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From the Student Bar Association: Solidarity Day: Where Were The Lawyers?

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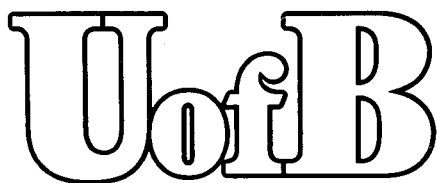
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toto, to adopt it. It is unlikely that professors who, for one valid reason or another, do not support the idea will provide pervasive teaching experiences for their students. Unless an administrative watchdog policy is strictly enforced, the program will fail for inconsistency.

Of greater import than the question of when the course should be offered, are the issues surrounding the actual content or scope of the subject to be taught. Judge Joiner of Michigan has stated that law schools lack lawyer models for their students. His thesis is that practitioners and/or judges should be utilized as adjunct faculty members to augment current courses which he believes are not explaining, defining or teaching what lawyers should do. Needed, at minimum, is a three credit-hour course that provides the 'stuff' of law practice within the context of the presently mandatory Canons of Professional Responsibility—fee schedules, advertising, setting up a solo practice, et. al.—and beyond the realm of the Code—interviewing, handling, and counseling clients, drafting techniques, practice in filing papers, familiarity with local standardized court and clerk procedures, etc. Simulation exercises and analysis of problems provide a starting point, but there is much more to be done. As the University of Maryland Law School's Dean Kelly indicates in *Legal Ethics and Legal Education*, "the legal ethics course will always be viewed as a problem child in the curriculum as a 'Mickey Mouse' subject to students, until it engages the challenges in practice of the complex interactions of law, practical judgment and moral sentiment."



Solidarity Day: Where Were The Lawyers?

by Stanley Janor

Graduate lawyers, by personal inclination and/or training, are usually fairly humanistic and generalistic in their thinking. Unfortunately, a large percentage of them eventually sell out for the big bucks gained by the dehumanizing process of specialization, generally in some field which often runs counter to, rather than with, the public's interests. Do we not owe them, the same public whose money and faith supports our government and legal system, something more? We are uniquely suited, blessed even, by our legal education to seek solutions to widely diverse problems. In such a complex society, and with a supposed "government of laws, not of men", who should be better able to govern than lawyers? Yet, it is hard to remember an administration so thoroughly dominated by one-minded technocrats and close-minded ideologues with nary a lawyer in sight—except for Reagan's former personal tax-shelter consultant, Attorney (and I use the term loosely) General William French Smith. Where are the lawyers? Many of them, no doubt, are laying back and licking their chops in anticipation of higher retainers from the corporations and wealthy individuals who will be like pigs in a sewage plant under the new tax laws. Those with any social consciousness have been neatly hamstrung by the totality of the change wrought by this weak-willed Congress. There is virtually nothing left to save and little which could be changed through litigation. What, then, can be done? Privately, lawyers must alter their view of themselves from profiteers to servants of the public and its legal system. Publicly, lawyers must reassert their traditions of integrity, humanism, and generalism so that the majority of people might once again accept their leadership. The present situation of the so-called experts being "on top" rather than "on tap" as they should be is socially and politically

intolerable. Lawyers must step forward to help cure the ills of the nation that they were so instrumental in founding and shaping, or watch the once magnificent body they created slowly die around them.

Even to a person inclined by disposition and profession to view most events dispassionately and analytically, the sight of a quarter-million people on the Capitol Mall was emotionally stirring. The composition of the crowd was even more heartening. It wasn't just kids, living off Mommy and Daddy's money, blowing off steam and skipping classes. It wasn't just the poor, purportedly living off taxpayers' money, asking for even more. The crowd *was* Mommy and Daddy, definitely taxpayers—as one writer so aptly put it "Mr. and Mrs. America crying ouch!" When such people, who probably never protested anything in their lives (who, in fact, probably denounced those who did) march in the streets of Washington, the political and social significance is inestimable and cannot be ignored.

Equally significant, and disappointingly so, was the absence of any banners saying "State Bar Association" or even "Attorneys Against Voo Doo Economics." The reasons for this void run the gamut from the general overall affluence of lawyers, many being members of the monied conservative establishment that Reaganomics will benefit most, to the undeniable truism that lawyers are always needed to work with the law, no matter how unjust it might be. Such reasons, however, are as simplistic, selfish, and narrow-minded as the current administration and the policies which it is inflicting on the American Citizen.

Lawyers suffered perhaps their worst image-damaging era ever under Tricky Dicky and his California Mafia, most of whom, sad to say, were law school graduates. Collectively, they stamped the term "scheister" so indel-

ibly onto the public consciousness that even now, our "trust" rating in the opinion polls is somewhere around that of Oriental rug salesmen and, horror of horrors, well below that of our oft-compared professional colleagues and malpractice clients-in-waiting, the M.D.s (read Money Drenched or Mediocre Diagnostician depending on your level of personal knowledge or cynicism). Suffice it to say, in most people's eyes, our lawyers' souls need some heavy-duty purging before we will again be viewed with confidence and trust. A little promotion of social justice might just be the penance needed to turn the trick, or in better image-building terms, re-establish our covenant with the people as a profession worthy of their respect. If anyone thinks we don't need that, that we are above such "mundane" considerations, he is only deceiving himself.



S.B.A. Notes

This is the first in a series of articles that will introduce you to the S.B.A. For those of you who have managed to get through three weeks or three years or three decades without ascertaining the significance of these letters, and for those individuals who ignore anything that is not printed between covers of a published outline — oops! I mean casebook — this is the End of Innocence.

Contrary to popular belief, the S.B.A. (formerly known on resumes everywhere as the STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION) is not a closet organization, although the size of our meeting place in 1 E. Mount Royal, does resemble one. It is an organization run by students who are elected by students. In its lighter moments — and there are many of them — it is the group that hosts the picnics, beer blasts and banquets that offer those well deserved study breaks. It is the people who introduce the new students to law school during orientation. But aside from promoting student intercourse, the S.B.A. has a representative function, taking students into places, such as faculty meetings, where they would not otherwise be welcome.

Orientation

This summer, between classes and clerkships, the 1981 Orientation was spawned. (Everyone has been through at least one orientation during his or her law school career. Many recall the 'Speluncean Explorers', the best way to study, honor court, Law Review and those first law school assignments.) This year, orientation was masterfully designed and carried out by Bonnie Shane and President Debby Shortridge, who put their heads together to devise the most expeditious way to introduce the new students to the realities of the Paper Chase.

Advance Sheet

This fall, the S.B.A. and Law School Administration began a cooperative effort in the production of a new school publication, the *Advance Sheet*. The *Advance Sheet* replaces the monthly tabloid format of the *Oyez* with a short easy-to-read newsletter style containing up-to-date information about school social events, academic information, and new program and course information. Space permitting, Editor Stanley D. Janor often adds some hard-hitting and usually tongue-in-cheek commentary about events in and out of school. So far, the *Advance Sheet* has been very well-received and has proven useful to both students

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and faculty, at least to kill a few minutes before class starts, and will probably continue to be the unofficial nuts-and-bolts law school publication for years to come.

Social Schedule

The first social event of the year was the S.B.A. picnic, held on Sunday afternoon, September 20, at the Mt. Washington Campus. It was the kind of crisp autumn day that made the blood tingle and the digestive juices flow. The traditional rivalry between the faculty and student softball teams was exceeded only by that between the picnikers who had rolls and those who were trying to get them. (Congratulations to those who made it to the grills. Regrets to the management of the local pizzeria whose establishment we understand had to shut-down for a week of repairs in the wake of post-picnic revelers.) Many thanks to Phil Kilby, Doug Collison and Bob Sperling for grilling; Rocco Nunzio and Tim Madden for transporting; Jeff Nesson for general support; and Jackie Moore who was chief factotum for the whole thing.

After the excellent picnic kick-off to the Fall Social Season, the SBA followed up quite nicely with an "Attitude Adjustment Hour" the afternoon of October 15th. A new and hopefully permanent tradition was started the evening of October 29th with the First (and probably *Last*) Annual Halloween Party. Students and faculty alike had a chance to indulge their fantasies and do a little childhood regression, helped along with generous quantities of brew and spirits. The prize for scariest costume went to the student dressed as a blue book with "F — See me" scrawled across his front in red ink.

The biggest event of the fall semester, however, is planned for the evening of December 19th, which, incidentally, is the last night of finals. That night, the SBA in cooperation with the UofB Student Senate will sponsor a gala Holiday Blow-Out after the Super Bees Basketball game with Wagner at the Fifth Regiment Armory. Music and merriment will be the

order of the day, but nobody has as yet volunteered to hang the mistletoe from the 40 foot ceiling.

This spring the S.B.A. is beginning a new era in University of Baltimore history. For the first time, the S.B.A. is featuring a Libel and Slander Show at the annual Awards Banquet. The majority of law schools throughout the country hold this type of production on a yearly basis. As this University moves forward with the contemporary flow of other renowned institutions, it is understandable that change must occur to keep pace with our colleagues. However, since tradition plays a great role in University pride, the banquet will also include food and drink, dancing, and the annual presentation of awards. In joining the old with the new we can only presume that we will continue on an upward trend.

In preparation for the show, talent scouts Bruce Wade and Jeff Michael are in town. In an exclusive interview, this writer was able to cajole Bruce into revealing the title of their latest production. "Bonzo Goes to Law School" will be released at the Spring Banquet 1982.

Bruce confided that the studio's legal department has given them the go-ahead for their expose of the shocking habits of that sub-culture com-

posed of law students and faculty. Hesitantly, he advised me in hushed tones that the studio was still having problems with the Censor Board. It appears they are insisting that 8 minutes of tape be edited from a certain professor's Civil Procedure Class. Within the sub-culture this professor is known affectionately as Dickie Dewdrop (also known as Reverend Bourne-Again). They are also questioning whether the audience would feel comfortable during the special guest appearance of a certain professor whose method of teaching inspired the writer of the *Paper Chase* to create the role of Professor Kingsfield.

Applications for writers, players, and production grips have been in circulation and the response has been overwhelming. For anyone still interested, applications are available at the S.B.A. office which is located at Room 102, East Mount Royal. To those people who have already volunteered, a special thanks.

There are a lot of upcoming events of which the S.B.A. will keep you informed. But why wait until the next issue? The S.B.A. meetings are open to everyone. They are called to order in Room 102, 1 East Mount Royal and generally conclude at Jay's. See you then!

