

## Editorial

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# The Cornell Law Quarterly

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## THE CORNELL LAW QUARTERLY

An editorial writer in the June, 1915, number of the *Illinois Law Review*, published under the auspices of the Northwestern University Law School, remarks that "the multiplication of law reviews connected with law schools has been due largely to the desire of those schools to advertise themselves as wide awake; but now it would seem important to ask if law reviews have not developed to a point where only a blind following of precedent can make law schools overlook the economic and literary waste of so many separate school journals." This objection to the publication of additional law school periodicals is probably also entertained by others and seems to imply that further publications of this sort are wasteful intrusions on a field already sufficiently occupied. It is seriously to be questioned whether the mere fact of the multiplication of periodicals in any field of serious endeavor is evidence of waste. One may reasonably assert that the extraordinary number of scientific and technical reviews published in Germany (for example, a dozen or more devoted to entomology) is rather the natural and inevitable expression of intense, varied and widespread intellectual activity. It may be remembered that Mendel's brief paper of forty pages, which is the foundation of our modern science of heredity and "produced an entirely fresh conception of the nature of living things," was first printed in the Proceedings of the Natural History Society of Brünn and remained buried in that publication for thirty-five years. It might perhaps have been published in a journal of wider fame; on the other hand, it might not have been published at all, had it not been included in the Proceedings of this local scientific society.

However, it is proper to offer a word of explanation why THE CORNELL LAW QUARTERLY is brought into being. The project had its inception in the request of our students and in the suggestions of our alumni that the work and interests of the law school be represented by a medium of expression that might periodically reach and be of some service to the hundreds of Cornell lawyers who are widely distributed throughout the country. It may be said that other avenues of publication are already open through the numerous existing law periodicals. But THE CORNELL LAW QUARTERLY will justify its existence if it can reach and be helpful to any considerable number of lawyers who might otherwise give their attention exclusively to the routine of practice, or be satisfied merely with the solution of such legal problems as are brought to their immediate attention under stress of the demands of a particular case. THE QUARTERLY hopes to excite the interest and win the support of many practitioners, by their contributions or otherwise, and to bring to them through its pages the resources of the Cornell Law School and, so far as this medium can serve, the results of the work of our faculty and students.

The law faculty is also impressed with the pedagogical value of a publication within the college itself. Earnest and capable students have expressed the wish or willingness to carry on further and independent investigation of problems presented in the classroom, or offered by current decisions. The publication of the results of such work, when deemed of value by the faculty, is a distinct incentive to thorough and scholarly endeavor on the part of students. Few indeed of the former student editors of the longer established law school reviews would fail to acknowledge a real indebtedness to the experience obtained by such editorial work, or would deny its worth as an important part of their legal training.

This QUARTERLY, then, will not fail of its purpose, if it substantially enhances the spirit of mutual service between the College of Law and Cornell lawyers; if it aids in some degree to foster any needed reform in the law, or to give help by intelligent discussion and investigation toward the solution of legal problems; and if it satisfies within the college itself among the students and faculty a desire to advance, beyond the point of classroom instruction, the cause of legal education in the larger sense. While attention will be given by the QUARTERLY to American law generally, especial notice will be taken of the development of New York law.

*Edwin H. Woodruff.*

## LAW SCHOOL NOTES

At the beginning of the past year Dean Frank Irvine was honored with a call to serve the state as public service commissioner for the second district. While his appointment did not give him a period of rest, it did bring to him the feature of refreshing change after thirteen years of teaching. He was granted a leave of absence for 1914-15, which was later extended until February, 1916, when his term as public service commissioner will expire and he will resume his work in the college. Professor Woodruff was designated as acting dean for the period of Judge Irvine's leave of absence. Professor Stagg was promoted to a full professorship and also appointed secretary of the college.

Dewitte B. Wyckoff was appointed acting assistant professor of law during Judge Irvine's leave of absence. Mr. Wyckoff received his LL.B. at Cornell with the class of 1910. During his senior year he was honored with the Boardman senior scholarship. For some time thereafter he practiced law in the office of Henry W. Jessup, in New York. Later he became a member of the editorial staff of the American Law Book Company and was engaged chiefly in the completion of the Cyclopaedia of Law and Procedure and in the preparation of the New York Annotated Digest.

In September, 1915, Professor William L. Drew, after several years of faithful and able service, was succeeded by Professor Charles K. Burdick. Professor Burdick is a son of Professor Francis M. Burdick, who was a member of the original faculty of the College of Law, from 1887 to 1891. Professor Charles K. Burdick received the degree A.B. at Princeton in 1904, and LL.B. at Columbia in 1908. After a short period of practice in New York City, he was made professor of law at Tulane University where he remained for three years. In 1912 he was appointed professor of law in the University of Missouri, which position he resigned to accept the appointment at Cornell. While at Columbia he was an editor of the *Columbia Law Review* for two years. During the summer sessions of 1912-14 he was a member of the faculty of the Columbia Law School.

The new schedule as changed during the past college year will be continued. The principal changes were: Property II, a four-hour course for one year, was divided into two courses, Property II, one hour, and Sales, three hours; Partnership, Suretyship, and Procedural Papers, formerly three-hour courses for one term, were reduced to two-hour courses; Carriers has been extended to include Public Service Companies and the course increased from two to three hours for one term; Property III, formerly a four-hour course for one term, was

divided into Property III and Trusts. Several new courses were added to the curriculum. During the second term of the junior year Assistant Professor Bogert gives a required one-hour course in Damages. Professor Hayes gives an elective one-hour course on the Theory of Law which course is to be continued in alternate years. During the first term of the senior year Dean Irvine gives a one-hour elective course on Federal Procedure; and during the second term Professor Stagg gives an elective two-hour course on the Conflict of Laws. The number of students registering in these elective courses was gratifying. The new members of the faculty give the following courses: Professor Burdick, Criminal Law, Partnership, Domestic Relations and the Law of Persons, Suretyship, Negotiable Paper, and Carriers and the Law of Public Service Companies; acting Assistant Professor Wyckoff, Corporations, Evidence and the first and second year Civil Procedure.

Courses by the regular non-resident lecturers were given as usual. The law of patents was treated by Mr. William Macomber of Buffalo, and bankruptcy by Mr. James W. Persons, of Buffalo. The lectureship on the law of shipping and admiralty, made vacant by the retirement of Judge George C. Holt, was filled by the appointment of Justice Harrington Putnam, A.B., LL.D., of Brooklyn, a justice of the appellate division of the supreme court, second department. Justice Putnam has had a large experience in the practice of admiralty law and proved a worthy successor to Judge Alfred C. Coxe and Judge George C. Holt, the former incumbents. Justice Putnam is associate editor of the *Revue Internationale du Droit Maritime* and in 1911-12 was president of the Maritime Law Association of the United States. There is added to the curriculum this year a series of lectures by Mr. L. Ward Bannister, of Denver, Colo. In October, 1915, Mr. Bannister will deliver five lectures on Western Water Rights. Mr. Bannister is a graduate of Leland Stanford University and of the Harvard Law School and lectures on this subject in the latter school.

Besides the regular non-resident lecturers, the College of Law, as did the university, had an unusual and valuable opportunity to hear lectures given on the Goldwin Smith Foundation by former President Taft, now a professor of law at Yale University, and by Professor Roscoe Pound of the Harvard Law School. Professor Taft gave four lectures, two of which were on the "Anti-trust Laws," one on the "Signs of the Times," and one on "What It Means to be President." Professor Taft will lecture at the university again in February and May, 1916. Professor Roscoe Pound gave a series of ten lectures on "Justice in the Modern State" and one on "Reforms in Procedure."

The address on the Frank Irvine Foundation, established by the Conkling chapter of the Phi Delta Phi, was given by Charles A. Boston of New York City. In his address on "Legal Ethics" the school had the benefit of his special study and of his actual experience as chairman of the committee on legal ethics of the New York county lawyers' association.

The college has also been unusually fortunate during the past year to hear several single lectures by Cornell alumni who have attained success in practice. The invitations to these alumni met with a quick and generous response. These lecturers' subjects were as follows: Don R. Almy, A.B., '97, New York City, "Conduct of Jury Trials;" Henry W. Sackett, A.B., '75, New York City, "The Modern Lawyer's Test;" Hon. Irving G. Hubbs, LL.B., '91, Pulaski, N. Y., Justice of the Supreme Court, "Hints to Young Practitioners;" Hon. Harry L. Taylor, A.B., '88, LL.B., '93, Justice of the Supreme Court, Buffalo, "Criminals and Others."

During the past year, 1341 volumes, of which 200 volumes were gifts, were added to the law library which now totals 47,015 volumes. The most notable addition is a set of English Statutes at Large (105 volumes) from Magna Charta down to 1865. The library previously had the English statutes from 1865 down to date and the addition completes the set of English statutes. A part of this increase in the library is an addition of 291 volumes to the Earl J. Bennett collection of statute law. The set of Kansas session laws in this collection was completed during the year.

An incident worthy of mention is the establishment at Cornell this year of a chapter of the Order of the Coif, an honorary law society, membership in which is limited to the faculty and to seniors of high scholarship. There are chapters of this order now at Pennsylvania, Michigan, Northwestern, Stanford, Yale and many other leading law schools.