

GREETINGS FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT:

Dear Fellow Alumni:

It has been my pleasure to serve as President of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Law Alumni Association during the past year. This completes ten years of close association with the law school on the Board of Visitors and Board of Directors.

Originally it was not my intention to become "involved" for ten years. It is one of those appointments which you expect to enjoy for a couple of years in a relaxed sort of way and step aside.

Two initial contacts on these Boards caused some change in direction in my thinking. Harlan Rogers of Portage had been on the Board for a number of years. Mr. Rogers is a very inspirational man. His interest and concern for legal education, his searching inquiry into the affairs of the law school and his attitudes about practicing lawyers and their training are inclined to have a lasting impact on those with whom he comes into contact. You find yourself caught up in the whole fascinating association.

George Young, formerly Dean, and now professor in the law school is another man who inspires interest and concern. George's association with the alumni and students is excellent. George is a close friend of the alumni and association with him on these boards raised an interest in supporting his objectives and attempting to organize alumni support.

Many subjects have been considered during these past ten years. It is my opinion that some of the most important are:

1. Law School visitation program. Several different types of visitations have been tried over the years. Some years the Board of Visitors met with faculty committees. The principle objective has been to test law school curriculum and other policies with the ideas of practicing lawyers and judges.

In the past year a two-day conference at the law school was held



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and the report of the program will be printed in this issue. I urge your reading and consideration of participation in future years.

2. General Practice Course. This summer program of the law school is unique. The course was conceived and developed by the joint planning of the law school faculty and the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association. Its success requires cooperation of practicing lawyers who must give at least a week of time to participate. The response of students has been extremely favorable.

In these times of emphasis on absence of communication we believe the foregoing two programs will offer the opportunity for effective contact where association is essential. The practicing lawyer has an obligation to be concerned with legal education. Wisconsin law alumni are effectively accepting this obligation by participation in these programs.

Of great importance also is the financial support of the alumni. In 1962, the Benchers Society was organized. This Society is now in its seventh year. The Benchers are a group of 100 lawyers who have contributed \$100 per year toward a \$10,000 annual fund to be used for scholarships, student loans and other objects in the interests of the law school. There have been only a few vacancies each year principally due to death or retirement.

In 1969 the Law School Fund was approved by the Board of Directors. The Board was convinced that greater alumni financial support was important to the well-being of the law school. There is an urgent need for funds if our law school is to be effective. Other law school alumni recognized this and have been actively engaged in fund raising. Michigan and Minnesota are well ahead of us. Initial response is encouraging but must be improved.

It has been our pleasure to associate in the last year with our new Dean Spencer Kimball. Dean Kimball has highly impressed us with his dedication to the job and his drive to accomplish. The Dean is a legal scholar with international reputation for eminence in his field. We believe the law school to be in good hands and urge you to become personally acquainted with Dean Kimball.

The *Gargoyle* is the idea of Dean Kimball. We hope you enjoy it and look forward to hearing about the law school and alumni activities.

Robert L. Curry

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