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The Law School: 1959-1960

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Editorial

THE LAW SCHOOL

1959-1960

The Law School's enrollment in the University's Centennial academic year of 1959-1960 is approximately the same as that of last year in total number with 229 enrolled. The comparable total was 226 last year. By classes the students are classified as follows: First Year 120, Second Year 65, Third Year 40, Unclassified 4. Especially noteworthy is the fact that the 1959-1960 First Year Class was approximately 14% larger than last year's entering group, while the Second Year Class is 32% larger than the 1958-59 Second Year Class. Graduating seniors will, accordingly, be in smaller supply this year with 41 candidates for the Bachelor of Laws degree this year as compared with the 66 degrees awarded during 1958-1959 — a decrease of 38% in the senior group. These figures reflect, therefore, a trend toward an increasing enrollment which will probably have a greater total impact in the 1960-61 session. The Law School endeavors through various means to assist graduating seniors in obtaining desirable professional placements. The preliminary indication is that this year's graduating group will have little difficulty in obtaining professional opportunities in keeping with their plans and respective interests.

During the last academic year the faculty of the Law School completed a study of admission requirements. Based on pertinent data, including law school admissions test scores, pre-legal academic grade averages and law school grades, the faculty is planning to put into effect new admission standards beginning with next year's entering group. The standard will be based upon a combination of scores on the law school admissions test and the pre-legal grade averages. It is believed that application of the new standard will serve to reduce materially the relatively high percentage of unsuccessful students who do not complete the law course. This is expected to result from the correlation of the new standard with statistical data collected over the years relating to the chances of success in law school. At the same time the new standard has been placed realistically at a level which will keep the opportunity for admission open to students who appear to have a fair chance of completing the law work in

keeping with the high standards exacted by the faculty in the professional law courses.

The curriculum study of 1957 gave recognition to the principle that six semesters of law study are no longer adequate to provide desirable legal education for a dual legal system which must embrace comprehensive coverage of Louisiana's civil law heritage in addition to important areas of procedural, commercial, public, and common law. Accordingly, for this year's entering class the requirement for graduation from law school has been increased from 85 semester hours to 97 semester hours. In practical terms this means that for many of the students the period of residence required will hereafter be three and a half years instead of three years. The new seven-semester requirement can, however, also be met by combining two summer terms with six semesters of work, thus making it possible for students who desire to do so to graduate within three calendar years from matriculation. Course offerings will require some minor adjustments in effecting a complete transition to the 97-semester hour requirement. It is possible that some additional courses in areas not now covered by the curriculum offerings may be requisite to provide a broader scope of election and greater flexibility in scheduling. These problems will be considered by the faculty during the course of the ensuing year.

Dean Milton M. Harrison has accepted appointment to the newly created University post of Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs effective July 1, 1959. The elevation of Dean Harrison to this important University-wide position necessitated his resignation from the Law School's deanship. This was a genuine loss to the Law School, for the impact of his leadership had made itself felt in the school's development during the period of two years in which he served in that capacity. The good wishes of the law faculty and the law alumni follow Dean Harrison into his new post. The University has gained a capable administrator for the exacting tasks of the academic vice-presidency. In his new position Dean Harrison will have a broad area of major responsibility for the development and strengthening of all of the educational programs of the University. The Law School, will, however, continue to claim a portion of Dean Harrison's work, for he has agreed to continue with the offering of his first year course on Agency and Partnership. On August

1, 1959, the undersigned accepted reappointment as Dean, filling the vacancy caused by Dean Harrison's resignation.

During the last academic year the law faculty suffered a severe blow in the sudden and untimely death of Professor Charles A. Reynard. During his eleven years as a member of the faculty, Mr. Reynard had established an enviable record as a scholar and teacher in his chosen fields of Labor Law and Constitutional Law. In the pages of the Review fitting memorials by the Reverend William E. Trice and Professor Wex S. Malone were included in the special issue dedicated to Professor Reynard's memory.¹ Professor Reynard's work had an impact the value of which will long be felt at the L.S.U. Law School.

The 1959-60 faculty consists of ten full-time members and two part-time instructors in addition to the Dean. The Law School also has one additional special research chair in civil and comparative law.

Professor Donald H. Wollett, formerly of New York University Law School, was appointed professor of law effective June 4, 1959. He will offer courses in the public law field including Labor Law and Constitutional Law. A native of Iowa, he holds the Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Chicago and the Bachelor of Laws degree from Indiana University. He is a member of the bars of Indiana, Illinois, and Washington. His teaching experience includes appointments at Indiana University, at the University of Washington, and as a visiting professor at Harvard University. From 1957 to 1959 he taught at New York University. He has written extensively in the field of labor law. Professor Wollett's appointment constitutes a significant addition to the law faculty group.

Mr. Athanassios Yiannopoulos, Research Associate Professor of Law, has been granted leave of absence to teach in the 1960 winter and spring quarters at the Ohio State University Law School. He will return to the Law School in September of 1960.

Mr. Carlos E. Lazarus, Research Coordinator and Revisor for the Louisiana State Law Institute, has been appointed part-time assistant in Legal Bibliography for the fall term 1959-60.

Among the lecturers speaking at the Law School during the fall semester of the 1959-60 academic year were: Mr. Tom Pugh

1. Louisiana Law Review, Vol. XIX, No. 2 (1959).

of the Baton Rouge bar; Mr. Volkert Hoffmeyer of Hamburg, Germany; Professor Leon Green, Distinguished Professor of the University of Texas; Professor Clarence Morris of the University of Pennsylvania Law School; Professor B. W. Wortley of the University of Manchester, England, and Visiting Professor at the Tulane Law School; Mr. Robert D. Swezey, Executive Vice-President of WDSU of New Orleans; and Mr. Anthony Lewis, Washington Correspondent of the New York Times.

Scheduled to lecture during the second semester are the following list of distinguished speakers: Dean William L. Prosser of the University of California, Berkeley, California; Benjamin Aaron of The Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Los Angeles; and Judge Roger J. Traynor of the Supreme Court of California.

The Edward Douglass White Lecturer for 1960 is Arthur Larson, Professor of Law and Director of the World Rule of Law Center of Duke University. The lectures under the general theme of "the rule of law" will be held on April 25, 26, and 27, 1960 under the joint sponsorship of the Law School, the Graduate School, and the Department of Government. The timeliness of Professor Larson's subject makes the 1960 series in this important lectureship extremely significant.

Members of the law faculty continue to be actively engaged in various areas of legal research, law improvement, and public service. Without attempting a complete enumeration, these activities include: Professor Bennett's current research directed toward a revision of the Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure and his work as an advisor in connection with the Model Penal Code of the American Law Institute; Professor Daggett's work in connection with the forthcoming Seventh Mineral Law Institute scheduled for February 5 and 6, 1960; Professor Dainow's participation in various projects of important organizations and committees in the fields of international and comparative law; Professor Dakin's research as consultant to the Louisiana Public Service Commission and the Tax Commission; Professor Malone's work as an advisor on the Second Restatement of the Law of Torts, his participation as a member of the Committee planning a forthcoming conference of British and American law teachers to be held in New York in 1960, and his continued research and writing in the field of torts; Professor McMahon's continued contributions to the fields of judicial administration

and civil procedure including his membership on the Advisory Committee to the Commission on International Rules of Judicial Procedure and his outstanding work as coordinator and reporter on the proposed new Code of Civil Procedure for Louisiana soon scheduled for legislative consideration; Professor Pascal's current undertaking as a consultant on the Louisiana Trust Estates Revision project; Professor George W. Pugh's participation in special work in the field of evidence and his contributions as consultant to the Judicial Council; Professor J. Denson Smith's activities in the general direction of projects of the Louisiana State Law Institute including coordination of the recent publication of the six-volume English translation of *Planiol's Civil Law Treatise*, as well as his substantial contributions to the various drafting projects now in progress; Professor Wollett's work as Co-Chairman of the Labor Law Group Trust and especially his participation as co-editor of a new edition of *Labor Relations and the Law*; and Professor Yiannopoulos' work in preparing articles on various aspects of comparative, commercial, and conflict of laws.

The Law Library under the capable direction of Miss Kate Wallach continues its steady growth. The collection now numbers 104,000 volumes, constituting one of the most comprehensive research collections in the entire South. Miss Wallach has recently received the signal honor of being chosen as President-elect of the Louisiana Library Association, a fitting tribute to her zeal and accomplishments in the library field generally, but especially noteworthy in the recognition it implies for her work in developing the L.S.U. Law Library into its present excellent status as an indispensable and integral part of the Law School's work.

Last year circumstances forced the postponement of the Seventh Annual Mineral Law Institute. The Institute will be conducted on February 5 and 6, 1960, at the Law School. An interesting program has been arranged in keeping with the responsibilities of the school to render such service to the legal profession of Louisiana. The Law School's special course in Admiralty Law will be again offered in the second semester of the current year by Mr. Benjamin W. Yancey of the New Orleans Bar and a specialist in the admiralty field. The course will be open on an auditing basis to attorneys in the area of Baton Rouge and adjoining parishes.

The Law School Alumni Association has recently made a gift of a photo-copying machine to the Law School. This equipment can be effectively used for the reproduction of documents and casebook excerpts desired in legal research. It is planned to operate a limited service to the alumni in making such reproductions when requested on a cost of operation basis. The Alumni Association continues to manifest its active interest in the work of the Law Review staff and the Moot Court Boards by sponsoring valued awards for activities in these important areas of the Law School's work. Such interest and support are stimuli to the students and an encouragement to the faculty. Programs of this nature will certainly continue to be of ever-increasing effectiveness.

Visitors to the Law School will find certain changes in the physical facilities which have materially improved the efficiency of the Law School's operations. The suite of offices formerly occupied by the Department of Archives has been suitably remodelled to provide more adequate space for the Dean's offices. The Law Review is more suitably provided for in the 4th floor offices formerly occupied by the Dean and the cataloguing and workrooms of the Law Library have been moved to air-conditioned space on the ground floor. A new seminar room is being equipped and there has been a considerable rearrangement of the additional book stack room now available to the Law Library. Major needs in physical facilities include air-conditioned classrooms for use during the extended hot periods of the year. A new law dormitory remains a constant need.

The objectives of the Law School in addition to its primary task of preparing prospective members of the legal profession includes the far-reaching responsibility of working for the improvement and development of law through research, writing, and through aiding in the essential processes of reform through legislation. In all of these areas of activity the Law School remains highly conscious of a grave responsibility. Not only must the work of the school be of the highest intellectual quality, it must also be keyed to an awareness and an alertness to significant social and economic problems and changes which inevitably affect the dynamic living law in our society. Louisiana's unique dual legal system requires penetrating insight into the origin and development of law under the competing theories of the civil and the common law. The Law School must remain conscious of the fact that in certain areas of Louisiana's private civil law this

unique heritage at times tends to insulate Louisiana's legal thought from the broad stream of developments in other jurisdictions whose law must also be constantly considered to avoid a too narrow approach to the solution of legal problems. The Law School seeks through its programs of teaching and research constantly to broaden the mental horizons of its students to the end that law in Louisiana be not viewed exclusively in the narrower sense of local law but as part of a broader system of the civil law of which Louisiana law constitutes a significant part. Louisiana's problems of legal education must be constantly evaluated in such context. The task of influencing the development of law must be broadly based whether that development is fashioned by the practicing lawyer, the judge, the legislator, or a draftsman of statutes and codes. Good legal education of the type envisioned is costly and must have increased financial support. The faculty of the Law School has brought the program of legal education at L.S.U. to increasing levels of effectiveness within the limits of its resources. Those efforts need augmentation in support for further refinement and improvement in the school's programs of teaching and research. The retiring President of the American Bar Association has made an eloquent plea outlining the nation-wide need for greater understanding and emphasis upon support for legal education, for the hope of our world society lies in its adherence to the rule of law. Legal education at L.S.U. shares that need of which President Ross Malone was speaking. Only by keeping the School's expanded needs under constant review can the Law School further develop in a manner responsive to the demands of the age it seeks to serve.

*Paul M. Hebert,
Dean.*

January 8, 1960.