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THE MARQUETTE LAW REVIEW— A SALUTE FROM THE STUDENT BODY

JOHN MAVIS*

It is fitting that upon the occasion of its 50th Anniversary, the *Marquette Law Review* has chosen to publish the manuscripts of four distinguished legal scholars who discussed Alexis De Tocqueville's thesis on the role of the lawyer in American society at the 1965-66 De Tocqueville Lectures. De Tocqueville pictured the bar as providing the sobriety which is essential to the survival of our democratic institutions. Lawyers were considered to be the link between the aristocracy and the common people because their special study of the laws allowed them to derive "an instinctive regard for the regular connections of ideas," thereby providing a balance to the "unreflecting passions of the multitude."

It is this examination—the scholarly and objective study of the law—which has characterized the *Marquette Law Review* over its first 50 years. Furthermore, just as De Tocqueville predicted for the legal profession generally, hundreds of Marquette graduates have carried forth this broad duty of exhaustive research and logical exposition in order to effectuate true enlightened progress in our society. Today, the fires of passion and unreason have come to command the allegiance of many. Lawyers, therefore, are faced with the challenge of meeting these fires with reasoned reform based on good scholarship and with the leadership of their position in society.

The qualities of scholarship and research, sharpened by law review experience, are consonant with the highest ideals and principles of the legal profession. As you read the following pages consider De Tocqueville's description of the effect of lawyers on our society: "The lawyers of the U.S. [are] from a party that extends over the whole community and penetrate into all the classes which compose it; they act upon the country imperceptibly, but finally fashion it to suit their own purpose."

I join with all the students of Marquette Law School, past and present, in congratulating the *Law Review* on its 50th Anniversary and wishing it continued success and excellence in the years ahead.

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