SPECIAL ISSUE

At this time, the beginning of second semester, and the end of the first period of reign of the "new Lawyers Club", the board of directors feels the necessity to report on the state of the quad. Next week RES GESTAE will return with its usual excellence of news coverage and select wit and prose.

---The Editor

THE PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE QUADRANGLE MESSAGE

Oft times in the course of representative governments it becomes necessary to inform the constituents of the actions of their elected bureaucrats. A great hue and cry from dissident groups within the Lawyers Club prompts this report on the state of our organization.

The rather compulsory nature of membership in this society gives to everyone an economic interest in how the society is governed. Each semester all law students are now assessed $5 dues for Lawyers Club membership. Of this amount $2.50 actually goes into the operating budget of the Club and the other $2.50 goes to legal research. The present Executive Council is of the philosophy that all of that amount that is actually received by us should be spent for the benefit of the organization's members. In pursuing this philosophy the Board of Directors has already embarked upon a concept which is prevalent in all capitalist societies--deficit spending. It is never difficult to find expenditures which will enure to the advantage of residents of the dormitory facilities. The honest challenge is to assure to non-resident married members that they will also benefit from their membership. Board members are, therefore, always anxious to have constructive suggestions presented by non-residents. Following are some of the activities engaged in by the Board of Directors.

Sometime this month residents will for the first time have static-free radio reception via WCBN at 650 on the AM radio band. This is a 24-hour student-operated radio station which transmits through the Club's electrical system.

Within the next two months the dingy men's smoking lounge in the basement of Hutchins Hall will be magically transformed into a comfortable recreation and study area. A faculty donation matched by the Club will pay for the improvement. One-half of the area will be carpeted and furnished with sofas. The other half will
have round tables and captain's chairs where the notorious brown-baggers may lunch. Various games and vending machines for coffee and cokes will be provided. A new paint job and fancy drapes will complete the rejuvenation.

Members will find in the lounge of the Lawyers Club the beginning of an honor system library. These paperback volumes may be checked out for a three week period. The present books will be supplemented as time goes on. All students may avail themselves of this service.

The speaker's program has not had a bright beginning thus far this year. "A Real Case of Murder" was well received, but it is hoped that many other speakers of national and regional fame will be acquired this semester.

For the first time in its history, the Bookstore will be self-supporting. In past years this operation relied on outside financial backing which could be found only by doing out 30% of the profits to the financier. Through membership dues and faculty assistance, the Bookstore will henceforth be self-operating with consequent savings to members who use the facilities of this service in future years.

Last semester we had the first of our annual trips to Jackson prison. These are outstanding tours and another two are planned for this semester if interest is sufficient.

The legal aid program has never been too strong at Michigan. This year Mike Metzger is heading the program and it is hoped that the interest of local courts and students will increase the use of this activity.

The annual Christmas dances were well attended. Because there was no auditorium large enough to accommodate all students and dates, two separate dances were held this year with the married students at the American Legion and the resident members at the Lawyers Club. This required paying for two dance bands and other duplicate costs. The annual Christmas Musicale held in the lounge was the best in many years.

The Lawyers Club participates in all university intramural athletics from football to ping-pong. All members married and non-married, are eligible and are encouraged to avail themselves of the activities.

By the time that officers of the new student organization were elected last fall it was too late to prepare an edition of the "Quad" for this year. However, it is hoped that we will be able to have some sort of composite made for those interested. Also, John Pendleton is considering the compilation of the names and addresses of all graduating seniors.

These are some of the activities of the Board of Directors. Others are constantly under consideration and suggestions are always appreciated. However, unlike the undergraduate student government which often becomes overconcerned with its importance and is constantly seeking a cause to support, we feel that our job is to provide facilities which will make the life of the law student more pleasant and furnish programs which will be of professional interest. Otherwise, we seek only to maintain a non-assuming policy of non-interference.

Bill Schmidt, President
for the Board of Directors