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# CORNELL LAW QUARTERLY

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ARTHUR JOHN KEEFFE, A.B. 1924, LL.B. 1926, Cornell University. Author of various studies for the New York Law Revision Commission, including *Powers and Duties of Committees of Incompetents*, *REPORT OF THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION FOR 1940*, 335 and 365; and two as yet unpublished studies in 1941 on "Class Actions" and "Abolishing the Doctrine of Mistake of Law." Faculty Advisor, Cornell Law School Placement Com-

mittee; member, American, New York, Tompkins County, and Chemung County Bar Associations; member, New York Bar. Associate Professor of Law, Cornell University.

FRANK TAYLOR COTTER, A.B. 1939, Wesleyan University. Member of third year class, Cornell Law School.

### THE CORNELL LAW SCHOOL

The Honorable Leonard C. Crouch, who began his legal education at the Cornell Law School, and who served with distinction as Associate Justice of the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court, Fourth Department, from 1923-1932, and as Associate Judge of the New York Court of Appeals from 1932-1937, is Visiting Professor of Law this year. With his long experience in Appellate Courts as background, he is giving a series of lectures on Appellate Practice. He is also conducting a problem course, open to third year students, in Appellate Presentation. As part of this course, the student is trained to prepare briefs and present oral arguments based upon actual records now before the New York Court of Appeals. This is an experimental attempt to give the young practitioner the views of an experienced authority as to the technique of written and oral presentation before an appellate court, and thus to save him from some of the consequences of self-education by the method of trial and error.

For a number of years, the Law School has been giving problem courses in the third year requiring students to work on actual office problems in particular fields of research. The discussion has been supervised, hitherto, by members of the Faculty. This year the Law School has added a course in General Problems. The work in this course will not be confined to any one field of law, and the practicing lawyers who submit the problems will come to the Law School and conduct the discussion of the solution. It is believed that in this way the problem work can be made still more practical.

In the fall of 1940, it was recognized that something must be done to help law students meet the problems of the draft and the consequent interruption of legal education and postponement of admission to the bar. The program which the Faculty adopted has three aspects.

First, beginning in September, 1941, and continuing for the duration of the national emergency, students who have satisfactorily completed three years of work at an approved institution will be eligible to apply for admission. Formerly, the Law School required a Bachelor's degree, except in the case of students in the Senior year in the Cornell Arts College, who might double-register in Arts and Law and obtain both degrees in six years. It

was felt that, during the emergency, Cornell should permit all its students to complete their legal education in this shorter time. A study of the Law School records for past years showed that, on the whole, students admitted after three years of work, although of course they had not so complete a background as those with degrees, were fully as competent to handle law work.

Second, the regular academic year has been divided into three terms instead of two. This increases the likelihood that the student will be able to earn credit for at least part of a year's work before being called into service, and it will also minimize the time lost between discharge from military service and resumption of the study of law.

Finally, to help students finish sooner, a 1941 Summer Session was given for upperclassmen. A Summer Session equivalent to one-third of a year (one term) will be offered in 1942, with a program for beginning as well as advanced students.

The success of these measures is shown by the enrollment for the academic year 1941-42. Registration in September, 1941, was only about 15.5% below that of September, 1940—a drop substantially less than the average for law schools throughout the country. The program was particularly effective in helping members of the present third year class. Those who attended the 1941 Summer Session will be able to graduate in March, 1942, instead of in May; and upon this basis many local boards have granted postponements until graduation. In consequence, the third year class was enabled to return to school with very little loss in membership.

The Boardman Scholarship, which is annually awarded to the student who has done the best work during his first two years, was won by Donald R. Harter, of Moravia, New York, A. B. Hobart College '39. The First and Second Fraser Scholarships were awarded to Edward R. Moran, of Toledo, Ohio, A.B. Ohio Wesleyan University '39, and John Wesley Reed, of Kansas City, Missouri, A.B. William Jewell College '39, upon the recommendation of the third year class by a vote, from a list of members submitted by the Faculty as eligible by reason of superior scholarship.

The class of 1941 was markedly successful upon the June, 1941, New York Bar examination. Of forty-five 1941 graduates who took the examination, thirty-six passed both sides; two passed Substantive Law and failed Adjective Law; four passed Adjective Law and failed Substantive Law; and three failed both sides. In other words, of the Cornell graduates who took the examination, 80% passed both sides; 84.44% passed Substantive Law; and 88.89% passed Adjective Law.

By way of comparison, out of 1,263 applicants who took the June, 1941,

New York Bar examination in the entire state, 690, or 54.63%, passed both sides; 58% passed Substantive Law; and 60% passed Adjective Law.

The first smoker of the Cornell Law Association, held on November 7, 1941, was addressed by the Honorable William L. Bleakley, '04.

### THE CORNELL LAW ASSOCIATION

At the annual meeting of the Cornell Law Association held on November 8, 1941, at Myron Taylor Hall, Honorable Harley N. Crosby, '97, was re-elected President of the Association. The following were elected Vice-Presidents:

Messrs. Edward Harris, Rochester, N. Y., '00.  
James P. Harrold, Chicago, Ill., '93.  
Thomas B. Rudd, Utica, N. Y., '21.  
James B. Kinne, Seattle, Wash., '02.  
Frank B. Ingersoll, Pittsburgh, Pa., '17.  
W. D. P. Carey, Hutchinson, Kan., '26.  
William L. Ransom, New York, N. Y., '05.  
Paul Overton, Los Angeles, Calif., '00.  
O. D. Roats, Springfield, Mass., '06.  
C. W. Wilson, Brooklyn, N. Y., '06.  
William B. White, Birmingham, Ala., '09.  
Elbert P. Tuttle, Atlanta, Ga., '23.  
Percy W. Phillips, Washington, D. C., '15.  
Leonard C. Crouch, Syracuse, N. Y., '91.

Messrs. Thomas B. Gilchrist, '06, Edwin J. Marshall, '94, and Frank H. Hiscock, '75, were elected members of the Executive Committee for terms expiring in 1944.

Professor John W. MacDonald, '26, was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Association. Honorable Leonard C. Crouch, '91, was elected representative of the Association on the Board of Directors of the Cornell Alumni Corporation.