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News of the Law School

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News of the Law School

There have been several interesting changes and developments in the Law School since the appearance of the June, 1936, number of this Review.

The most important, perhaps, and the most far-reaching in its effects upon the School is the raising of entrance requirements. Before this year, this requirement was the minimum requirement of the Association of American Law Schools, namely, “at least 60 semester hours . . . of college work” exclusive of certain courses not deemed especially adapted to pre-legal training. This was simply a quantity requirement, without reference to the quality of the college work required. At the meeting of the Association in New Orleans last December, a new rule was passed which went into effect this fall, and which requires this prelegal work to “have been passed with a scholastic average at least equal to the average required for graduation in the institution attended.” Since this Law School is a member of this Association, the Law Faculty unanimously adopted this rule for this Law
School, and it went into effect here in September of this year. A number of students who applied were denied admission under this rule. As a result, the enrollment in the first year class was considerably smaller than last year. These students were not denied admission permanently, but may return to the college and raise their averages to meet the new requirement.

Statistics show that a large majority of students who enter upon the study of law with a low average in their college work fail in the Law School. It is not the desire of the Faculty to build a large school, but to attain a maximum of efficiency and practical results. The enforcement of this new rule should result in keeping out unprepared students, a better quality of instruction, the elevation of the standards in the Law School generally, and in fewer failures in the first year class and in the upper classes.

A new policy has been inaugurated with respect to students who fail at the end of their first year. In past years, it has been the policy to waive their eliminations and readmit all such students who apply for admission the following September. When such students are permitted to return to the law the following September, they are likely to repeat their failures, and a second elimination means permanent exclusion from the Law School. They are now required (only a few exceptions are made) to stay out of Law School for at least one semester for further development and maturity before going on with the law. This change in policy also should improve the standards of the School and the quality of instruction.

This number of this Review completes Volume I. This publication was launched in January, 1936, as a new activity of the Law School. (For a complete announcement of its plan and purpose, see Vol. I, No. 1, p. 61.). We shall be pleased to have the four numbers bound in a single volume at cost for anyone who wishes the service and who sends his copies to us. The cost of binding will be $1.50. Carriage will be additional. Also, we can supply a bound volume for $5.00 as long as back numbers are available.

The Law Faculty and students are pleased with the reception accorded the Review. During the first year of its existence it has been cited by one of the United States Circuit Courts of Appeals and by the Supreme Court of this State. The article by Mr. Fathchild on Statutory Unfair Competition that appeared in the January number was reprinted in an issue of the U. S. Trade-Mark Bulletin, while his second article appearing in this number will be reprinted in the same Bulletin. The casenote of Kirk Jeffrey, a member of the student editorial board, on Federal Judgments as Liens on Real Estate that appeared in the January number has been reprinted in the Missouri Title Association Bulletin.

The subscription list is growing. Two hundred additional subscribers is the goal set for Volume II. The publication of this volume will begin with the January, 1937, number.

Mrs. Owen H. Price is the new Business Manager. Mr. Overstreet found it necessary to give up this work in order to devote his full time to teaching and to his new position as University Attorney. Mr. McCleary is now serving as Case Editor.
After a year's sabbatical leave of absence, Mr. McCleary returned to the Law School this fall and resumed the teaching of Torts, Creditors' Rights, and second year Property. He spent the year at the Harvard Law School in the study of Torts and Jurisprudence and in June was awarded the degree of Doctor of Juridical Science with distinguished excellence. He has completed the Missouri Annotations to the first two volumes of the Restatement of Torts by the American Law Institute. These annotations are now being published by the American Law Institute Publishers and are ready for sale. Mr. Bour is on sabbatical leave this year. His place is being filled by Mr. Robert A. Leflar, of the University of Arkansas, a well-known teacher and contributor to legal periodicals. He is teaching the courses in Conflict of Laws, Evidence, Criminal Law, and first year Real Property. He published an article entitled "Equitable Prevention of Public Wrongs," in the June, 1936, issue of the Texas Law Review.

Mr. Atkinson's treatise on Wills is now in the press and will be published soon.

Mr. Howard was called upon by members of the local bar to serve as a special judge in a case that was disposed of at the October term of the Circuit Court of Boone County.

The entire Law Faculty attended the meetings of the Missouri Bar Association held at Kansas City in October. Mr. Overstreet was on the program at the annual banquet and spoke on "The Inquiring Laymen." Dean Masterson represented the Law School at the Conference on the Future of the Common Law held at the Harvard Law School during the summer and at the meetings of the American Bar Association held in Boston in August. He addressed the Texas Bar Association at its annual meeting in Dallas in July, and was elected to honorary life membership in the Association.

Mr. Hogan, the Law Librarian, attended the meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries held in Cambridge, Mass., in August.

The following students were awarded the following prizes or honors at the June Commencement: Christopher G. Tiedeman Prize, Howard B. Lang, Jr.; Alexander Martin Prize, Robert V. Niedner; Judge Shepard Barclay Prize, William L. Nelson, Jr.; William Mack Prize, Oliver Rasch; Law School Foundation Prize, Helen Hunker; Rollins Scholarship, Alden A. Stockard; Order of Coif, William L. Nelson, Jr., A. D. Sappington, George Stanley Sharratt, Jr., Helen Hunker, Lawrence R. Brown, John W. Oliver.

Of special interest to former students and graduates of this University is the recent election of Manley O. Hudson to the Permanent Court of International Justice. Professor Hudson was formerly a Missourian and a member of the Law Faculty of the Missouri Law School. His appointment to the world's highest judicial tribunal reflects honor to this University and to Harvard University, where he has held the chair of Bemis Professor of International Law since 1919. He has undoubtedly become America's foremost and most brilliant international lawyer. We quote from the Harvard Alumni Bulletin of November 13, 1936:
"The election of Professor Manley O. Hudson to the World Court does not come as a surprise. It has been rumored and predicted for some time. It is, however, not the less notable on that account. Just thirty years ago Professor Hudson came to Harvard as a graduate student. After four years, during which he took his degree in law, he went to the University of Missouri, and from there he was called back as assistant professor in the Harvard Law School in 1919. He has received innumerable appointments to offices, committees, and commissions, public and private, which have been charged with the solution of questions of international law and conciliation. He has published voluminously. Spending nearly every summer in Geneva, he has returned from the front with fresh information and experience. Since 1933 he has been a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague. His appointment to the World Court is at one and the same time an honor to the University and an irreparable loss. His place as a teacher and as a scholar will be difficult or impossible to fill, but such a predicament is the penalty of eminence. If the University were looking about for a professor of international law it would endeavor to select precisely the sort of man who would be qualified for an international tribunal, and whom, therefore, it would be likely to lose.

"Professor Hudson has been not only a teacher and scholar, but a tireless advocate of international agreement and world peace. He has given unstintingly of his time and strength to educate the opinion and sentiment of the community. Although a professor of the Law School, his influence has been felt throughout the entire University, and throughout the country. His genial personality and ready wit will be missed among his many Cambridge friends."

A memorial exercise was held in honor of the late Judge Edward W. Hinton in the Circuit Court of Boone County in September, with Judge W. M. Dinwiddie on the bench, and Honorable Frank G. Harris, Lieut. Governor, serving as chairman. Mrs. Hinton and her son Edward Hinton, both of Chicago, the Law Faculty, the members of the Boone County Bar, and many friends were present. Several addresses were delivered by friends and former students. Judge Hinton is affectionately remembered as a former member of the Columbia bar, and as a greatly beloved Dean of the Law School. He joined the University of Chicago Law Faculty in 1913, where he remained until his death. His passing was a great loss to the practicing and teaching professions. In the field of procedural law, few men have wielded the wide influence that he did through his writings and teaching. His former students have lost a great teacher, a merciful, just, and gentle leader; the profession, a profound scholar and lawyer; his countrymen, a thorough gentleman whose life was devoted primarily to unselfish service."