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The Law School

The 1955-1956 student body is composed of 172 students distributed as follows: first-year, 89; second-year, 51; third-year, 39; graduate students, 3. This compares with last year's total of 178 and indicates that the average total enrollment for the biennium 1954-1956 exceeds that of the preceding two-year period 1952-1954 by approximately 30 percent. For the second year in succession a large first-year class has entered. Thus the sharp increase in the size of this class over the two-year period 1952-1954 amounts to an average of 61 percent in the 1954-1956 biennium. Veteran enrollment continues to be an important factor. Fifty of this year's first-year class of 89 have already had their military service; 53 or 60 percent had earned a college degree prior to entering Law School.

During 1954-1955 the degree of Bachelor of Laws was con-

ferred on 44 candidates. There are 39 candidates for the law degree in the current 1955-1956 session. Eleven will complete their work with the February 1956 group and the remaining 28 will finish in the June and August classes. Military service continues to claim a considerable number from the graduating class with the result that the Law School is not able to meet the numerous requests for filling placement opportunities as they arise. Maintenance of high academic standards results in a considerable reduction in the size of classes between the first and second years. The percentage of withdrawals and drop-outs from the first-year group has remained consistently high through the years. With the prospect of a sustained large enrollment in the first-year classes, consideration is being given to a policy of more selective admissions with the college academic record and the Law School Admissions Test as weighted factors to reduce the incidence of academic mortality. The summer sessions are being continued as approximately one-third of the student body usually enrolls for summer courses.

There have been several visiting appointments to the faculty recently. Professor Maurice T. Van Hecke of the University of North Carolina served as Visiting Professor of Law during the spring semester 1954-1955 offering courses in the fields of his special interest, including Equity and a seminar in Labor Law. Professor Richard V. Campbell of the University of Wisconsin is serving as Visiting Professor of Law for the current academic session 1955-1956. He is conducting all first-year courses in Torts, is offering a special seminar in Torts for advanced students, and will give the course in Relational Interests in the spring semester.

An educational experiment of value in the civil law courses is being carried out during the fall semester in connection with the appointment of Professor Yvon Loussouarn of the University of Rennes, France, as Visiting Professor. During the three-months' period of his residence at the Law School, Mr. Loussouarn has participated in the lecturing in the regular courses in collaboration with the faculty member in each course. In this manner it has been possible to broaden the French civil law content of several of the courses including Sales, Institutions of Law and Successions. In addition, Mr. Loussouarn participated in the instruction in private international law, the area of his special interest. He also delivered a series of lectures on the Ad-

ministration of Justice in France. The many benefits derived from Mr. Loussouarn's sojourn at the Law School encourages the faculty to hope that the practice of regularly inviting a distinguished legal scholar from a foreign jurisdiction to participate in the school's instructional program can be continued in future years.

The Law School notes with regret the resignation of Associate Professor Jan P. Charmatz. He left to accept a professorship at the University of Mississippi School of Law. During the two years of his tenure as Faculty Editor of the *Louisiana Law Review*, Mr. Charmatz was responsible for an expansion in scope and coverage of the *Review*. The results of his work were especially noteworthy in the quality and quantity of the student comments and case notes planned under his direction. Because of his broad scholarly background in continental civil law and his unusual linguistic accomplishments which made him completely at home in the legal literature of many foreign jurisdictions, the loss of Mr. Charmatz's services will be keenly felt by legal education in Louisiana. The good wishes of his former colleagues follow him in his new assignment in our sister state of Mississippi.

Associate Professor Leon Lebowitz of the law faculty of Baylor University has accepted appointment as a visiting member of our faculty and is serving as the Faculty Editor for the 1955-1956 issues of the *Louisiana Law Review*. Under his capable direction the important work of the *Review* is being carried on in keeping with the standards established by his immediate predecessor in that responsibility. In addition to editing the *Review*, Mr. Lebowitz is offering a reorganized course program in Legal Bibliography, using the problem method for smaller first-year groups. In the second semester he will offer a new course in Trusts.

Mr. Carlos E. Lazarus is serving this semester as Assistant Professor of Law (part-time) offering the second-year course in Evidence. In the spring semester Mr. Benjamin W. Yancey of the New Orleans Bar will offer a new course in the law of Admiralty, a subject of increasing importance to Louisiana and especially in the Greater Baton Rouge Port development area.

Members of the faculty granted leaves of absence during the period under review include: Professor Melvin G. Dakin, for

service as Visiting Professor at Northwestern University in the spring semester of 1954-1955; Professor Wex S. Malone, serving as Visiting Professor at Stanford University School of Law during the academic year 1955-1956; Professor Joseph Dainow, who has been granted leave for lecturing in Comparative and International Law at Northwestern University during the approaching spring semester; and Assistant Professor George W. Pugh, who is serving as Judicial Administrator under the direction of the Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court and the Louisiana Judicial Council.

Two members of the law faculty were recently appointed to serve in an advisory capacity in connection with major projects of the American Law Institute. Professor Dale E. Bennett, one of the draftsmen of the Louisiana Criminal Code, was selected as a member of the Advisory Committee for the Model Criminal Code, and Professor Wex S. Malone has been designated as one of the advisers to the Reporter on the Second Restatement of the Law of Torts now in progress. Professor Henry G. McMahon continues as coordinator of the research and draftsmanship for the Louisiana State Law Institute on the proposed revision of the Louisiana Code of Practice, the completion of which is expected within the course of the next year. Members of the faculty in various other areas are continuing their research on projects in their special areas of interest.

The Fourth Annual Institute on Mineral Law will be held at the Law School on February 10 and 11, 1956. Professor Harriet S. Daggett is in charge of the planning and directing of the program. The continued interest in this aspect of the Law School's work in post-admission legal education is gratifying and evidences the desire of the bar to utilize the services and facilities of the Law School for consideration of specialized subject-matter in important fields.

In the finals of the Robert Lee Tullis Moot Court Competition held at the Law School on October 29, 1955, Richard H. Gauthier of Arabi, Louisiana, and Jack G. Watson of West Lake, Louisiana, were selected as the winning team over the team composed of William P. Polk of Alexandria, Louisiana, and William L. Werner of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chief Justice John B. Fournet and Associate Justices Amos Lee Ponder, Joe B. Hamiter, Frank W. Hawthorne, Harold A. Moise, and James D.

Simon honored the Law School by acting as the judges for the finals of the competition.

The Law Library now numbers 94,124 volumes. In its extensive holdings it is probably outranked in the South only by the university law libraries of Virginia, Texas and Duke. Continued growth of the Law Library has been assured by the allocation of badly-needed additional funds for book acquisitions. The bibliographical and other services of the Law Library have been expanded greatly during recent years under the direction of the librarian, Miss Kate Wallach, and plans are being projected for possible additional services of value to the users of the Law Library.

Two major needs of the Law School are now approaching the planning stage. The first is in the air-conditioning of the main reading room of the Law Library, to make for year-round more efficient use of the library collection. Funds have been allocated for this and necessary auxiliary air-conditioning of office areas in the law building. The second major need is for a "Lawyers' Inn" — a dormitory for one hundred law students to replace the present unsatisfactory structure utilized for the housing of law students. Funds for the dormitory project have not been specifically allocated, but it is hoped that the project can be completed as a unit in the housing program of the University in the near future. Its inclusion in the building program has been approved in principle by the President of the University and the Board of Supervisors.

At the annual alumni meeting held in connection with the Homecoming Day activities, Mr. H. H. Richardson of the Bogalusa Bar was elected to the presidency of the Law School Alumni Association to succeed Judge G. Caldwell Herget whose term had expired. Other officers elected were: Mr. Oliver P. Stockwell of the Lake Charles Bar, Mr. Clyde W. Thurmon of the Shreveport Bar, and Mr. Oliver P. Carriere of the New Orleans Bar.

With the 1955-1956 academic year, the Law School approaches the fiftieth year of its institutional life. Established in 1906, in its subsequent growth and development, it has sought not only to parallel, but to anticipate the needs of the legal profession in Louisiana by the quality of its varied activities in teaching and legal research. Growth and development must be

marked in the immediately ensuing years if legal education at the University is to continue to measure up to the expanded responsibilities exacted of lawyers by our complex society. Louisiana has unique opportunities for programs in foreign and comparative law. These opportunities should be grasped as resources for their achievement become available. In many areas the Law School has needs that should be met if the work of the Law School is to be maintained with increasing effectiveness. Commendable progress has been made and the University authorities have evidenced a keen interest in the further development of the Law School's programs. It is hoped that ways and means may be developed to provide the additional financial support indispensable to the accelerated progress of legal education at this time.

Paul M. Hebert
Dean