From The Dean’s Desk

As I See It...

By Harold Gill Reuschlein

It is, indeed, a pleasure to welcome the Class of 1970 to the Law School at Villanova. This “special issue” of the Docket is designed to make you welcome and to assist you in getting you off to an auspicious beginning in your new career.

This is the beginning of a new career for you. It should be good news for you to be told that in the honest judgment of the law faculty, you have what it takes to succeed. Certainly, this is true insofar as you are willing to go, i.e., your college grades and your LSAT scores. Now it is up to you to supply something more. That “something more” is a factor which unfortunately we cannot measure in advance. That “something more” is dedication. If you are to succeed in the study of law, you must be, from the very moment you cross the threshold of Garey Hall, a dedicated person.

On the very first day you enter Garey Hall as a student, you must enter having subscribed wholeheartedly to the idea that you then and there enter the legal profession. In other words, you do not enter the legal profession when you are sworn into practice before the Supreme Court of your state; you do not enter the legal profession after you have passed the Bar examinations; you do not enter the legal profession on the day you graduate from law school; you enter the legal profession on the day you begin your work here as a first year student. You are now not a college boy but an apprentice lawyer. We expect you to be what a professional man must be. First and foremost we expect you to be a serious student.

We expect you to conduct yourself as a young professional man; we expect you to dress and to behave as a young lawyer going about his business. Nothing short of this will be acceptable at this school. If you go to work with us of the faculty in this spirit, your years in law school should prove the most stimulating period of your life. This is the period in which we propose to bring you to intellectual maturity, to help you master the basic learning to which you will be adding year by year, to inculcate in you the historic ideals of the profession.

You will not have sufficient time to do what we ask of you, but then this will be the history of your life—the practice of law will demand more time from you than there is. You can never read enough, study enough, think enough. We expect you to work hard. If not, one here is going to compel you to work hard. It is your own professional aspirations which must induce you to honor your obligations as a student.

I would, however, not be misunderstood. It would be quite wrong for you to conclude that the School of Law is indifferent to your problems and difficulties. Quite the contrary. All of us on the faculty are very much aware of the problems and difficulties of a law student. I like to think of this school as an exciting school and yet withal a very friendly place. Despite growth in numbers, we shall do everything to keep it so. It is especially important for you to keep this in mind during the first months of law study.

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when, quite likely, you will find yourself in a state of bewilderment. If we leave you in the state of bewilderment, it is because we wish to benefit. Here in the law school, more often than not, we pose problems for which we do not answer. And we do not answer these problems because no ready answers or easy solutions are available. What we are trying to do here is to give you a realistic perception of the challenge that will be your future. You are expected to be super-reliant and to roll with the punches. This does not mean, however, that you will be left to flounder. Before you graduate, you should come to know at least several professors quite well. If you do not, that will be your choice. The members of our faculty are friendly men.

Here at the law school we have no extracurricular activities. We do, however, have some tremendously worthwhile co-curricular activities. These activities are designed to make better lawyers and citizen leaders of you. Let me draw your attention to these activities. THE VILLANOVA LAW REVIEW is devoted to the publication of original legal writing of scholarly and professional interest. Membership upon the editorial staff is based upon a record of sound scholarship and upon performance during a training period. Aspire to the Law Review! The Moot Court Programs will develop both forensic ability and the ability to perform practical research. Election to membership to the Moot Court Board is also regarded as an academic honor. The Law Forum brings to the school men in all hundred disciplines who will stimulate your interests in current problems of social significance. Your Law Club will foster and stimulate discussion groups and will afford opportunities the better to develop individual friendships. THE VILLANOVA DOCKET will interpret the School of Law to our loyal alumni and other friends. The Honor Board will administer an honor system of which you may be justly proud. There will also be opportunities for social service in Public Defender Programs and various other programs to provide legal services for the poor. I would also urge you to take advantage of many worthwhile university wide programs. The University provides a series of stimulating lectures and a program of musical and dramatic events of highest quality. They are here for your enjoyment. Let's be off to a good year!

THE STUDENT BAR IS YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

The student body of Villanova Law School, to a large degree, governs itself through a Student Bar Association. This organization is a member of the American Law Student Association, an affiliate of the American Bar Association.

The president of the Student Bar Association is Alfred DeCotiis. He has attended the annual meeting of the American Law Student Association in New York in each of the last three years. This year our Villanova Student Bar Association is seeking students, from the first year students on September 14th, from the second year students at the Fall Forum on October 20th, and from the third year students at the Winter Bar Forum on January 19th.

The Villanova Student Bar Association is responsible for many of the programs which take place at the Law School. The Law Forum is under the direction of the Student Bar Association. The faculty and the student body are very much a part of the student Bar Association and its work. The faculty, in particular, is interested in the Student Bar, and the Student Bar Association is responsible for many of the programs which take place at the Law School. The Law Forum is one of the many activities which are sponsored by the Student Bar Association.

The Student Bar Association has tentatively planned a Legal Aid Seminar to be co-sponsored by A.L.S.A. It also has a book exchange program. All students in the Law School are members of the Student Bar Association.

The Docket Strives for Three Objectives

The law school newspaper, THE VILLANOVA DOCKET, is seeking students, from the first year students, the program committee to set the course in Legal Research.

The Reimel Moot Court competition is an elimination tournament open to the first and second year students. The students prepare their cases and argue them, before alumni lawyers and other members of the bench and bar. The winning side is presented with the Theodore L. Reimel Award.

The Docket has three primary objectives: to relate the Law School to the community and profession in general, to relate the school to the students. All the articles which appear in this paper will be of value to one of these objectives. The articles range from student comments on significant legal events to news articles on Law School activities.

There is a need for THE DOCKET for a variety of talents, so join us.

THE LAW STUDENT

Activities Planned by the Law Clubs

Villanova Law School has four law clubs. These law clubs provide a social, administrative, and study unit through which each student can become better acquainted with the Law School. The clubs are under the general supervision of the Inter-Club Council which is headed this year by Edward Keplinski.

The clubs are active in many fields. Football and basketball games are held during the Fall and Winter for those in the clubs who wish to participate and the Inter-Club Council sponsors a Dance in the Fall for all club members.

During the first or second week each school will hold an afternoon coffee, to which all first year students are invited. This provides the first year students with the opportunity of meeting the members of each club and to decide which clubs they would like to join.

Barritters' Brides Welcome New Wives

Mrs. Kitty Hayse, Chairman of the Programs Committee of the Barristers' Brides, has announced plans to hold the first meeting to welcome the wives of incoming first year students on September 14th. The meeting will be held in the student lounge of Garvey Hall.

The Barristers' Brides was organized for the wives of the law students. The organization holds various types of meetings through the school year. The president of the Barristers' Brides is Mrs. Jean Bierschneider. The Brides are also tentatively planning a Luau for Friday, September 22nd, for the entire student body and faculty.

Other plans for this year include a Christmas workshop and a car wash. After Christmas the Barrister's Brides plan to have a speaker from the Mental Health Association who will discuss people under strain in a study situation. The organization also helps with the receptions which are given after each Law Forum.

School Adheres to Honor System

The Law School adheres to the honor system for all of the student's work and examinations. The Honor Board is composed of students and is empowered to refute dismissal of students infringing the rules of the honor system or, in the case of minor violations, to take other disciplinary action as the Board may deem appropriate. The chairman of the Honor Board is Thomas Harrington, a third year student. A copy of the rules of the Honor Board will be distributed to all students soon after the beginning of the school year.

THE VILLANOVA DOCKET

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Second Class mailing permit application pending at Villanova, Pennsylvania.