Will Continue Career at St. Mary’s Law School

In its nineteen year history, the Villanova University School of Law has known but one dean. The year was 1953, and as a result of long and detailed planning, it had been decided upon by the administration and trustees of Villanova that a law school was to be established on the Main Line campus. These men knew of the potential hazards of the undertaking, having seen very few Catholic law schools succeed in the past. They knew that the first Dean would have to be someone who not only had the necessary qualifications of experience in the field of legal education, but also someone who would have the intangible qualities of determination and adventurousness.

Harold Gill Reuschlein was a professor at the University of Pittsburgh Law School. He had earned his LL.B. at Yale in 1933 and a J.S.D. at Cornell in 1934. He had been a professor of law at the Georgetown, Notre Dame, and Syracuse University schools of law during the period from 1934 to 1948, when he went to Pittsburgh. Certainly he had the experience as an educator, so he was approached with the offer to become the first dean of the law school to be founded at Villanova. He saw the great potential that existed at Villanova and accepted the position.

After long and strenuous months of planning, the law school was to begin classes in 1953, with an enrollment consisting of 70 students and a faculty of six, including the Dean and the librarian. And while the first class was held in the second floor of the University library, there was already much to be proud of. The response was good, considering the chances that the first class would fail. If the first dean took at Villanova. If the school should fail, so would the hopes of many of its students.

But instead of failure and disappointment, there was almost instantaneous success. Dean Reuschlein can now see the fruits of this gambit that he, his faculty, and his first class once took. The law school is now situated at Garey Hall, which already has been expanded from the original structure built in 1957. The Pulling Library, named for the school’s first librarian, Arthur C. Pulling, now houses some 142,000 volumes, ranking it 24th out of 200 law libraries in the country. The faculty now consists of 20 full-time members whose qualifications are superb. One of the crowning achievements of the Villanova Law School, and one in which Dean Reuschlein takes perhaps his greatest pride, was the accreditation by the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools in only one year, a rate of success that has been, in the Dean’s opinion, essentially two: The number of students enrolled has increased rapidly, with the last few years.

newly endowed Ryun Distinguished Professorship at St. Mary’s College in San Antonio, Texas. Dean Reuschlein looks back on his nineteen years at Villanova and sees the faculty as one of the keys to its success. From the beginning, there has always been complete cooperation and teamwork. “We have always had faculty members who were both competent and congenial, which many other schools cannot boast.” He points out that “the great progress of the law school has been the direct result of a faculty and a student body with great spirit and loyalty to the school.”

The major changes that have taken place at Villanova have been, in the Dean’s opinion, essentially two: The number of students enrolled has increased rapidly, with the last few years.

DEAN HAROLD GILL REUSCHLEIN

From The Dean’s Desk
As I See It…

By Harold Gill Reuschlein

This is the last column I shall contribute to THE DOCKET.

I want simply to say a heartfelt “Thank you” to the many people who have made the nineteen years at Villanova such very happy years for Mrs. Reuschlein and me.

Our thanks go to the Augustinian Fathers, both living and dead, who have been such warm friends over the years, and to so many judges and lawyers and others who have befriended Villanova, to loyal alumni to the friendliest and most congenial faculty any dean ever worked with, to our administrative, library and secretarial staff and to our students, in whom we take such pride.

To all of you, “Thank you” from the bottom of my heart.

The Editors and Staff of THE DOCKET would like to extend our thanks to Dean Harold Gill Reuschlein for the many years of devoted service which he has given not only to this newspaper but to the entire University community at Villanova. It is on the occasion of his retirement as Dean of the Law School that we dedicate this issue in his honor.
was dea, ten thousand books, a single classroom, and the Dean's office. Beyond this, and promises, there was nothing but challenge.

Prof. John G. Stephenson III

The editors have asked me, since I have been around for some time, to tell something about the founding and the early development of the law school. In this request, I detect the belief, which I share, that the history of the law school is largely a chronicle of the accomplishments of its first dean, whom they wish to honor on the occasion of his retirement.

It is nineteen years, almost to the day, since I came to Villanova at Dean Reuschlein's invitation, to meet Father Maguire, then president, and ultimately to sign on for what has become my own principal career. Prof. Holohan, then chairman of the Law Review at Pitt, was under consideration for a third position, but when I came aboard—to use one of Dean Reuschlein's phrases—to the faculty numbered two.

It may be difficult, in the light of what exists here today, to realize what an accomplishment it was to recruit a faculty for a school which just was not there. There was a dean, ten thousand books, which an aggressive salesman for a law publisher had previously sold the college, a single classroom, not yet equipped, and the dean's office, an impressive room on which the present office was modeled. Budget lines, and promises, there was nothing but challenge. I saw one for the first faculty meeting was composed of men of great ability and great dedication. Only one returned, because he had an outstanding career. Arthur Pulling, Librarian, who had from the beginning been a forth when his useful life was ended. The reputation built up in a very short period made it possible to recruit good additions and finally, substitutions. This shows not only what the Dean was able to do in bringing the faculty together, but what he was able to do in gaining recognition of that fact.

One should mention a number of additions to the original faculty who are no longer with us: Prof. Donald Collins, Prof. Bartosic, Painter, LaFave, Robert. These names will evoke the memories of older alumni. It was no simple matter to obtain the support of the community for the new school. Lack of an established alumni body, a surrogate alumni to be recruited. All practicing lawyers who had graduated from Villanova or were in any way connected with the church were recruited, or dragged, into supporting the new school. Outstanding lawyers were invited to join the Board of Consultants, and once made to feel that this was not merely an honor but entailed an obligation to help with the recruiting and placement of students, with the provision of prizes, scholarships, books and equipment, and finally, to persuade the University that a good law school could not survive without its own building.

Recognition of the law school did not come without serious and constant effort. The American Association of Law Schools required the school to graduate its first class before it could be accredited. The American Bar Association had granted provisional accreditation, and the Board of Regents of the State of New York had given approval; but full membership in the Law School Association was the principal prize.

Since many law schools had won accreditation only to develop into diploma mills, the association was not eager to grant admission at first opportunity. Dean Reuschlein was able to defeat the natural reluctance of members at the earliest opportunity recognition of the fact that he had assembled a good faculty under dependable auspices, with a good student body, a superior library, and a new school building.

There was another feather in the cap of St. Dea when the Order of the Coif recognized at home in Philadelphia (founded by Dean Reuschlein in teaching the Roman Catholic Church the lesson of Christian morality into our public institutions) as an instrument for diffusing Christian values, and the teaching of law a school and the church a related institution which would not have access to public funds and would have to dependent on the community, growing in wealth and influence, but already straining under the burden of a private educational system. At that time, the teaching of law in the secular schools was largely dependent on any teaching of ethics and morality and a law school in a church-related university was needed to fill the gap. Thus, the school, teaching of the new school; excellence in the training of students, and the teaching of law as an instrument for diffusing Christian morality into our public institutions.

Time and space force an end to this excursion, and permit only a passing reference to the part played by Dean Reuschlein in teaching the Roman Catholic Church the lesson of Martin Luther (formerly O.S.A.), that a singling church is a church.

Will Dean Reuschlein's departure bring an end to the greatness of the law school? Let me recall an incident of my visit with Father President Magazine on April 6, 1963. We had been through the problem of whether a professor, not a member of his communion could be a part of, not merely an employee of, his university. Remember, the ecumenical movement of Pope Paul was still years in the future. Father Magazine made no extravagant promise: he simply said: "That will be a challenge to each of us." When I accepted my position, I was asked what made me so willing to join the faculty of a school without background. I expected the credit if the school succeeded, but I was willing to recognize the part played by the order and by the trustees in undertaking the establishment of the law school. There had, of course, been the decision to open a law school with all the studies of the law and morality, and Father Maguire had given the task of finding funds and had embarked on an effort which had culminated in the

The first faculty of Villanova Law School—Arthur Pulling, Librarian; Prof. John G. Stephenson; Dean Reuschlein; Prof. F. E. Holohan, Prof. John T. Macartney; Prof. Thomas J. O'Toole.
“Dean Reuschlein has brought the message of life, love and justice to the study of the law. He has over 1000 emissaries who carry this message across the breadth of our land.”

Mr. Justice Tom C. Clark
April 15, 1972

Dean Harold Gill Reuschlein’s career at Villanova has not been limited to his duties within the law school. The Dean’s primary recreational interest is music, and when he came to Villanova in 1953, he brought with him that interest. An accomplished organist, Dean Reuschlein had been Chairman of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in New Haven, Connecticut, from 1927-1933 and later at the Church of Saint Bernard in Pittsburgh, from 1948-1953.

In 1953, Dean Reuschlein, saw the need for a permanent musical group on the Villanova campus which would evoke respect from the community. Thus, the present Villanova Singers were founded. Beginning with a group of thirty men from a dwindling choral group which had been established only a year earlier for the purpose of singing sacred music, the Dean, seeking a more demanding repertoire, established the group on a new musical plane bybranching out into contemporary and classical fields.

The group has advanced in every conceivable way since its inception. Last year alone, the Singers appeared at over fifteen concert locations, including an extended tour of the Midwest.

Let me, through this issue of THE DOCKET, speak to Dean Harold Gill Reuschlein’s many friends of his contributions to American legal education through his years of devoted service as a member and, in 1969-1970, as Chairman of the American Bar Association’s Council on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar.

The Council is the profession’s voice in the accreditation of law schools; it is both legal education’s regulator and advocate. It also serves as the bridge between the faculty and the students, on one hand, and the bench and bar on the other. Dean Reuschlein has ably interpreted the interests and needs of legal education to the bench and bar and the concerns of the latter to the law schools. With integrity and wit he has encouraged many presidents and deans to do what they knew they must but were hesitant to do. And thus, the cause of quality legal education has been served and the public and the profession benefited. For this important service, we are all in his debt.

Millard H. Ruud, Consultant on Legal Education To the American Bar Association.
Vincent P. McDevitt Cites Dean’s Accomplishments

“The Law, wherein, as in a magic mirror, we see reflected not only our own lives, but the lives of all men that have been! When I think on this majestic theme, my eyes dazzle. Justice Holmes made that remark in 1885, but it can serve today to describe a man who is that magic mirror, Dean Harold G. Reuschlein.

Dean Reuschlein’s philosophy and deep love of the law well up from the humanism that underlies the law—a sense of history and the aspirations of all good men who have ever been, of their contributions to the evolution of law, their efforts to establish a well-ordered society on the foundations of good law.

It takes a man with such a comprehension to inaugurate change, yet maintain the highest of standards. It takes a scholar such as he to generate the enthusiasm that leads to progress and growth without the sacrifice of high ideals.

The establishment of a law school for Villanova University was the fervent dream of the Reverend Dr. Francis A. Maguire, who must have been divinely inspired when, in 1953, he selected Harold G. Reuschlein to be Dean of the fledgling Villanova University School of Law.

It was inevitable that a man with his background should leave his mark on the institution he was about to serve. He became a member of the Bar in 1933, having obtained his LL.B. at Yale University. He devoted his abilities, time and energy to public service, military service and the field of legal education. For example, he served as Director of the Public Health Law Project, University of Pittsburgh, a project which resulted in a new Public Health Code for Pennsylvania. He served as Chairman of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association. During World War II, he served as a Colonel in the Judge Advocate General’s Department.

Considerably active in the scholastic field, lecturing and writing on the body of the law, particularly on Corporations, was mind and heart and soul. That the Villanova School of Law is in a brief nineteen years matured into one of the outstanding law schools in the East is attributable to the dedicated services of Dr. Reuschlein.

His tenure has been remarkable. The school began with a student body of seventy and now serves 600 students. Alumni number well over a thousand, are widely distributed throughout the United States, and graduates are eagerly sought by the legal profession for his published works.

His influence has been wide-ranging. He is an intellectual, author, scholar such as he to generate the enthusiasm that leads to progress and growth without the sacrifice of high ideals.
As I learned from trying to pin down Professor Schoenfeld for an interview, he is a very active man. Professor Schoenfeld received his A.B. degree from Harvard University and then added to his many educational credentials with an LL.M. from New York University. The bachelor professor enjoys traveling and film making, while at the same time, a combination of hobbies which he says, "is something one cannot do in the state of Delaware County."

Schoenfeld, for some time, has been a dedicated volunteer at Villanova Legal Clinic. Villanovalaw student members are participating in clinical type practice opportunities for second and third year students to supplement their academic work with clinical experience. "I like the idea of teaching and having students to answer their questions, since his main purpose is to help the students," Professor Schoenfeld shares.

Professor Schoenfeld is in a position to give some insight into the Dean, for he has fathered his daughter for two and one-half years. To him, the Dean is the one who made Villanova what it is today. What Professor Schoenfeld would like to see is "a vigorous student body with many of them interested in film making and photography in their spare time."

The dean’s office and students in conjunction with his interest and knowledge in civil liberties. This also allows the students to give some insight into the laws that are being passed. "I feel work out beautifully together," Professor Schoenfeld says. "If you are interested in law, you have become good lawyers. After this year's class graduates, who have helped build that pride—the same type of pride that is evident in Delaware County."

The SBA dinner-dance was held at the Inn on the Hill on the 7th. As usual, it was one of the year's finest events.

But for the most successful event of the entire year was the First Annual Reuschlein Invitational Golf Tournament. Held this year at the rolling Valley Forge Country Club in the heart of Philadelphia, the tournament was acclaimed as one of the high points in the history of the law school. The low gross was won by Bob Sherman. The first year student should add four to win by one stroke over Joe Troy. The team from Harvard was given by a third year student and his brother. The heretofore unknown Bush Stu and a Mark was the top team trophy. This fellow Bush Stu also won the Pal-Vision Award for the longest drive of the day. On the finishing hole, the unknown hit a half 280 yards. The low net award was won by Tom Cunningham. He and his partner. John Donnelly also won the team low net award. Next year's tournament will be under the direction of Brian Hugo and will be played in the fall of the year. The incoming has yet to be done, but Mr. Shuman has promised to be on hand to defend his title.
First Session Held By Women's Rights Seminar by Ken Miller

Pref. Abraham to Take Sabbatical

For the third time in the history of Villanova Law School, an exchange of the duties of the different countries will take place. The most recent example of this was Professor Dowd's visit to Nottingham University in England, four years ago.

This July, Professor Gerald Abraham will be leaving the school for a sabbatical year. Professor Abraham will be leading a group of law students into a commanding 10-4 lead. Although Howard "The Howitzer" Lurie was not that effective in the game off-balance with his quickness, the contest due to a completely ineffectual experience and lack of motivation. The stands were packed with all-stars were playing the fearsome Tsinnies. The game that culminated the hoop season at Alumni Gym. The ICC anti-school championship.

As for the students, things were much better. Alan 'The Awful' Welch had to be taken from the faculty roster with an ankle injury sustained when a Cum. Welch had to be taken from the faculty's hopes for victory to the kids around the piano. A familiar sight—Grandfather and his grandson. It was a far cry from the days of yore when the kids would be playing the freecourse faculty five for the mystical law school atmosphere.

The game was arranged under the arctic leadership of 'Big Al', who failed to hit his stride as the contest, the second quarter, the two stalwarts of the squad, "Sweetness" McNamara and "Big Arnie" Cohen, made their appearance but proved to be of little help. The faculty fell further behind, 20-8.

As for the students, things were much better. Alan 'The Awful' Welch had to be taken from the faculty, and encouraged.

At the opening moments, he was instrumental in tailing the students into a false sense of complacency. In the second half, "Wally Wunder" Taggart kept the game close and McPherson made his move, passes and pivot-point accuracy. Frank Williams, John J. Cannon, and encouraged.

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