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Cold Draft Winds Hit Law Students

by Anthony M. Matalley

Due to recent legislation, Federal Aid to Education will be felt at Fordham Law School during the next few months in three ways. The student-faculty ratio will inevitably continue to improve. Sodally minded scholars will be pressured to leave, and for those first-year students finishing exams seven months hence, may find a close-to-even chance of making Law Review. These happy projections stem from the fact that for many of us, "look to the right, look to the left" will soon be magically transformed into "left, right, left," and "dress-right, dress." Dean Hanlon estimates draft attrition in the first-year class to reach 40% by May. All students, albeit not equally, are being seriously threatened by Selective Service.

II-S to I-A

Although third-year students will not have their legal education interrupted by the draft, they will become prime military targets upon graduation due to their age. First- and second-year students are already primed I-A, their II-S classifications having expired June 30, 1968. Many of us have either had our physicals, or have had notice of an impending one and have initiated a desperate delaying action by means of appeals. The future does not look promising, if the past is any indication.

The entering class of 1967, the present freshmen, started on their four-year course without the usual teacher. This move, along with the formation of the student-faculty committee, has now finally come into line with this procedure and have found the organiza-

tion at Fordham

This year's freshman class was again subjected to the annual orientation program. The agenda carried some elements of every orientation program but it also introduced some ideas new to Fordham. Marc Grossman and John Costantino, second-year students, were the co-chairmen of the activity, They were assisted by Professors Del Colliano, John Costantino, and Martha Coleman. The program began with a talk by S.B.A. President John LaSalle. LaSalle welcomed the class with "I by speaking generally of life at Fordham Law and pointing out the need for first-year students to participate in the needs of a developing law school."


Dean Speaks

Dean William Hughes Mulligan then addressed the assembly. The Dean, who in past years has been critical for placing too much emphasis on the need for all new students to "dress up" to any past occasion, will avoid late running ahead of the soon-to-be-sack" group. Character Committee of the New York Bar, acquired the students of this event.

However, the Dean did depart from previous orientation speeches when he pointed out that he recognized that not all law students are interested in working for large law firms, but rather that many might want to use the law for less lucrative but more noble purposes. In either case, Dean Mulligan pointed out, hard work in law school is the best preparation for Party Wall or Community Action.

Professor Joseph Crowley, who besides being on the faculty is a member of the Governor's Committee on Labor Relations, with a striking similarity to his favorite was as well received as it was well delivered. He focused on the failure of the law profession to respond to the constantly changing needs of society. Professor Crowley indicted the legal world for protecting concepts which should have been destroyed and for not promoting any new ones.

The rhetoric finished, the program got down to introducing the students to the law school and the law. This was first done by meeting the entire third-year classmen, Roy Cohn, Albert Shanker and others are among those who will be invited. Students interested in working on the Forum should have their names in the S.B.A. office or speak to one of the members at a regular Law Forum program.

Freshmen Hear Truth

Following lunch, the first-year class was broken down into small sections for informal discussions with upperclassmen. At these sessions the real Fordham was discussed by those who know it first-hand, the experienced student. Here such questions were discussed as dress regulations, eating establishments in the area, the amount of study time necessary, the pros and cons of "canoned" briefs and the relative merits of the S.B.A. The students seemed genuinely interested in these small participatory sessions.

The students then reassembled in the Moot Court Room to witness an appellate moot court argument. This case seemed to battle some despite the orientation committee's diligence in handing out the fact pattern and applicable law. Yet the arguments were sincere. Professors John Sweeney and Dean McGrath, inclusive and the legal milieu was excellent.

The program was topped off by a tear party where the cold brew was in super abundance and the conversation was spirited.

It was a good orientation program as orientation programs go. It has been suggested that orientation programs are schmalzbein and ineffective for college graduates. As with any program started by any one in any corporation, there is always some criticism. However, as Isaac D'Isreali once stated, "The defects of noble attempts are the condamnation of the clowns."

Student Bar Meeting Stirs Controversy Over Change

The Student Bar Association meeting of the year opened with the announcement by President John LaSalle that a student-faculty committee has been formed to advise the Law School on administrative and academic problems. The exact scope and power of the committee is undetermined, but theoretically they will examine as varied as curriculum changes and attendance regulations.

President LaSalle picked seven students to serve on the committee (one first-year student will be added after the election) and they were approved by the S.B.A. Mike Richter, President of 2-A, and John Costantino, President of 2-B, both strongly objected to their selection. They proposed such representation of each individual section and popular elections of the representatives.

Students Selected

As the committee presently stands there are four first-year students, one second-year student, one third-year student and two night students on it. The objection to Equal representation of each individual section and popular elections of the representatives.

The S.B.A. has always advocated for the inclusion of more representatives from the student body, and a student from each section and from a representative from the general body of the student body.

Jackets Gone

The S.B.A. also announced that the Law School has dropped the requirement of jackets and ties for entering freshmen, second-year students, and third-year students. Although the S.B.A. would like this to continue it is understood that the decision will be made by the S.B.A. Academic Planning Committee.

The four faculty members of the committee are Professor Crowley, chairman, Prof. Quin, Prof. Byrn, and Prof. McLaughlin.

Plans Revision

A proposal to revise the S.B.A. Constitution so as to have its four officers elected by the entire student body was tabled until the class officers have a chance to find out what the changes are.

Secretary-Treasurer Mike Richter, a senior business major, was skeptical. He also said that the changes are "not too bad but I hope the voting is done by the S.B.A. Academic Planning Committee."

The official policy on dress has now finally come into line with the current practice of student and professors.