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Law School News

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LAW SCHOOL NEWS

The academic year 1948-1949 opened with the largest student enrollment in the history of the University of North Dakota School of Law and making the year notable for large classes and keen competition. The enrollment by classes for the first semester is as follows: First year 95, second year 43 and third year 48, and one special law student, who had completed his legal education and secured his law degree several years ago, making a total of 187. This enrollment is not excessive in comparison to the number enrolled in other law schools located in states similar in size and population as North Dakota. In 1946 there were 38,284 students enrolled in law schools in the United States. In 1947 there were 51,688 and in 1948 there are 56,914 law students enrolled. Throughout the United States, lawyers who are products of law school education have made good in that they have succeeded in selling their services to the public. The opportunity to study law should be limited to those who are better qualified. By 1950, three years of acceptable college work will be required for entrance to the School of Law. Pre-law students should have training in accounting, money and banking, the economics of corporation finance, public finance, insurance and taxation as a background for the study of law. During normal years, not more than thirty-five per cent of the law graduates actually engage in the practice of law. The majority of the graduates either enter private business or engage in special vocations. A large number of law graduates are in government service. From September 1926 to September 1948, 337 graduates of the law school have passed the bar examination either in this state or in other states. Only 112 of this group are practicing law in the state of North Dakota. Over a period of twenty-two years, only thirty-three per cent of the law graduates entered private law practice in North Dakota. Even though all graduates have plans to take the bar examination and be admitted to the Bar, the majority of them will not practice law. There is no need to fear that the Bar will be overcrowded.

For the second semester, Attorneys Philip R. Bangs, Harold D. Shaft and Arthur W. Stokes will supervise the course in Practice Court, where students are required to prepare and try cases involving issues of law and fact. Actual controver-

sies are arranged which are carried out to conclusion in respects as in trials of litigated cases in the North Dakota state courts. Students are required to prepare the necessary pleadings, motions and briefs and to argue the cases orally.

The Corliss Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity and the Bruce Inn of Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity have with credit, continued their sponsorship of regular bi-monthly programs, wherein the members are securing training and experiences which will be of special help to them in local, district and state bar association activities. The officers of the Corliss Chapter are: Justice, Donald R. Hansen of Fargo; Vice Justice, James Leahy of Fargo; Clerk, Aloysius Hackenburg of Williston and Treasurer, Francis Foughty of East Grand Forks, Minnesota. Bruce Inn has the following officers: Magister, William Gehrke of Ambrose; Exchequer, Dudley W. Butts of Jamestown; Clerk, Vernon Pederson of Minot and Historian, Donald Flint of Park River.

Under the guidance of Professor Richard C. Maxwell, a Student Editorial Staff has been created for the purpose of encouraging legal writing by the law students for the North Dakota Bar Briefs. The Editorial Staff is composed of the following students: Editor in Chief, James Leahy of Fargo; Associate Editor, Dudley W. Butts of Jamestown; Members of Editorial Board, Francis Foughty of East Grand Forks, Minnesota, Clair M. Ghylin of Regan, Ernst N. Paul of Grand Forks and Miss Elizabeth A. Kelly of Hillsboro. Opportunities are given all second and third year law students to qualify for membership on the Editorial Staff.

Dean O. H. Thormodsgard.