The time has come for the American bar to provide machinery to control lawyer specialization, declared Prof. Charles W. Joiner. He told the Lawyers Association of Kansas City on January 16 that "The time has come...for the bar to assume responsibility for providing the machinery to control specialization to prevent it from developing without guidance and to encourage additional competence through an additional device of certification based on experience and education."

Such practice limitation, he said, would make the practice of law better for both public and lawyer. For the public it would bring "more competence to the decision of any problem presented by a client at a lesser cost because of the fact that the lawyer dealing with the problem is more capable of solving it without undue expenditure of time." Prof. Joiner was endorsing a 1954 resolution of the house of delegates of the American Bar Association (ABA) which "approved the necessity of regulating specialization and approved the principle that in such regulation those entitled to recognition as specialists should meet minimum standards of experience and education." The bar should profit from the experience of the medical profession. "The failure for 20 years on the part of the American Medical Association to do anything about specialization (to control it) has resulted in the development of a type of organization that has failed to provide guidance to medical specialization causing many of the problems that might have been avoided."

Under the 1954 resolution of the ABA, Joiner said, there is no intent to limit the scope and breadth of practice of any lawyer. It would be a voluntary plan and would not limit certification to one field only. "It is aimed at increasing quality of practice broadly in several fields permitting a lawyer to participate in more than one field if he desires."

For example, he said, "The Labor Law Section of the ABA would propose to the council on certification that labor law, as it is defined in the proposal, should be a field for certification. The section would study what, if any, additional educational studies would be required for such a certificate. What, if any, experience would be required for such a certificate, and what, if any, showing of any special competence would be required for such a certificate. It is not inconceivable that a test would be required or a showing of the kinds of cases or problems handled by an applicant for a certificate."

Prof. Joiner cited three advantages of such a control program. First, recognition would be given to additional effort and a minimum expertise in a limited field of practice. Second, it would become easier to choose lawyers in referral matters, particularly at a distance from the original location. Third, "It would be an encouragement to think of continuing competence as an important factor in the practice of law."

Addressing the Maryland Judicial Conference January 18, Prof. Joiner urged adoption of the Uniform Rules of Evidence.

"Since the objective of a trial is to discover the truth and reach a just result, it would seem that the mechanics or methods of achieving that simple end ought to be pretty much the same everywhere."

Prof. Joiner advanced other reasons for uniform laws. Among them, he said, are "the need for eliminating the variations and confusions which exist in the federal courts because of the necessity of applying state rules in diversity cases, the convenience of lawyers who must try cases away from home, and the real and psychological value to the public of having the same standards for the administration of justice applied in every state."
In 1953 both the American Bar Association and the American Law Institute approved the Uniform Rules of Evidence built from this Code of Evidence and promulgated by the Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

It now appears, he said, that New Jersey will shortly adopt these Uniform Rules of Evidence, an action he urged all states to take.

F.B.I. TO VISIT THE LAW SCHOOL

Bernard C. Brown is the Special Agent in Charge of the Detroit office of the FBI and will be at the Law School on Friday, February 8 at 4:00. He will be speaking on "The Function of the FBI and the Role of the Special Agent." While he intends to give a valuable insight into the activity of the Bureau, he also plans to answer questions related to appointment of graduates to positions as Special Agents with the Bureau. He will be prepared to discuss the requisites for application and similar queries. Mr. Brown will be speaking in Room 120.

Mr. Brown has been with the FBI since 1940. Prior to his Detroit post, he was Special Agent in Charge of the Pittsburgh Division. He is a member of the Utah, Georgia and District of Columbia Bars.

FRESHMEN

Case Club registration for second semester competition will be held next Tuesday, February 5, at 3:15 in room 100 Hutchins Hall. Any freshman unable to attend the meeting is asked to contact his Senior Judge as soon as possible.

CAMPBELL COMPETITION:

The Case Clubs are happy to announce that the Hon. Charles Whittaker, formerly a member of the Supreme Court of the United States, will preside at the final round of the Campbell Competition on Wednesday, April 3, 1963. The other distinguished members of the Court will be the Hon. Lester Cecil, presiding Judge of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals; the Hon. Theodore Sours of the Supreme Court of Michigan; Dean Smith; Professor Estep; and Professor Israel. Immediately following the Campbell Argument, Justice Whittaker will deliver the main address at the Annual Case Club Banquet.

MISCELLANEOUS MORSELS:

From the ABA we learn that the "tube" will be blessed with some prosecutors next autumn. ABC-TV will have a 90 minute program called Arrest and Trial Sunday nights and perhaps also a 60 minute one called Ready for the People....

66 of the Senators and 247 of the Congressmen in this year's Congress are lawyers.....

Prof. Paul W. McCracken of the U. of M. School of Business Administration favors the proposed federal tax cut.....

The Res Gestae is now accepting informal applications for staff positions. See Roger Wolf, D-11 "No wastebaskets to empty; everyone an editor."

OFFICIAL NOTES:

Boarders of the Club are reminded that food shall not be manually carried from the dining room.

AT THE FRAT: Delts: House meeting Thursday, Feb. 7 at 10:00 P.M. dealing with spring rush and parties.