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Hastings College of the Law Alumni Association

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HASTINGS *Alumni Bulletin*

Published by Hastings College of the Law Alumni Association

VOL. 6

NOVEMBER, 1956

NO. 2

President's Message

One of the finest gestures ever made by our Alumni Association occurred at the annual meeting on September 20, when it was decided to establish at the College a Robert Harrison Professorship, as provided by Section 20151 of the Education Code. I say "gesture" because, after all, that is what it is, until such time as \$30,000 shall have been delivered to the Directors of Hastings College of the Law.

Robert W. Harrison was an instructor at Hastings from 1901 to 1947—a period of 46 years. The thought behind this resolution is that our members will thus have an opportunity to pay tribute to a beloved instructor and friend, and also give thanks in a material way to our alma mater. Raising this fund and establishing this professorship should also help strengthen our Association. Ours is the oldest law college in the west, and it has among its alumni the largest percentage of active members of the bench and bar. This effort on the part of the alumni should make each of us even more proud of the fact that we are graduates of this great law college.

I have appointed Max Margolis '32, of San Francisco, chairman of the committee to solicit our members and friends for contributions to this fund. He will be assisted by Robert M. Davis '37, of Oakland; Max K. Jamison '45, of Los Angeles; William C. Sanford '43, of Reno; Honorable Lenore D. Underwood '32, of San Francisco; and the class secretaries. You already have received a letter from the committee, requesting contributions to this fund. There are approximately 2,100 members of the Hastings College of the Law Alumni Association. There should be no difficulty in raising this fund from our members and friends. I feel certain that most of us—and particularly those who had the privilege of sitting at the feet of "Bob" Harrison—will welcome this opportunity to express in a material way the high regard we have for the man who devoted so many years to instructing in the law at Hastings and who contributed so much in making ours an outstanding law college.

Faternally yours,

NATHAN B. MCVAY, '17
President

Shortage of Lawyers Reported

California's "critical shortage of lawyers" was reported by Dean David E. Snodgrass of the University of California's Hastings College of Law.

Addressing a luncheon meeting of the Nevada State Bar convention at Winnemucca, Nevada, Dean Snodgrass said the legal profession has failed to keep pace with the enormous population growth of California. At the present time, he said, there are fewer than 18,000 lawyers in California, compared to 29,911 licensed physicians and surgeons.

One law school in San Francisco, he said, has a list of 141 positions for which lawyers are required which it is unable to fill.

Dean Snodgrass said it is unlikely any solution to the problem will be found within the next ten years.

HASTINGS

Alumni Bulletin

Published by

HASTINGS COLLEGE OF THE LAW

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

198 McAllister Street, San Francisco 2, Calif.

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They Break the Law on 'Quitting Time'

Hastings Story Told — Say 'No' to Retirement

By MARY CRAWFORD, News Staff Writer*

San Francisco undoubtedly has the country's only Valhalla for old law professors. Men who have been bounced by retirement rules in universities all over the country.

It's the Hastings College of Law at 198 McAllister Street, a three-year-old monument to modern architecture and to its dean, David Snodgrass. He prefers new airy buildings to old ivy-covered style with no ventilation, and old professors whose minds are seasoned with the years to the young green graduate student with little or no experience.

Hastings may well be the only institution in the world with a job classification requirement: Minimum age, 65.

Part of UC

Hastings is part of the University of California, but unlike the university's other schools, including Boalt Hall, its law School in Berkeley, Hastings is not governed by the university's mandatory retirement at the age of 67.

How does Hastings get around this retirement rule?

Well, it has its own board of directors, and the board thinks compulsory retirement is hogwash. And besides there's a certain economy in Hastings' "Over 65 Club." Its faculty members draw pensions and don't ask such high salaries. And when they leave, Hastings doesn't have to pay them a pension.

How It Started

How did the "Over 65 Club" get started?

Let Dean Snodgrass, who wears a green eyeshade and bemoans the fact that he's only 62, answer the question. He came to Hastings as a part-time

teacher in 1928, full-time in 1936:

"Back in 1940 I was a happy professor of law. And on July 25, Dean William M. Simmons died.

"I became dean, and I thought I was in a grave—there was nobody around but me. I was the only full-time man left who had been there more than a year.

"I wound up asking Dean Orrin McMurray to come over to teach one of the three courses Dean Simmons had been giving. He had retired from Boalt Hall in May.

From Stanford

"And I called Arthur M. Cathcart who had been retired for two years from Stanford.

"So in that first year we had those two men teaching two courses Dean Simmons had given.

"When that year was up, I was convinced we'd do better to get men who were retired, who would work for less money than before, than get the young ones who were only in their 30's."

Then he reeled off an imposing list of famous law professors he inherited after

*Reprinted by permission of "The San Francisco News," October 10, 1956.

other law schools retired them. He continued:

"Since 1948 we have hired no one under the age of 65 except to do administrative work. The dean, the librarian, the associate dean and the director of alumni placement are under 65, but all new members of the faculty are hired at the minimum age of 65.

Enjoyable Feature

"One enjoyable feature is answering letters from people who want jobs. They might be in their 50's or early 60's, and it's somewhat of a shock to them to learn they're too young for the job."

Who's who in the faculty "club" today?

Here they are:

EVERETT FRASER, former dean at the University of Minnesota, came to Hastings in 1949. He teaches property law and is known as "The bible on property." He's 77, but when he tells people this, they sometimes quip. "Let's see your I.D. card." He could pass for 50. What does he think of compulsory retirement? He says, "I think it should be based on capacity." He lives at 2225 Ninth Avenue with his wife, Lois.

JAMES P. McBAINE, 74, came to Hastings in 1952 from the Berkeley campus, when the retirement age was 70. He teaches evidence. He commutes to work from his home at 2914 Forest Avenue, Berkeley.

JUDSON ADAMS CRANE, 72, came here in 1954 from the University of Pittsburgh, where the compulsory retirement age is 70. He teaches the same subjects here that he taught in Pennsylvania—corporations, restitution, partnership and damages. He lives with his wife, Jane, and Oscar, a cat, at 2433 Cabrillo Street.

LAWRENCE VOLD, 70, lives with his wife, Grace, at 2219 Twelfth Avenue. The Hastings fraternity notes that he is an exception. "I came here as a pledge—I was brought here at the age of 62 to teach torts. But I became a full member of the club when I was 65."

ALBERT BROOKS COX, 70, had the good fortune to come to California in 1904. He has his own law firm, was a colonel in the Army and started teaching part time at Hastings in 1946, came on the staff full time in 1951. He lives with his

wife, Mary, at 1310 Columbus Avenue, Burlingame.

What does he teach?

"I teach whatever no one else wants. This year it happens to be civil-procedure. Whenever they get an expert, I get a new course. I taught contracts until they got George Goble, and bills and notes until they got Bill Britton."

WILLIAM E. BRITTON, 69, lives at 355 Serrano Drive, with his wife, Helen. He came here in 1954 from the University of Illinois where the retirement age is 68. "I beat them to the draw by a year," he says referring to leaving one year before his compulsory retirement age. "I didn't want them breathing down my neck, so I came at 67."

H. G. PICKERING, 68, lives with his wife, Susan, and poodle, Napoleon, at 975 Lawton Street. He retired from his New York law firm in 1954. In 1954 he was a trial lawyer specializing in anti-trust cases. When he retired he took a trip and "got stopped off here."

GEORGE W. GOBLE, junior member of the crew, is only 68, a few months younger than Pickering. "Don't confuse me with the TV Gobel," he says, laughing. He just arrived a month ago, and is the neophyte of the fraternity. He spent 35 years at the University of Illinois, but was forced to retire at the age of 68. He lives with his wife, Roberta, at 328 Liberty Street.

Any new applicants for a job?

Yes, several dozen.

Returning at 70

And in January, George G. Bogert, former dean at Cornell who went to the University of Chicago and was dumped at the age of 65 because of the retirement system, is returning to Hastings. He's 70.

And in the same month Merton L. Person, who was retired because of his age in 1946 from the University of Cincinnati, is coming to the faculty. Since his "retirement" he has worked at universities all over the country—including the University of Cincinnati where he is now teaching under contract to get around the retirement system. He's 80.

"Just had an applicant today," Dean Snodgrass said, "but I had to turn him down. He was only 56."

NEWS NOTES

Allan I. Wendroff, '55, is an Administrative Advisor to the Department of Finance. His office is in the State Capitol Building, Sacramento.

* * *

Courtland Don Arne, '54, has accepted an attorney's position in the office of Paul Jackson, of the California State Automobile Association. His office is at 399 Grand Avenue, Oakland.

* * *

Destined to register at Hastings in 1976, Greg Arlen Augustine weighed into the family of Marion and Don A. Augustine, '56, at 7 lbs. 15 oz. on October 1, 1956.

* * *

William D. Began, '52, formerly attorney for the Long Beach Legal Aid Foundation, became Public Defender of that city on October 1, 1956.

* * *

William St. Cyr Cavalier, Jr., '50, is a member of the staff of United States Attorney Lloyd Burke. His office is in the Post Office Building, 7th and Mission Streets, San Francisco.

* * *

Captain Bruce T. Coggins, '49, has been transferred from the Pentagon to Schofield Barracks, on the Island of Oahu, where he is Assistant Staff Judge Advocate of the 25th Division. His mailing address is APO 25, San Francisco.

* * *

Leland Crawford has announced the association of his son, Leland M. Crawford, Jr., '53, in the practice of law at 310 Granada Building, Santa Barbara. Their office associates include Floyd C. Dodson, '52, and Timothy F. McMahon, '53.

* * *

James M. Dennis, '52, has established a law office of his own, at 680 Warren Street, Redwood City.

* * *

Frank P. Duncan, '54, is associated with Julien F. Goux, at 32 Howard Canfield Building, Santa Barbara.

* * *

John J. Dunn, x'52, is the author of an ingenious "Notice to Creditors" from which it appears that he and Geraldine A. Dunn became the parents of John Christopher Dunn on August 22, 1956. The father's law office is at 3031 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland. John Christopher will take the 4-year course at Hastings, beginning in 1976.

Stanley L. Dunn, '51, is associated with Bautzer & Grant, whose Beverly Hills law offices are thronged by motion picture actors, actresses, and producers. In the interest of all concerned, their address has been omitted.

* * *

Marvin E. Ferguson, '52, is an Assistant District Attorney of Kern County. His office is in the courthouse, Bakersfield.

* * *

Commander John Philip Gleeson, '42, after completing tours of duty at the University of Virginia and on Treasure Island, has joined the office of the J.A.G., Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C.

* * *

James V. Gregory, '54, has opened offices for the practice of law in the T. W. Patterson Building, Fresno. He is a taxation specialist as well as a general practitioner.

* * *

Earl R. Grubb, '54, is associated with Naphan & Harbaugh, Oakland attorneys. Their offices are in the First Western Bank Building.

* * *

Ruth Church Gupta, '48, San Francisco attorney, is secretary of the Central Council of Civic Clubs, as well as editor of the "Hastings Alumni Bulletin."

* * *

Walter C. Hancock, '49, became Public Defender of Stanislaus County on September 13, 1955. He is the first holder of the office in that county.

* * *

Raymond L. Hanson, '36, is a member of the American Bar Association's standing Committee on Resolutions.

* * *

Priscilla H. Haynes, '51, Stockton barrister, has been appointed as Judge of the Justice Court for the Manteca-Ripon-Escalon Judicial District. She is the first woman judge in the history of San Joaquin County!

* * *

1956-1957 officers of Blackstone Post, No. 143, American Legion, include: Ingemar E. Hoberg, '28, First Vice-Commander; David T. Hayden, '54, Chaplain; and A. Brooks Berlin, '24, Judge Advocate; Dean Snodgrass is Adjutant.

* * *

Matthew Robert Jamison, who plans to enter Hastings in 1976, was born on October 1, 1956. Weight: 6 lbs. 3 oz. His father, Max K. Jamison, '45, is a vice-president of the Hastings College of Law Alumni Association.

* * *

Emily Brawner Johnson, '51, has changed her base of operations from San Francisco to Sacramento, where she is legal examiner for the State Personnel Board, at 801 Capital Avenue. (San Francisco will never be the same again!)

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