Class of 1894

Nunc Pro Tunc

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To the 50 year survivors of the U of M Law Class of 1894:

Well, we had no reunion of the '94 Laws on our semi-centennial in 1944. Travel conditions are apparently no better than they were in last mid-summer, and maybe not so good. The conditions have not changed at Ann Arbor, either, so far as finding a nook where we could hold our semi-centennial class reunion, or a place for relaxation where we could sit down and talk over the experiences of 50 years, and find suitable food to sustain us. We may have to hold our last reunion as the 1894 Law Class in Shangri-La, if at all, but we are still toying with the thought that the war will end one day, and then gasoline will be for sale again in copious quantity at every corner as it was once on a time, seats available in every train, houses with spare rooms and soft divans for sleeping, abundant food for the asking and no shortage of cigarettes, a time when Victory will banish all "brown-outs". Then will come our Victory Reunion and the Alumni Memorial Hall will be eagerly awaiting and listening for the click of our gages on the walk up the hill from the railroad station, or from the Union Parking yard across the way. We will call you, and expect you all - every one of you survivors of the '94 Laws still living at the time and can move or be moved to be on hand. The writer has been in Ann Arbor several times the past summer and wants to report that regardless of the unusual conditions now prevailing over the world, I managed to get there in good order and found that everything is still there, all the old landmarks and familiar places, waiting for us to come. The place is perfectly delightful yet and able to furnish that elixir of youth any of us may need.

There are two of our class members who had looked forward to our Emeritus Reunion who will not be present, although they both survived the first 50 years and should be counted as Emeritus members. We salute the memory of George W. Fuller, Potsdam, New York Died Oct. 26, 1944, Arthur J. Tuttle, Detroit, Michigan Died Dec. 5, 1944.

There may be others of our class who have died in 1944 and of whose deaths we have not heard. However, I think every class member who survived to 1944 should be recognized as an Emeritus member when we have our Victory Reunion, and that the list should practically follow the latest list prepared and sent to all of us by our Class President, Creon E. Scott, during 1944.

As a contribution, I want to prepare a little booklet and have it ready to distribute to those of the members of our class who have survived to 1944, or to their families, in case of any deaths since 1944, at our Victory Reunion as a Memorial of the Class. One page will be allotted to each survivor and on which will appear some short, concise story of his life and experiences and a salute to his fellow survivors. Therefore, as one of the 50 year survivors of Law Class '94, please write and subscribe to some few words for the one page allotted to you, and return it to me as soon as convenient. Please cooperate and get it to me, every one of you, and we may be able to prepare such a little booklet and have it ready for distribution at the Victory Reunion or possibly before. It would be something in the way of a souvenir of the Reunion or Memorial of our survival that we may be proud of and willing to keep, for our heirs, representatives and assigns. Now I will want to hear from every one of you who are living, wherever you are, otherwise our so-called Memorial will not be a success or complete. Judge Howe will doubtless prepare a sketch for George W. Fuller and any Detroit lawyer can do the same for Judge Tuttle.
Send in something about this long, only each of you can do much better and please be serious, for your page of facts and experiences for "Our Book".

Sample Proposed Page

Name:____________________________________
Address:___________________________________
Born: Date_________________________ Place__________________________

Entered the university at just the right time to get aboard the famous Law Class of 1894.

Practiced law in Detroit in partnership with an LL.B degree since admission to the Bar at Ann Arbor, about time of graduation in June 1894, and during all this time have had myself as a constant companion, and the influence I sometimes feel has been doubtful...

Kept busy in later years in keeping ahead of the income tax, kept on the alert in trying to keep in touch with all the war news commentators, and in season attending the Michigan football games in an easy chair in a warm room and near the radio. I am not exactly in tune with the unsatisfactory conditions in the recent years, but like George Ade, the famous humorist, said when interviewed, "I am a product of the nineties, when people really lived, when money could be earned, and when the bar-tender placed a bottle and a glass on the mahogany and the boys took it straight," and, as I might add, were trusted to pour their own. "Boy, oh, Boy! the fellow who has lived the past 50 years has seen some show."

Seriously speaking, I appreciate that personally I have been able to participate in the development of this wonderful community where I live, from the beautiful, serene little city of 50 years ago, situated on the banks of a beautiful stream of blue water, where life was worth living, to the mighty industrial metropolis on the Detroit River, the City of Detroit today, and in that development there has been enough action and romance to satisfy anyone.

December 31, 1944

Lewis A. Stoneman
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The characters portrayed above and supposed to depict a lawyer and his client in conference are not intended to represent or to have been suggested by any living person or persons - the author never having seen anyone like them or either of them before in the past 50 years.

L.A.S.