Student Council

by
Peter W. Thomas

The Rutgers Law School Student Council is the governing organization which presides over and guides the policy of the heart of the school, its students. Attend a meeting of this organization and you are feeling the pulse of the school for it is this body that molds into forceful working plans the thoughts, ideas, and wishes of the students. This group then is the focal point for the expression of the whole student body.

The President and Vice-President of each Class plus elected representatives selected on a proportional basis make up the membership. Then in turn the group selects its own officers to administer the functioning of the council. Delegation is under informal parliamentary procedure and the work is channeled through committees who report back to council action on their findings and plans.

The council has at its disposal funds received from student activity fees. From this fund are budgeted monies to publish the Law Review and annual yearbook, the Legacy. The council also subsidizes throughout the year various social functions such as Christmas and Spring dances and a yearly banquet. Perhaps one of the most important uses the council makes of the funds at its disposal is the support given the American Law Student Association. By allocating money for the expense of delegates Rutgers is enabled to be represented in this important organization on both the local and national levels.

The council acts as a liaison between the student body and the faculty and it is through the council that the students can make known their needs and wants. The council acts as a lever for the students in bringing about these varied and desired changes and additions. The faculty always stands ready and willing to adopt any feasible idea or plan which will result in a smoother educational road and it is the council and the dean's office which effect these changes. The council then reflects the will of the students, molds this will into workable policy decisions and carries them through the faculty into practice. As can readily be seen the student council is of ranking importance in the school and remains uppermost in the minds of the students.

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The Heavy Burdens of Administration Rest on the Shoulders of Our Faculty Advisor and the Indispensable Miss Kit.

So That's Why They Have the Big Table in the Council Room.

MEMBERS
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Peter W. Thomas
Nicholas E. Yechio
George H. Ziegler
The Law Review serves many purposes besides providing an office where the bookworm can hang his hat.

The Rutgers Law Review is a professional journal sponsored by the Law School and administered by a board of student editors. Through the publication of critical legal opinion, the Review provides a means to influence the development of the law, a function of a legal periodical which is receiving increasing recognition by the courts.

The Law Review is one of the Law School’s strongest links with the Bar. Each year one of the three issues is devoted entirely to a survey of New Jersey law in order to be of service to practicing lawyers. Other issues offer articles prepared by legal writers as well as notes and comments on recent New Jersey and Federal cases by student members of the Editorial Board.

The active management of the Law Review is in the hands of a student editor-in-chief assisted by a corps of editors. Under the guidance of the Administrative Director, Mr. Donald Kapner, the members of the Law Review, selected by the Dean on the basis of scholastic achievement, have the opportunity to increase their ability to analyze and evaluate legal opinions and develop the skills of legal writing and research. The student, in writing a case comment, points out how the law is changed, limited or expanded by a single judicial opinion and indicates the problems opened up by the new case. Through writing a note which requires exhaustive research, a student member of the Law Review becomes an expert on some circumscribed aspect of the law. Student members will receive course credit for the work completed provided it is of publishable quality.

D. A. Gives the Prof’s “The Word.”

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“A lawyer without history is like a mechanic, a mere working machine. He must possess some knowledge of these. He may venture to call himself an architect.”

SIR WALTER SCOTT

Legal Aid

by Michael Quereuzes

In New Jersey, as elsewhere throughout the United States, there has been recognized in recent years the necessity for increasing legal aid facilities to those in need. Motivated both by the desire to meet the community’s expanding demands, and by the opportunity to present valuable clinical experience to its students, the Rutgers University School of Law has organized the Legal Aid Society. Six scholastically outstanding upperclassmen comprise the Society which, while it expands the facilities of the Essex County Legal Aid Clinic also increases its efficiency. The purpose of the Society is threefold.

It gives the student experience in handling actual cases; helps to develop his creative skills, techniques and mental habits, and fosters a sense of responsibility to the client, court, profession, community, and school. Every participating student is obligated to synthesize his knowledge in applying it to concrete situations, often complex because they cut across course boundaries. He introduces himself to the problems and techniques of fact gathering, the steps in a legal plan of attack, the handling of a client, and the management of a law office.

Those who have been honored by appointment to the Society and who have discovered its inestimable value and satisfaction-rendering possibilities include:

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Moot Court

by
Bruce D. Harrigal
Warran E. Dunn

One of the many goals which a law student strives to attain during the period of his legal education is the mastering of the ability of presenting his case before a court. Although this education cannot be completed in any wise during the brief stay at law school, the Rutgers Moot Court Program does more than its share to put a man on the road to ultimate success insofar as this basic drive is concerned. In order to meet practical necessities regarding actual practice, the program is divided into two parts: one, an appellate program; and the other, a trial moot court program. In the former mentioned, a board whose membership is comprised of law students, chooses actual cases reported from all jurisdictions in the nation which have had at least one hearing in an appellate court, and supplies student participants with an outline or a history of the matter as is necessary for the presentation of a case. Many times students work with the actual briefs. The Moot Court work done by students has inspired an interest beyond the confines of the school and in this respect the yearly Final Competition, which is attended by the public at large, reflects success in the nature of our program. In the Spring of 1952, two teams of students, namely: Richard G. Osborne, Harvey Sorkow and Alvin Weiss on one side, and Peter Cooper, William Delorenzo, Jr. and Herman D. Michels on the other, appeared in argument of an important constitutional law question before a distinguished bench consisting of Judge Gerald McLoughlin of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, and Justices William Wachenfeld and Nathan Jacobs of the New Jersey Supreme Court. On the regional and national level a Rutgers team of Herman D. Michels, Harvey Sorkow, and Donald Sorkow represented our law school at Philadelphia, Pa. this year. This last mentioned competition was one of a series of elimination contests held in each of the twelve regions of National Inter-Law School Moot Court Competition in an effort to determine the best appellate teams in the country at national contests to be held in New York later in the year. The judges of these contests are noted lawyers, teachers and jurists.

Looking objectively at the Moot Court Program of Rutgers Law School, one cannot say less than the amazing truth here is afforded the student an invaluable opportunity for legal training of the type which he will get in no lecture hall, an opportunity to be before his time, a lawyer appearing for a client and arguing his case to the best of his God-given ability.
The Legacy staff in compiling this book kept one standard fixed in our minds at all times. We intend this book to serve the student as a means of recalling to mind, the many happenings, both humorous and serious, at Law School.

We have endeavored to portray as many phases of student activity and student life as possible. We have chosen the best pictures and articles to accomplish this. If in later years, the reader picks up this book and enjoys his perusal of its pages, then we will be more than satisfied with the results of our labor, for we then can justly feel that we have succeeded in perpetuating on paper the life and spirit of the entire school, and the goal towards which the entire staff worked long and tirelessly has been reached.

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Hand. From our own state of New Jersey, Phi Delta Phi may boast of such men as Senator H. Alexander Smith, Attorney General Robert Parsons, Chief Justice Arthur T. Vanderhardt, and Justices Weeksfield and Heber of the present Supreme Court. It is also noteworthy that the twins of over 50 law schools are also Phi Delta Phi members, including our own Dean Clapp.

Bocoke Inn, the Rutgers chapter of this great legal fraternity, was granted a charter in the spring of 1950. Under the leadership of some outstanding students and present faculty advisor Professor Malcolm Talbott, the Inn has completed another most successful year, and is looking forward to even greater success in the future. During the past year the activities of the Inn have been extensive and have served to benefit both the individual members themselves and the school in general. As in the past the Inn has maintained a program of luncheons at which the Inn had the privilege of hearing many guest speakers, many of whom were outstanding members of the bench and bar. The Inn was also most fortunate in obtaining on other occasions several guest lecturers, to whose addresses the school at large was invited. The social program was well rounded out with a series of smokers and parties at which a grand time was had by all. These social meetings proved to be a most excellent medium for the exchange of ideas (legal and otherwise) and served as a foundation upon which many long and lasting friendships might be built. Yet perhaps the outstanding event of the year was the Annual Banquet and Initiation which in keeping with the Inn's highest traditions was a most delightful and impressive ceremony.

In short, Phi Delta Phi is a fraternity in which all members take great pride and one which has done much to instill in its members a sense of justice, scholarship and brotherhood.

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AL: Don't you think that these fraternity boys are taking things too seriously?
King's Bench

by
Calvin J. Hurd

"Consonant with the most liberal spirit of brotherhood in the achievement of our purpose, we further agree that this organization shall at all times during the term of its existence maintain an attitude of liberality..."

From the Preamble to The King's Bench Constitution

For King's Bench, "fraternity," at professional level delineates areas of action that encompass a range of undertakings from those of gross-touching informalities to war veterans' rehabilitation programs that would meet every Samaritan requirement. Yet, we do not, as a consequence, find ourselves in any quandary of hopelessly diffuse activity in which is lost the central purpose of fraternity; for our endeavors describe a pattern of activities not alien to the lawyer but as much a part of his ornamen as is in his shield of integrity wrapped in suspicion, and as broad as the community life to which legal training is preliminary.

A view of the membership of the fraternity tells its own story of our acceptance of the equalitarian principle. This principle, which has as firm a ground in American life as organic law can make possible, was translated from the beginning, by mandate of by-law, into practice. So scrupulously protected is it that neither members nor prospective members, by deed or hypothesis, may transgress it. And we have citizenship in the community of lawyers. The contributions of greatness that particular members of the bench and bar make to the profession are brought by our vision into perceptible range. To them we give the symbols of unity of purpose—The Fraternity Plaque of Honor and honorary membership in the fraternity.

With no less breadth of view do we seek and achieve representative acquaintance with our brother-students of the law. Exemplary in this respect has been our recent introduction to the student body of Rutgers Law School of the librarian of Gray's Inn, forebears of the four Inns of Court of England, whose lectures are inestimably valued for the mutual interest they create between law students of both nations.

These things, we say, fall within the compass of "fraternity." Some voices are heard to cry out earnestly that this concept of purpose goes beyond functional necessity, that it is not in accord with the traditional role of a fraternity. We respond with equal conviction that for us it is the "categorical imperative" of brotherhood.

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Delta Theta Phi

by Preston Mulford

Pitney Senate, one of eighty-four student senates of Delta Theta Phi, national legal fraternity, has continued to advance forward the basic precepts of the fraternity at Rutgers Law School. Its major goal has been to unite interuniversity congenial students of the law and to inspire in all students respect for the noblest qualities of mankind.

It has been the tradition of Pitney Senate to invite prominent men of the bar and bench to attend our meetings to address the members and pledges. This year we were fortunate in having with us Mr. Timothy Smith, District Chancellor of New York, and Professor Wex S. Malone, outstanding authority in the field of Torts and Workmen's Compensation and Visiting Professor at Rutgers University Law School.

Pitney Senate's social events have in the past been so successful that they are now to be looked forward to by members and alumni alike. Foremost among these events is the annual cocktail party in New York City, held in connection with our brother senates located there. Another event which has become a tradition is the annual Christmas Party held at Brother Gardner Miller's home, attended by many alumni, students and faculty members.

The Senate is indeed fortunate in having a strong support in the alumni, many of whom are practicing attorneys who attend our meetings twice a month and give us valuable assistance in preparation for the Bar. The alumni members have adopted a policy of donating their used case and text books to the Senate, so that now we boast about a very fine library.

Pitney Senate looks forward to continue and advance the ideals that distinguish Delta Theta Phi as a national professional fraternity.

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Clerkship

by R. Robinson Chance, Jr.

Those of us who contemplated practice in the State of New Jersey were soon to discover that one of the prequisites to admission to the Bar was the serving of a nine-month clerkship. Although New Jersey is one of the few states which require such a period of training in addition to the formal law school course, the wisdom of such requirement is beyond dispute. In reality, such preliminary requirement is basically a true benefit to both the citizenry of the state and to the prospective lawyer himself. Its primary purpose is to reasonably assure that those admitted to the Bar shall be, in some degree, acquainted with the responsibilities by which they shall be confronted and hence more able to promote the interests of justice. Through our scholastic training may have been, still there are vast areas of legal practice which no amount of academic training will serve to simplify. The whole framework of the practice of law is so complex that even the most able of us can not possibly hope to discover all its intricacies through the reading of books or attendance at lectures. Only through experience are many of the most basic lessons of law practice to be learned; only by actually doing, can certain tasks be truly mastered.

The Supreme Court, mindful of a need for a period of transition from the classroom to the courtroom, has prescribed an elaborate system of clerkship. The majority of the class of 1953 will have completed only a segment of this clerkship prior to graduation and will still be looking forward to several months at the office of some preceptor. Yet almost without exception, those of us who have served a portion of our clerkships will bear witness to the merit of the program, and to the steadfast and cooperative manner in which our preceptors have given of their time and patience.

We trust that these clerkship boys have been justified, and we are confident that we shall be better suited to cope with those legal problems as a result of having been introduced with these learned men.

Perhaps we were a bit disconcerted when on our first day our preceptors intimated and informed us that we would soon begin to learn the law. By the end of the first week we well knew what they had meant. Those first few days of clerkship brought to light more problems than we could have imagined possible. We began to realize that clients and stenographers could be, at times, creatures most complex, who must be handled in a most diplomatic manner. We began to understand the importance of adequate files and records.

We also began to comprehend the virtues of compromise and the merit of setting claims out of court.

In short, we learned many things by actually performing certain tasks and drawing various instruments, while being supervised by the watchful eyes of expert lawyers. In many ways we were exposed to the benefits of our preceptors' many years of experience. We would discuss with them and turned over the various problems and how they had resolved previous problems. But above all, we had the opportunity to observe how they had attained their present position, and we were enabled to estimate how many things we must do if we are to be an equal credit to the legal profession.

We of the senior class would be doing far less than our duty if we failed not to take this opportunity to pay tribute to those preceptors who have helped to raise our general level of legal culture and have helped to speed us toward our ultimate goals in the legal profession.
THE BAR EXAMINERS

Did you enjoy marking the papers?

Did many pass?

How did the boys do?

Are the questions easy?

Members of the Bar.

Oh, that Bar meeting was sure tough.

We've racked our brains a poem to End
That would seem apropos
And from the works of Edgar Guest
We found that one below.

Hold fast! Work hard!
Be strong! Be true!
The Future holds
A place for you.

OBITER

Final competition.

 Held so the man in the shabby jacket.

DICTA

Bobby assay.

Vincent's little helper.

Seminar in accounting.

"Don't crawlfoot with me."

What, no scotch?

Digger O'Neill makes merry.