Law Class of '28 Banquet

H. William Ihrig
materially assisted the jury in reaching a conclusion, about 10 per cent were doubtful and 30 per cent returned a negative answer. Again 50 per cent thought this practice reduced the number of new trials and 75 per cent believed that judicial comment brought quicker verdicts and reduced the number of disagreements. Others thought the rule would result in closer attention of the trial judge.

Should such a rule be generally adopted by the State courts, it is clear that any comment by the judge relating to the weight and credibility of the evidence should not be made until after the close of the evidence and argument, and this is exactly what the committee advises. In other words, the jurors should be allowed to formulate their own opinions during the course of the trial.

Coming, as it does, from this committee, as a result of more than five years of consideration, this proposed rule is at least worthy of serious consideration. Whether we are quite ready for it now is another question, about which opinions are bound to differ. The jury system itself is, however, the subject of serious criticism at the present time, and in the course of two generations of lawyers it is quite possible that some changes will develop or perhaps that the jury system itself in its present form may pass into oblivion.

S. G. H.

Law Class of ’28 Banquet

The annual banquet tendered the seniors by the freshman class was held on May 19 at the Pfister Hotel. It was a social and intellectual joy and will ever remain in the minds of the seniors as a monument and stepping stone in their respective lives.

The banquet preceded the seniors’ final examinations by several days and, as always, for the seniors it had the aspects of an occasion which forbodes the beginning of the end of one era and the dawn of a new one in their lives and activities. One of this year’s memorable seniors, John Ferris, remarked that the occasion caused him a feeling akin to one’s thoughts of a friend who had passed to the Great Beyond. Another senior, on mentioning that he was sorry his college days were over, received the knowing remark from one of his older friends at the bar, that out of affection for him he, too, was sorry that the senior’s college days were over. Nevertheless, the occasion contained a seed of what the future has in store and allowed a gleam of its promise to shine further to indicate the way that is soon to be.

Along with the faculty there were the honorable guests of the evening—men of the bench and bar who in themselves and their message sketched the life ahead. They presented the results of industry, character, learning, success, and the humanities of wide experience and deep contemplation, both in their message and in their very position and being—examples of the forces of life.

The toastmaster of the occasion was F. X. Swietlik. For the seniors, James Taugher gave a humorous but also sarcastic rendition inspired by the drama Chicago on the delays of law which were the damp
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blankets on the opportunity for the testing of the mettle and the collection of their proper fees by the members of the bar who recently completed their studies. Dean Clifton Williams, whom everyone was glad to see so hale and hearty after his recent enforced rest at the hospital, was introspective and gave a poetic rendition of the worthwhile things in professional life and of one's right "to do the things he likes to do," to the surprise and delight of both his youthful and his learned audience.

Everyone was happy to enjoy the presence of the other full-time members of the faculty—Professors John McDill Fox, Carl Zollmann, Willis Lang, D. J. McKenna, and Father McMahon, the regent of the law School.

Of the bench of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin there were the Honorable Justices Eschweiler and Rosenberry, and Justice Burr Jones, who is now retired.

Justice Eschweiler, whom everyone admires and loves, was content to pass the evening without any extended remarks. He is one of the friends of the "boys," and they were content in his silence only because of his very apparent enjoyment of the occasion.

Justice Rosenberry recalled the passing of Dean Max Schoetz who had accompanied the boys graduating along the first one-half of their course, and he mentioned his contribution to Marquette and its Law School. Justice Rosenberry, who has done much to further the progressive adaptation of the law to the changing conditions, circumstances and needs of passing them in Wisconsin and in the United States, suggested to the graduating class that they study and solve the new problems in law and society, especially those in the field of administrative law, to bring about social harmony.

Justice Burr Jones, even before speaking, inspired the students with an aspiration to live lives of character, of thorough-going labor and endeavor, and with unflinching ideals of the right type. In the principal address of the evening he recommended to his hearers recognition and consideration of the worthwhile, but more comely virtues of life, that in the speed of everyday affairs the efforts to secure money should not blind one to more important human values—recognition between the means to and the end sought of true happiness in life.

At the conclusion of the addresses, the boys departed for their homes, aware that for the last time they had all sat together at happy repast and thoughtful contemplation. They were all to write their last exams, quickly prepare for the State bar, and then be thrust upon a new life in which it is the wish of all that they shall secure success, render to society its expectation of them, and secure their full measure of happiness in all their days.

H. WILLIAM IHRIG, '28