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A New Home for the Law School

The approach of the golden jubilee of our School of Law brings with it a golden opportunity for you to increase your stature in the legal profession by helping to add to the prestige of the School of which you are a graduate! The finer your School, the higher regard your colleagues from other universities will have for you. Fordham Law graduates have long been able to point with pride to splendid courses, a talented faculty, an array of alumni who have rendered distinguished service at the bar, on the bench and in civic affairs. Now, a much-needed new home for the Law School that will win the admiration of all who view it is their goal for 1955, the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of The Fordham University School of Law. With God's grace the new home may house the first Graduate Law School in Fordham's history.

At the Law Alumni Luncheon last Spring, the President of the University, Rev. Laurence J. McGinley, S.J., announced that larger and better facilities for the Law School were of paramount importance in the planning for the Ten Year Development Program. The University, in July, established campaign offices at 170 Broadway, and an enthusiastic Law Alumni steering committee has been holding frequent meetings there under the direction of Edward B. Schulkind, the energetic President of the Law Alumni. Present at the meetings was Dean John F. X. Finn, who wrote you very recently asking your counsel on several points of vital interest to the Law School.

A recent survey shows that alumni of our School of Law include seven Federal judges, fourteen State Supreme Court justices, the late Chief Judge and the present Senior Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals, three Appellate Division justices, a former Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court, judges now sitting in the Courts of Special and General Sessions in New York City, three Surrogates, many U. S. district attorneys and other prosecuting officers, magistrates, the present Corporation Counsel of New York City, several of his ablest predecessors, and other leading figures of the Bench and Bar.

They also include the Special Counsel to the President of the United States, numerous members of the national and state legislative bodies, the present New York City police commissioner, executives of leading corporations, and many other outstanding figures in civic, professional and commercial life. We think you will agree that a School with such a record will serve the community most effectively if it is adequately housed and staffed.

Much of this record has been accomplished in the face of an increasing problem—the difficulty of providing space and facilities commensurate with the growth of the School. Today, with the enrollment pressing close to 700 in five crowded top floors of an adapted 15-story office building, there is even less elbow-room for students and faculty than there was in 1943, when the School found it necessary to move from the Woolworth Building to its present location.

The advantages of a central location in downtown or mid-town Manhattan, in close proximity to the pulse of professional practice and easily reachable from the commuting areas, are still primary in the University’s planning. But real estate comes high in a city where virtually the only remaining room for expansion is vertical.

Fordham seeks no luxuries for its Law School or for any of its other downtown units. It does seek to provide the growing-room and equipment that will enable these downtown schools to meet the demands and opportunities pressing upon them.

Within the next ten years, according to reliable estimates and present indications, the 2,150,000 students presently enrolled in the nation’s colleges and universities will have increased to at least 4,000,000. Fordham must be prepared to assume its share of this responsibility.

The University is asking donors, large and small, every alumnus and alumna, every friend and well-wisher of Fordham, along with leaders of public-spirited corporations and foundations, to enlist in a concerted fund-raising effort to enable the University, over a ten-year period, to enlarge and streamline nearly all its existing facilities. Its Law School should have a capacity of 1,000, instead of 700, as at present.

A brief outline of Law School needs follows:

Classrooms.—In the 1953-54 academic year, 641 Law School students were crowded into five classrooms. On the basis of anticipated growth over the next ten years, the need is for eight classrooms seating a total of 1,000 students. Several small seminar rooms are also needed.

Library.—The present Law Library, with 26,000 volumes, is crammed to capacity. Space should be provided for 150,000 volumes. The librarian’s office should be enlarged. Space should be provided for an assistant librarian, for a suitable reference room for faculty members and for dictating rooms for alumni users of the Library.

Faculty Offices.—Ten offices are needed to replace the seven inadequate ones now available, to meet the requirement of the Association of American Law Schools for a separate office for each full-time faculty member.

Administration.—The floor space of the offices of the Dean, Assistant Dean, Registrar and secretaries should be increased.

Student Services.—Eight large recreation rooms, attractively furnished, are needed to replace the two small, poorly-lighted rooms presently in use.
Moot Courts.—At present, only a small classroom is available for this purpose and then only when not otherwise occupied. Two specifically-designed courtrooms, one trial, one appellate, would overcome this handicap and afford an outlet for the energies of the students of Public Speaking and of the members of the Fordham Student Bar Association, which has just been organized.

Assembly Rooms.—At present the Law School has no assembly room. The small office of the Dean has to serve this purpose, supplemented by temporary rental of the Main Auditorium of the New York County Lawyers Association. An auditorium seating about 1,000 is greatly needed. Because the County Lawyers’ Auditorium will not accommodate over 300, this year’s Dean’s Assembly, designed to have all the students meet each other with their teachers, will have to be held in three separate sessions.

We invite you to help the University in meeting these requirements. We believe you will consider it a privilege to be identified with the development of a finer Fordham Law School—one that will rank with the best in America in every way. Details as to how you can make your contribution most effective will be supplied upon request. Or one of our Committee Workers will be glad to help you specify your support in terms of enduring service and lasting personal satisfaction.

The President’s Corner

Fordham is one of the largest and most influential universities in the world. It has served the community by affording an opportunity to persons of every denomination to obtain the benefit of an education whose end is the development of a complete and stable person.

For value received, each alumnus and alumna, and in fact the community as a whole, owes a debt to Fordham. That debt may now be repaid, at least in part, by loyal and generous participation in the University’s Ten Year Development Program.

Phase One of the Plan contemplates, on a priority basis, the enlargement and modernization of the Law School and other downtown units of the University. The present Law School enrollment of approximately 700 students will tax present accommodations at 302 Broadway to the utmost limit. Actually less space is available there now than was occupied by 220 students when the Law School moved to that location from the Woolworth Building eleven years ago. How much longer can we afford to turn away worthy young men and women, many of whose applications have had to be rejected for sheer lack of classroom space and other facilities?

Another priority item is the proposed erection of a new Student and Faculty Building to replace present inadequate quarters on the uptown campus. Later phases will be devoted to a general strengthening of the University’s financial position in the light of accelerating growth and rising costs.

The alumni, alumnae and other friends of Fordham may help to meet these problems, not only by making substantial contributions in accordance with their means, but also by bringing a professional or social friend to our alumni activities so that such friends too may learn the Fordham story.

Our University is entitled to nothing less than the whole-hearted support of its sons and daughters and of the community for its services over a period of more than a century. Come and bring a friend so that Fordham may grow in ever-increasing confidence and strength!

Edward B. Schulkind, ’14.
Professor John F. X. Finn Appointed Dean
Professor William H. Mulligan, Assistant Dean

The Law School Alumni Association is happy to report the recent appointment by Rev. Laurence J. McGinley, S.J., President of Fordham University, of a Dean and Assistant Dean of the Law School.

Professor Finn succeeds the late Ignatius M. Wilkinson, who had been Dean for thirty years prior to his death on June 22nd of last year, since which time Professor George W. Bacon had ably carried on as Acting Dean.

Dean Finn is a native of New York City and received his A.B. Degree from the College of the City of New York in 1920, and his LL.B. from Fordham Law School in 1923—in both instances summa cum laude. He was admitted to the Bar in 1924. He was an Instructor at C. C. N. Y. from 1919 to 1923 and on the faculty of Fordham Law School since 1924 with the rank of Full Professor since 1948, and he was a Special Lecturer at Yale Law School from 1950 to 1952.

Dean Finn has, since his admission to the Bar, been engaged in actual practice, having specialized in trial and appellate work in the courts in New York, and in the Federal Courts as well as before various Administrative bodies. Dean Finn has also had extensive experience in commerce and industry, having been the sole trustee of the Childs Company in connection with its reorganization, and has served as Impartial Chairman of the New York Set-Up Paper Box Industry. He is a member of the local, State and National Bar Associations and has been active in Bar Association matters and has been a member of the Law Revision Commission of the State of New York. He has also been the author of a number of authoritative text books on contracts, practice and procedure, and has contributed many articles to Law Reviews and other legal periodicals.

Dean Finn has endeared himself to the countless students in the courses conducted by him at the Law School and has earned the universal respect and admiration of Bench and Bar, and the public. His appointment as Dean will enhance the fine reputation and eminence of Fordham Law School as one of the outstanding schools in the country.

Because of the vast experience of Dean Finn with students, courts, the legal profession and the general public, it is anticipated that his familiarity with the problems of students and practicing attorneys must benefit all concerned, and that the Law School will continue and even improve its superb record in the preparation of students for their professional or business careers upon graduation.

Dean Finn has been active in the affairs of the Alumni Association and is counted upon to assist the Association in all its undertakings. The Association rejoices in his appointment and pledges Dean Finn its utmost cooperation.

Professor Mulligan, the new Assistant Dean, is also a native New Yorker and received his A.B. Degree from Fordham College in 1939 and his LL.B. Degree from the Law School in 1942, both cum laude. He has been a member of the Law School faculty since 1946 and has been Associate Professor since 1953. Assistant Dean Mulligan is well equipped for his new task and will bring credit to the Law School and the Alumni Association, which needlessly to say pledges him its full support.
Law School Notes

Professor George W. Bacon has been appointed for a three year term to the Committee on Uniform State Laws of the Association of the Bar of the City. Professor Bacon has already testified as a witness in hearings held at the Bar Association in connection with the enactment of the controversial Uniform Commercial Code which promises to have a sweeping effect on the commercial law of the country.

Professor Edmond Borgia Butler has similarly so testified in his capacity as Chairman of the New York State Bar Association’s Committee to Cooperate with the Law Revision Commission.


A first year student topped students from Cornell, St. Johns, Brooklyn, N. Y. U. and New York Law Schools in the annual Law School Essay Contest conducted by the Committee on American Citizenship of the New York State Bar Association. He is William A. Rowan, a graduate of the College, a veteran pilot with the Air Force in Korea and with the Marine Corps in World War II.

Two new additions to the faculty have been made for the coming school year.


Rumor has it that the Law faculty has under consideration a required course in Public Speaking for each senior. This would feature opening to a jury, arguing a motion, arguing an appeal, summing up to a jury, and an address to a corporate Board of Directors.

At the June Commencement exercises, the following honors were awarded:

Alumni Association Medal for excellence in constitutional law—Harold F. Abbundi and James J. Grifferty, ex aequo.

Chapin Prize for the highest weighted average in studies throughout the full course in the school—Samuel M. Rosenbloom.

Class prize of $50.00 for the highest average in studies through the year—Samuel M. Rosenbloom, Joseph T. Ryan and James J. Grifferty.

Class of 1911 Prize for the best essay by a senior on a subject designated by the dean—Victor Coccozziello.

Frances Thaddeus Wolff Prize of $50.00 for students representing the Law School at the National Moot Court Competition and the Inter-Law School Appellate Court Competition—Allen E. Harris, Richard V. Kearney, Joseph T. Ryan, Vincent F. DeCain, John F. Keenan and Thomas Short.

Baker-Voorhis Prize for the highest grade in New York Practice—Irwin P. Underweiser.

In the Moot Court competition at Washington, the Fordham team defeated the University of Virginia in the first round but unfortunately lost to Catholic University in the final round.

Alumni Activities

The Committee on Placement, under the chairmanship of John R. Brook, ’31, has met and formulated a program of action. The program consists of funneling through the chairman’s office at 15 Broad Street, Manhattan, valuable information concerning possible opportunities or openings. This information is then passed on to every other member of the committee so that there is kept by each committee member a complete list of both applicants and opportunities which he individually seeks to reconcile. In addition to this the committee as a whole, and each of its members, hold themselves in readiness to counsel with graduates and undergraduates at all times.

An information sheet has been prepared which will be distributed to all members of the senior Law School class early in the year, and from this the Placement Committee will compile a list of applicants and their qualifications and attempt throughout the year to guide them into placement opportunities.

The authorities of the University through Rev. Victor R. Yanitelli, S.J., have been extremely helpful in guiding the Association in this problem. A movement has been gotten under way that will be extremely helpful to the individual graduate and to the prestige of the Law School in the city, both before bar and bench.


The appointment of five new directors of the Alumni Association has been announced by the President. They are: Sylvester J. Ryan, ’17, Judge of the U. S. District Court for the Southern District; Andrew B. Shea, ’24, president of Pan American-Grace Airways; Louis Stein, ’26, president of Food Fair Stores, Inc.; Edward V. Ryan, ’31, and Evelyn B. King, ’39.

Edward V. Ryan is busily engaged as Committee Chairman on Alumni Activities in New Jersey, which should prove to be a fertile ground for Association growth.

Last season’s Monthly Luncheons held at Miller’s Restaurant continued to be the successes they were from October to December, through the balance of the luncheons. The Association’s guests of honor for the five month period of January through May were: J. Edward Lumbard, U. S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York; Edward S. Dore, ’20, Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department; David W. Peck, Presiding Justice of the same court; Stanley Fuld, Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals; Vincent L. Leibell, ’03, Judge of the U. S. District Court for the Southern District.

For the coming season Judge Ryan will continue as Chairman of the Committee on Monthly Luncheons. His able Vice-Chairman will be Albert M. Gross, ’34, Chief of Legal Department, North Atlantic Division, U. S. A. Engineers. The luncheons will continue to take place on the first Tuesday of each month.
Tickets can be requested in advance by contacting Helene Pichele at CO 7-7100 or Mary Long, of the Law School, at BA 7-1365.

Marjorie A. Quinn, '43, has assumed an important task as Chairman of the Membership Committee. One of the long standing problems of the Association has been the financing of its activities. In the past this has entailed deficit financing, borne by a small group of selfless and nameless alumni.

The board of directors of the Association has now authorized the levying of annual dues in the nominal sum of $3.00 per member. With the co-operation of each individual alumnuis, we hope to relegate our acute financial stress to the realm of oblivion. In addition to other duties, the job of levying execution will fall upon the charming Miss Quinn and her committee.

The Class of 1929, morning division, held its reunion at the Astor Hotel on May 10. The Surrogate of Montgomery County, John F. Bennison, was the guest speaker. It was resolved that hereafter the class will hold an annual reunion, to fit in with the Association’s expanding Class Reunion program.

On June 9th, the Class of 1914 held its Fortieth Annual Reunion at Luchow’s Restaurant. June 9th marked the exact day, forty years ago, when the celebrated Class of 1914 held commencement exercises. President of the Class is Supreme Court Justice Benedict D. Dineen. Permanent Secretary of the Class for the past forty years has been Edward B. Schullkind, President of the Association.

On June 10th, the Law Review Association held its Annual Dinner at the Shelton Hotel. Reverend Vincent J. Hart, S.J., Appellate Division Justice Charles E. Murphy and President Edward B. Schullkind attended as guests of the Association.

The evening class of 1948 continued its unbroken skein of Annual Reunions at Victor’s Restaurant, on May 27th. Dean Finn, Assistant Dean Mulligan, Joseph A. Doran and Lloyd Howell were the faculty guests.

The Tortfeasor’s Club of the Law School Class of 1925, evening division, held its Annual Reunion at Cavanagh’s Restaurant on June 8. The guest of honor was City Court Justice Louis J. Lefkowitz, ’25.

Class of 1932, Bronx Division, held its Annual Reunion on May 17th, at the Hotel Plaza. Chairman of the dinner was Anthony J. Fiorella. The speakers were Dean Finn, Lloyd Paul Stryker, author of “The Art of Advocacy” and Edward B. Schullkind.

The Association’s tradition of an annual Christmas cocktail party will continue this year at the New York A. C., on December 14th at 5:00 P. M. Those who were present last year need not be admonished to arrive early this year. Miles F. McDonald, ’29, Justice of the Supreme Court will serve as Chairman of the Committee. Co-Vice-Chairmen are Louis J. Capozzoli, ’22, Judge of the Court of General Sessions and Alfred J. Hoffmann, ’21, County Court Judge. The Reception Committee will be headed by Marion Guilfoyle, ’45. Her co-Vice-Chairmen will be Moira P. McDermott, ’48, and Grace Marchese, ’51.

Osborne A. McKegney, ’25, heads a Committee whose function will be to integrate the annual meeting of the State Bar with a luncheon reception to be tendered to Fordham alumni attending the meeting. Fordham will thereby join the ranks of numerous other outstanding law schools that have made the luncheon receptions traditional.

Detailed information will be forthcoming well in advance of the event.

Judge Edward J. McCullen and his Committee on Lectures are busy laying plans for the coming season. The result will be a series of interesting and informative meetings, designed to further the professional interests of the alumni. Efforts are being made to obtain outstanding members of the bench and bar to participate in the series.

The Annual Luncheon of 1954
The luncheon of February 27th at the Hotel Biltmore taxed the accommodations when over 1,200 alumni attended.

Andrew B. Shea was the recipient of the Fordham Law Alumni Medal of Achievement.

Andrew Bernard Shea is an alumnus of the Law School, class of 1924, and was admitted to the Bar the following year. In 1928 he joined the legal department of W. R. Grace & Co. He was appointed manager of the import trading departments of the firm in 1936 and continued in that position until 1939. During that period he supervised sugar, textile and other industrial interests of the firm in Lima, Peru. In 1939 he was elected a vice-president of the company and returned to the United States. In 1946 he was made a director of the firm and in 1950 was promoted to first vice-president, a position he now holds. While in Peru he was active in the management of Pan American-Grace Airways. In 1947 he became a director of Panagra, and in 1949 was elected to its presidency.

Mr. Shea resides at Riverdale, New York. He is a member of the Peruvian-American, Colombian-American, Ecuadorian-American and Argentine-American Associations, and of the Pan American Society of the United States. In 1951 he received from the President of Ecuador the Order of Merit, a decoration usually reserved for ministers of state.

The guest speaker was the Hon. Ralph H. Demmler, Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission whose topic was “SEC—What’s Going On”.

The class of ’29 was honored as the Silver Jubilee Class.


Coming Events
We are pleased to announce that this year’s Annual Luncheon has been scheduled for February 19, 1955, in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria. It is a certainty that under the able direction of Christopher C. McGrath, ’24, Surrogate of Bronx County, the Committee will surpass its singular accomplishments of last year. Remember the date. Don’t be shut out this year, which happened in 1954 to so many of the alumni who were tardy in making reservations.
Necrological

Reverend Francis P. Le Buffe, S.J., 68, Jesuit author, philosopher and a former regent of the Law School. He was regional secretary for the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Thomas F. Hennessy, '25, a former member of the faculty, died on May 18. He is survived by his wife, four sons and two daughters.

Michael F. Dee, assistant dean of the Law School from 1908 to 1923, died on December 30th at his home in Grand View, N.Y., in his 79th year. At the time of his death Mr. Dee was associated with the firm of MacIntyre, Burke & Downey, 32 Broadway.

As a professor at the Law School, Mr. Dee specialized in real property, equity and trusts while carrying out also the work of the dean's office. Two brothers survive.

Supreme Court Justice Kenneth O'Brien, '22, who served almost 20 years on the bench, died on January 19th at the age of 58, at Memorial Hospital. He was the son of the late Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department, Morgan J. O'Brien.

Mr. Justice O'Brien was graduated from Yale in 1917, and served with the A. E. F. in France as a captain and battery commander in the 306th Field Artillery, 77th Division. He was president of the 77th Division Association after the war. He joined the firm of O'Brien, Boardman, Conboy, Memhard & Early in 1926. He was a member of the Yale and Lawyer's Clubs and of the American Bar Association, the Bar Association of the City, the County Lawyers Association and the New York Bar Association.

Frederick L. Kane, sixty-six, professor of law at the Law School where he had taught for thirty-five years before retiring about five years ago died March 13th at his home, 139 East 79th Street.

Born in Lynn, Mass., Professor Kane was graduated from Holy Cross College and Fordham Law School, '13. He received an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Holy Cross in 1935. He practiced law until his death.

Professor Kane was counsel for the Catholic Home Bureau of the Archdiocese of New York and was active for many years in the work of Catholic Charities. He was a member of the University Club, the Metropolitan Opera Club, of which he was former president, the Sands Point Golf Club, the New York State Bar Association and the Association of the Bar of the City, the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick, and the Knights of Malta. His wife, three daughters and a son survive him.

Peter A. McCabe, sixty-six, partner in the firm of McCabe, Lee & Meagher, 66 Court Street, Brooklyn, died March 29 at St. Peter's Hospital, Brooklyn. He was chairman of the Board of the Brooklyn Federal Savings & Loan Association. Mr. McCabe was class of '13.

Mr. McCabe served as United States Attorney, Eastern District of New York, during President Wilson's administration. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, St. Patrick's Society of Brooklyn and the Emerald Association. His wife, three sons and a daughter survive him.

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