

# Editor's Note

It is, of course, no secret that the nation faces a drought this summer. Madison has not been spared. For 51 days, from Mother's Day on May 8th to June 28th, we received only two showers totaling .23 inches of rain. Lately there has been more rain, but trees are turning brown, grass does not grow and sweet corn has doubled in price and declined in quality. On top of it, twenty-three days in the 90's and even three days at more than 100 have once again tested the University's air conditioning system. Today's forecast (1 August) is for another 100+, and this time, just to make it interesting, it is supposed to be humid. Ah, winter!

Over the next few issues we will be pleased to introduce you to a number of new faculty members. The first to actually arrive will be our new Law Librarian, Blair Kauffman. He will be followed, over the next year, by four other tenured faculty members and several distinguished visitors.

While we are still collecting information on the placement of the Class of 1988, several amazing trends seem apparent. For decades about 70% of our graduates located in Wisconsin. Over the past three years this figure has declined to the 53-63% range. When we first looked at this number for the Class of 1988, based on about three-fourths of the Class reporting, we found only 40% locating in Wisconsin. Although the final figure is likely to be higher, a shift is obvious.

Equally surprising is the continued rise in starting salaries. It was expected that increases in the top starting salaries this year would be modest. And with some exceptions they were. However, with more graduates leaving Wisconsin, many to large law firms around the country, the average starting salary for our graduates appears headed for another large increase. In 1986 the average was \$30,167; in 1987, \$34,494; and, for the same three-fourths reporting, in 1988, over \$41,000!

Another sign of the health of the job market is the ever increasing number of employers conducting on-campus interviews. Last fall we set a record of 205 employers, with 249 for the year. This fall we have 223 scheduled in the fall, and probably will have 230-240 when the semester ends.

The mystery picture in Vol. 18, No. 4, was identified by William N. Leege ('71). Once again clothing lead to the person: Mr. Leege said that no one else would have worn such an "out-of-date shirt" as he did in 1971. The real question, Mr. Leege, is are you still wearing it?

James F. Spohn ('48) named just about everyone in the picture in Vol. 19, No. 1, picture. They were all members of the Class of 1948, and Jim is in the back row. Note also that two members of the Wisconsin Supreme Court are pictured.

Since I talked about placement (with my placement hat on), the mystery picture in this issue shows students gathered outside the Office of Career Services waiting to sign up for interviews. This was a common sight until 1981 when we switched to a "bid" system of allocating interviews. This year we should have a computer program running which will assign interview times based on student preference, number of previous interviews and a "random number" function. This picture must date from 1977 to 1980. While the faces are not distinct, someone must remember spending their time in this manner.

