A Message from the President

HERE is nothing finer in legal literature, either in England or this country, than Oliver Wendell Holmes, "The Common Law," first published in 1881. Mr. Justice Holmes, who celebrated his eighty-sixth birthday on March 20 last, still possesses one of the keenest minds on the United States Supreme Court. I like particularly the well-known statement made by him in his opinion in the case of Towne v. Eilen, 155 U. S., 418, where he says: "A word is not a crystal, transparent and unchanged, it is the skin of a living thought and may vary greatly in color and content according to the circumstances and time in which it is used."

With this thought in mind, consider for a moment the words, "New Jersey Law School." What did this name mean in 1908? What does it mean today? What may we hope it will mean ten years from now? It is undoubtedly true that in 1908 the name meant nothing except possibly the dreams of one or two interested in founding a law school. If I remember correctly nearly everyone in Newark looked upon the dream as of a distinctly visionary character.

It is not necessary to elaborate on what the name means to you today. But in a few weeks, it will mean the name of your Alma Mater. I am more interested in what the name "New Jersey Law School" will mean to the community ten years from today. It is at this point in our thought, that the officers and Faculty of New Jersey Law School and the members of the Senior class of 1927 can figuratively join hands.

What the name will mean ten years from now will depend almost wholly on two things. It will depend in the first place on the kind of instruction we continue to furnish; and, secondly, upon the reputation which the School is continually building up in New Jersey. The reputation that it is building up in the last analysis will be wholly made by the standing of its graduates in the community. Anything which will tend to bring the Faculty and the student body into closer co-operation must necessarily help both in securing for our common aim. We all have to have New Jersey Law School occupy the position of the leading law school in New Jersey, and be included in that national group of law schools entitled to be considered among the leading schools of the country.

The publication of this first Annual by the present Senior class is one of the finest exhibitions of class spirit I have seen during the eighteen years' history of our school. We members of the Faculty all wish the greatest success to the editor, his associates and all the members of the class of 1927.

The thought I wish to leave with you is, that the publication of this first edition of THE LEGACY bespeaks a class composed of the kind of men and women who bid fair to contribute much to help us reach that goal we seek ten years from now. We feel sure that the first issue of THE LEGACY will be a credit to the class and to New Jersey Law School. Its success foretells, we believe, the success which is to come to the members of 1927 in future years.

RICHARD D. CURRIER.
A Word from the Dean

T is with much pleasure that we greet THE LEGACY of the class of 1927. Other classes have passed through the portals of the New Jersey Law School and have made gifts inter vivos to their Alma Mater. The officers and faculty cherish these manifestations of affectionate regard from our former students.

It has remained, however, for the Class of 1927 first to make the final declaration of a Class in writing and to demonstrate its good will towards the School in the form of a Legacy.

This book will be the permanent testimony of the Class towards the School and the expression of your mind and will in relation to it. As this book is given in trust to the School as a charitable legacy, the rule against perpetuities will not apply. As this book is both a demonstrative and specific legacy of the good will and loyalty of the Class of 1927 may it never lapse nor be adeoned.

CHARLES M. MASON