ala.; buried (cremated) Restland Cemetery, Mendota, Ill.

* * *

Charles M. Humphrey, of Ironwood, Michigan, who was born , arrived and joined us.

VISITING:

At 3:30 p. m. Judge and Mrs. John C. Richter had to leave us, as they were going to spend the night with their daughter at Grand Rapids.

More visiting.

At four p. m. Judge Kelley S. Searl and his family left us. During the day the Judge became quite exhausted and it was not thought best that he should remain. We were very sorry to have him leave us.

Adjourned until Saturday morning at 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21st, 1941.

Meeting called to order at 9:00 o'clock a. m. by 1st Vice President, H. C. Gilbert. Charles M. Humphrey was called away by a business telegram. A letter was read showing that Charles H. Dudley, who had passed away September 6th, 1938, was knighted a 33rd Degree Mason on January 19, 1924. By oversight this fact had been reported at the last reunion, but had not been placed in the Minutes.

Letters read, and much reminiscing done. The record shows that Mary Merrill Schwenn, who passed away October 23rd, 1937, had for many years lived the life of a recluse. The story of her
life, written by Cullen Cain, a columnist, reported in the Friday, October 29th, 1937, issue of the St. Louis Leader, was read and ordered put in the Minutes. The Secretary said that her file had already been closed and placed in the records as No. 92.

"THE STRANGE CASE OF MARY SCHWENN—LAW GRADUATE, KANSAS LAWYER, KIRKWOOD RECLUSE"

By Cullen Cain.

"All the world's a stage, and the men and women on it players."

Act I—Scene in Assembly hall of the University of Michigan, in 1886. Mary Schwenn comes forward with proud step to receive her degree as a doctor of law, a unique achievement for a woman in those days. Famous educators congratulate her, and the world looks bright and grand and the path ahead bordered by promise.

Act II—The scene shifts to Wichita, Kansas, where Mary Schwenn practices law and is looked to as a leader in the woman's movement of that time. Mary was then treading the path of fulfillment.

Act III—Last scene of all. The St. Louis County public administrator enters an almost bare and squalid room in a small shack of a house in a back yard of Kirkwood where Mary Schwenn lies dead on an old mattress in a corner of the room. A search of the premises discloses two black cats, 14C, some potted plants and the law diploma of the University of Michigan. A lean cow bawled mournfully in the back yard and three or four scraggley hens scratched around in the litter at the doorstep.

Alone by Choice.

Mary Schwenn had lived alone there in that miserable room in poverty and had died alone from choice. She owned property in Kirkwood valued at from eight to nine thousand dollars. In fact, she owned and rented out the large house that stood in the front yard before her humble shack.

As to why a woman intelligent enough to win a law degree and with character enough to practice law far ahead of the women's movement should have chosen this life of a recluse, it is hard to fathom.
Kirkwood Recluse

The interval between the Wichita act and the last act of all is a long one and there is no one to fill out the details. Only the recording angel knows what sorrow or disappointment or incident or tragedy that crossed the promising path of the Michigan law graduate and Kansas lawyer and turned her steps towards Kirkwood and turned the trend of her life to that of a recluse.

She was about 75 years old when she died and could have sold her property and lived in comfort if she had chosen to do so.

It may be she preferred the life she led. The wisest philosopher or the most subtle psychologist that ever lived cannot be given to know of the inhibitions that steal into the human mind or understand the causes that lead some persons to a life of loneliness and others to a life of hectic gayety.

The strange case of Mary Schwenn will never be known until the leaves of the Judgment Book unfold and the sky rolls back like a scroll."

Governor and Mrs. Gill had reservations on the Super Chief out of Chicago Saturday night, so it was necessary for them to take leave of us and they were not able to attend the Alumni Luncheon.

ALUMNI LUNCHEON

The Class, in a body, joined with The Emeritus Club in marching to the Gymnasium and attending the Alumni Luncheon, which is an annual event given by the University. Those who had not already received, at the former meetings, the gold pin presented by the University to Alumni fifty years, marched up on the stage and were presented their pin and certificate of 50 years member of the Alumni Club, by the President.

Returned to the Helen Newberry residence. Re-convened with H. C. Gilbert, 1st Vice President, presiding. A resolution was passed, directing the Secretary—without regard to his personal feelings about the matter—to enter in the records and publish in the Class Minutes, the various letters, communications and reports which have been set out herein, and in fact, others which the Secretary feels should be omitted because it appears to him there is too much “Secretary” in all this.

James Dresbach, Law 1926, a son of our old Classmate, Charles Dresbach, now practicing law
in Detroit, came and called on us and promised that he would visit us at every reunion hereafter,—as his father was always much interested and loved the members of his Class.

It will be recalled that for the last few years Commencement exercises have been held in Ferry Field Saturday evening at 6:30. The members of the Class had reserved seats and attended in a body.

On returning from the commencement exercises, we dined with the Emeritus Club in a private room in the Michigan Union. Each year at the evening dinner the members of the fifty-year class—having concluded their reunion—generally their last,—attend the Emeritus Club dinner in a body. They are formally welcomed as the new members of the club. It, as usual, was a very pleasant occasion.

After adjournment, those of our class remaining went back to the Helen Newberry Residence and visited. We read and re-read letters and newspaper clippings until the housemother again drove us to our rooms. Before retiring, it was voted to meet again commencement time in 1946—to celebrate our 60th Anniversary.

At this time, 116 graduated, ninety-seven have passed on, two are unaccounted for not having been heard from for more than thirty-seven years. Only seventeen living. We expressed the hope that five of us would be able to return in 1946. Adjourned until 1946.

Sunday morning;

The next morning after commencement in Ann Arbor is a dull and dreary time. The last week has been full of festivities—day and night. No one is around in the morning.

For those leaving early, no breakfast—cafe is not open. It is so unfortunate, as after a very pleasant week we leave our old school tired, hungry and cross.

Early, the only three remaining met in front of the Union. Bade each other goodbye. Messrs. Gilbert and Hartman taking busses to Indiana and Ohio. The secretary taking a train for his Iowa home and back to work and a further life of hard knocks.

In closing, I would suggest, if you are not now a subscriber to the Michigan Alumnus, do now subscribe. It gives you the University news. It needs your help. I have just remitted for my 20th Annual subscription.
If anyone who receives this brochure, even reads a part of it—the secretary would be pleased to have a note from him—suggesting how to get our next set of minutes. They will surely be the last.

These minutes are most respectfully submitted.

Members have attended the different reunions as follows:

Aldrich—1906, 1911, 1916, 1921, 1926.
Andrews—1906.
Bannon—1926, 1931.
Boyd—1916, 1921, 1926.
Clary—1921.
Creveling—1911.
Doe—1926.
Dresbach—1921, 1926, 1931.
Dudley—1916, 1926.
Edgerton—1906.
Evans—1916, 1921.
Farrar—1926, 1931.
Gardner—1921, 1926, 1931.
Garrigues—1921, 1926.
Gilbert—1936, 1941.
Gill—1926, 1936, 1941.
Haff—1936.
Hartman—1941.
Helmick—1921, 1936.
Hogg—1906, 1916.
Hooper—1916, 1926.
Humphrey—1921, 1941.
Huntsberger—1896, 1911, 1921.
Kline—1896.
Krans—1911, 1916, 1926.
Lamison—1906.
Mason—1906.
May, W. A. F.—1921, 1926.
Meeker—1906, 1921, 1931, 1936.
Miller, E. C.—1926.
Munn—1926.
McMillen—1906, 1916, 1921, 1926.
McNamara—1896, 1911, 1916.
Pickens—1926.
Prewitt—1916.
Richter—1926, 1941.
Scouton—1926.
Servis—1896.
Smith, J. G.—1931.
Talcott—1896, 1911.
Walser—1911, 1926.
Wright—1906.

Total—Year 1896 .................................. 15
Total—Year 1906 .................................. 24
Total—Year 1911 .................................. 20
Total—Year 1916 .................................. 30
Total—Year 1921 .................................. 28
Total—Year 1926 .................................. 36
Total—Year 1931 .................................. 19
Total—Year 1936 .................................. 13
Total—Year 1941 .................................. 8

REMEMBER THE NEXT REUNION—1946

Tipton, Iowa, Dec., 1941.

JOHN T. MOFFIT,
Secretary.
"If you have a good word to say,
   Pass it on.
If it will lighten someone's care,
   Pass it on.
'Twill make the sky above more blue
And loving hearts will seem more true,
And some day 'twill come back to you,
   Pass it on."

JOHN T. MOFFIT,        KELLEY S. SEARLE,
Secretary.             President.