Notre Dame Law Review

Volume 43 | Issue 6 Article 1

1-1-1968

From the Editor's Desk

Notre Dame Law Review Editors

From The Editor's Desk—

With this issue, a new column makes its appearance. It may be recalled that these pages were once filled by *The Lawyer Presents,* a rather formal entity that was used mainly for the purpose of describing the articles to be found in any particular issue. *The Lawyer Presents* was dropped beginning with the February issue of this volume, and the response to its disappearance (not a single letter despite the fact that we even received mail on such weighty matters as the layout of our masthead) confirmed our suspicions that it was of little interest to anyone.

So we begin anew. It is our feeling that an issue of a law review should contain some summary of the contents of the issue so that the busy practitioner may have an opportunity to quickly and easily discover whether the issue contains anything of interest to him. Thus, this space will still be used for that purpose. But it will also be used to announce or discuss any activities, happenings, or issues involving the *Lawyer* or the law school itself when we feel that these will be of interest to the reader. The emphasis is on flexibility, and it is envisioned that each Editor-in-Chief will adopt a format that he thinks will be most useful in carrying out these goals.

In the December, 1966, issue of the *Lawyer,* Professor Thomas Shaffer of the Notre Dame Law School contributed an article entitled "Nonestate Planning." The article discussed and illustrated estate planning for a "young and promising, but presently impecunious" client and contained a meticulously explained will form for such an individual. As such, it helps to fill a need in estate planning that has been created by a profession eager to serve the more affluent client. The requests to republish Professor Shaffer's article have been numerous. But its merit was perhaps best indicated by an award of $1000 presented to Professor Shaffer by the Emil Brown Fund of California. The Fund annually makes such an award for a lead article which best "expands the field of written knowledge of preventive law and its techniques."

This issue of the *Lawyer* marks the last that will appear under the deanship of Dean Joseph O'Meara. Dean O'Meara's retirement will become effective as of July 1. Although last year's Symposium issue was formally dedicated to Dean O'Meara and the achievements of the law school during his tenure, it is fitting that a word be said here about his particular relationship with the *Lawyer.* It was a tradition for each newly elected Editor-in-Chief to be invited to dinner by the Dean. To each, he said of his relationship to the law review that "a law review can only grow when it has the maximum amount of freedom.

All the decisions are yours. I am like the judge, who only sets aside the verdict of the jury when it is totally unreasonable." The great deal of autonomy afforded the *Lawyer* has allowed it to make significant advances in the field of legal scholarship over the last decade and has enriched the value of law review participation for those students who contributed their efforts to this endeavor. In addition, Dean O'Meara has been of invaluable aid in the inevitable clashes with the administration of the University over such issues as the budget. It is with sadness that we witness the rupture of this relationship, but with eagerness we look forward to working under Dean-Elect William Lawless.

This issue contains the papers given at the annual Notre Dame Law School Symposium. The Symposium, entitled "The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society," was held on February 12, 1968. The speakers included: Professor Henry Ruth of the University of Pennsylvania Law School; Professor Lloyd Ohlin of the Harvard Law School; Mr. Irving Lang, Counsel for the Narcotics Addiction Control Commission of New York City; Mr. Peter Hutt of Washington, D.C.; Professor G. Robert Blakey of the Notre Dame Law School; Mr. Eliot Lumbard of New York City; Professor Norman Abrams of the University of California Law School at Los Angeles; Professor Frank Remington of the University of Wisconsin Law School; and Mr. Herbert Isaacs of Los Angeles. The Symposium focused on the recent report of the President's Crime Commission. Unfortunately, the papers of Professor Blakey and Mr. Isaacs were not submitted in time for publication. Dean O'Meara's Introductory Remarks are published at the end, rather than at the beginning, because those who followed him on the program devoted themselves to specified aspects of the Report of the President's Crime Commission, whereas, for the most part, he confined himself to the urban riots of the last four years.