

St. John's Collegian

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Ex Facto Ius Oritur

To lecture on Law at this college without Thomistic convictions is to haunt that (faded) purple carpet which symbolizes blood flowing from an accursed house. That this can be done sincerely and knowingly last Friday's lecturer ably demonstrated. Mr. Richard Cleveland, practicing Baltimore lawyer and member of the Board of Visitors and Governors since 1930, possesses a stout heart coupled with the Anglo-Saxon trait of taking the painfully obvious for granted. In the question-period his sensitivity for this axiom of good taste at times clogged progress in mutual understanding, and mildly offended the metaphysically inclined, but his practical experience lent much weight to the replies he offered.

Mr. Cleveland defined the Law as the body of rules which govern men and which are enforced by the courts. The genesis and significance of these rules were treated in matter-of-fact fashion: The need for law is precipitated by controversies which arise as soon as human communities develop beyond the tribal level,—when commerce and wealth (especially in the form of property) assume more importance in the culture of those peoples involved. Its coming implies some sort of order or pattern for society. The highly developed Roman law was cited as a very successful attempt to meet the legal problem. In fact, the influence of this system upon the succeeding nations of the European continent effected the different perspective from which Europeans view legal relations, as contrasted with the English, and later the American, tradition.

A brief summary of the development of the English Law began with the creation of the office of the traveling justice in 1187 by Henry II for the purpose of settling controversies. (Today the legal emphasis is *prevention* of disagreement.) Soon a strict procedure had crystallized. Those litigants not versed in *his verbis* had friends appear for them, though at

first these substitutes were allowed only to plead as "mouthpieces" in a strictly literal sense. Gradually attorneys added personality to words.

The Common Law, still the basis of the English legal system, came into being as judges' notes of decisions in specific cases. Mr. Cleveland found here a fundamental though not insoluble antinomy in legal thinking, for statute law, passed by properly constituted legislative bodies, is more general in form, stands perhaps in relation to the empiric mosaic of specific decisions as algebra to arithmetic. In 1287 King Edward decided that the Bar should assume self-government and discipline. Sixteen years later all matriculating lawyers were required to swear the Oath, pledging honesty, aloofness from deceit, and maintenance of clients' rights.

In the main the early legal history of the United States was traced out by a people with a firm belief in democratic institutions. Hence the more extensive scope of statute law here than in England. This tendency was strongly related to the evolution of English parliamentary power in the 17th and 18th centuries. The 19th century did not realize much innovation in legal matters but was a time of consolidation and more complete adaptation of the English Common Law to the peculiar conditions of our country.

The last section of the lecture was the most controversial: Mr. Cleveland on natural law. The thesis that lawyers are the high priests of the *status quo* was developed in conjunction with a discussion of stability versus change in law. Lawyers are sought for advice on the existing legal situation:—hence the need for stability, lest particular legal knowledge become useless because continually outdated. However, the principle of equity is a saving factor in preventing stability from degenerating into inertia. Natural law is only approximated in particular legal formations, and (for Mr. Cleveland) is vaguely some sort of Aristotelian mean between two extremes.

The lecturer's love for his profession was quite in evidence in his concluding remarks. He quickly sketched the professions as those vocations, requiring special knowledge and training, which transcend commercial motivation when practiced on their proper level. The professions are self-disciplined and most intimately concerned with the profoundest human problems.

STEPHEN BERGEN.---

Cotillion Club

The theory of reincarnation, as applied to Cotillion Clubs, seems to be quite verifiable; for several days ago that St. John's tradition was fully revived and reinstated in the minds of men. At the same time was observed the marriage of this very eligible bachelor with the Film Club, another St. John's standby, and the honeymoon so far is proceeding without interruptions or eruptions of importance.

This eligibility consists, very rightly, in the social importance of the group upon our campus. It has up to now had complete control of all college activities in which those members of the fairer sex were involved, which activities without doubt are important even to liberal artists. In other words, the Cotillion Club always puts on the dances, and shall happily continue to do so despite adverse conditions this year. These will be probably all movie dances, which consist of a popular but good movie such as "*The Cat and the Canary*," "*The Lady Vanishes*," starting around 10:00 and lasting till about 11:30. Then dancing starts, till two, to records in a half of the gym. The other half is filled with tables covered with red-checked table cloths, which give a feeling of a Greenwich Village Tavern; on the tables are whiskey bottles with candles in them which remind one of pirates—the combination is wonderful and invigorating. Mr. Gorman is always waging a terrific game of bridge in the center table, while Ed Cochran rushes around trying to find someone to run the phonograph so he can have just one dance

with his date. Johnny Gilbert, the College's Number One Wolf, gallops from couple to couple, sweeping all the girls completely off their collective feet, while the big, tall, dark and handsome gentlemen grit their collective teeth in envy.

Which brings up that all-important question of women. In former years it has been the custom of all but a few brave freshmen to kind of sidle in to the dances and get their bearings as to what is going on. As soon as these are found, dates start pouring in. But as this year the freshmen constitute a very large majority of the student body, they will each and every one have to bring a lovely Helen to each dance. If they do, (and as far as the economics goes, the admission will be per couple only one thin dime, the tenth part of a dollar), we will turn out to have a swell bunch of dances, which everyone will enjoy intensely, and look forward to with unmitigated delight. They will occur every month or so, and will surely become the culmination of the weeks' work in Euclid digms.

Speaking of women, we must mention the bride in this above-bespoken marriage. She is the Film Club, an organization which deals in good movies, and who will display her charms every Saturday night, at the again very economical price of 10c. The first presentation will be that this Saturday of "A Carnival in Flanders," one of the finest pictures ever made, and just exciting and risqué enough to bring St. Johnnies bouncing away from their Saturday evening studying. The year's program will include such films as the Russian classic, Alexander Nevsky, Marlene Dietrich's most important film, *The Blue Angel*, and the greatest American documentary film, *The River*.

So, gentlemen of St. John's, we lay before you our program—it is up to you to make a go of it.

C. VD

K. W. P.

In spit of a deplorable shortage of bewitching goddesses, *The Tempest* continues to rage at regular intervals on the third floor of Humphreys, under the practical and theoretical direction of Mr. Nabokov and Mr. Abra-

hamson, respectively. The list of prospective victims includes Miss Leticia Dickinson and Messrs. Weiss, Kilorin, T. Campbell, Ross, Novak, Williams, Manning, Di Grandi, Cantor, McKay and Cosgrove. Jack Landau will design and supervise the production. Sheinkman will manage the stage with the help of Fross and Sharp and Jame-son; Chenoweth is in charge of lighting and lightning, and Tom Fulton will handle the finances of the storm, which is scheduled to attain its climax on the night of Friday, August 20.

Anchors Aweigh

Spartans aren't brave—they are well trained.

They do not face a danger—they ignore it.

Uniformed outside and in, "Aye, Aye, Sir"

Flows electric through their wire-file. (This "Aye, Aye," Spartan current's quick with amps,

But voltage comes from truth and God alone.)

Their duty's easily tough;

Their mind is dumbly keen;

Their scruple, truly false.

Understanding little in their lives,

They give up life without Athenian tremble.

WARREN S. ZEIK.

Barr To The Board

Mr. Barr has again examined the Genesis of the new program in his report to the Board of Visitors and Governors, and has again presented our invitation and credentials to the great general public. Our infancy is over; we are now adolescent, and this is the time to recall our conception.

There were giants in the earth in those days, and the issues of the world were so few and so clear—New Program vs. Old Program; St. John's vs. Education, Barr, Buchanan, Hutchins, Meiklejohn vs. everyone else. The logos was with them and was made flesh.

First, there was the failure of liberal education and the country club college: Barr and Buchanan, products of that failure and prophets of dooms, stepped into St. John's College. Secondly, there was the failure of finance: By subtle machinations this sagging

structure was propped. Thirdly, there was repair and improvement of college property. Fourthly, "the incubation of intercollegiate athletics" was routed. Fifthly, the tribes of fraternities were dispersed.

But the war came to St. John's, and this year the president's report uses only one staple per copy. War came, and the faculty and student body dwindled away; so now St. John's meet Plato without that dangerous "deterioration within the last two years" of high school—"better prepared, less confused students." Fresh for the indoctrination. This, Mr. Barr reports, is "the last major step that could have been predicted six years ago." Two other items should be noted. The rumor about more freshmen in the fall is confirmed. And significantly, Mr. Barr does not refer to "young men" ready for liberal education, but simply to "lads."

Copies of the report are to be had but expect no prophecies; Exodus is not mentioned.

A Neo-Hegelian Looks At The Salad Bowl

Thesis—

Dinner is the cruellest hour, mixing Appetites and desires, stirring Dull salads with fleshy hands.

Antithesis—

PASS THE LEMON PLEASE

The grave's a fine and private place But none, I think, do food there chase. (A phenomenon I have often noticed.) Naked as born do I remain.

PASS THE

Unreal city

Under the white heat of a summer night,

Muscle-bound, the neo-Hegelian, Well-milked, pockets full of victim's

S. O. B. Detroit, no questions answered,

Asked me in demotic French

About Phlebas, le Phenicien.

PASS

Daring young man on flying trapeze Imposes New Order in B.V.D.'s.

Synthesis—

Here we go round the tomato plant

Tomato plant tomato plant

Here we go round the tomato plant

O Lord thou pluckest me out.

THE QUADRIVIUM.

Cooperatives

The Dean opened this week's college meeting with the announcement that he would send to each student a set of questions dealing with laboratory problems. These questions are some of the crucial ones which each student should ask himself in performing an experiment and in writing an intelligent report of his observations and conclusions.

The main business of the meeting was talks by the Dean and Tom Fulton on cooperatives. The Dean, in his speech, tried to define the place which cooperatives have in a community like ours. The college has two primary functions: one educational, and one being best described by the general term "business." The educational function is under the supervision of the administration which is a government instituted for the purpose of ensuring the best possible fulfillment of this function. The economic function of the college involves the business office as well as such organizations as the bookstore, coffee shop, athletic store, Cotillion Club, etc. These latter activities are at present under the direct supervision of the administration. At this point cooperatives become relevant. The aims of a cooperative organization are twofold: political and economic. The political implications of a cooperative are that each member of the organization has a voice in the selection of officers and in the determination of the plans of the group. Practically, this would mean that if, for example, the Film Club were organized on a cooperative basis, each member would have a vote in the election of its officers and in the choice of films. A cooperative organization is desirable because it stimulates an interest in the communal life of the college and because it allows the students to perform functions which until now were fulfilled by the administration and by various undergraduate organizations. The economic advantages of a cooperative are that the members are able to procure certain goods and services at cheaper prices and that, in case of profit, it may be shared by the members.

Mr. Buchanan pointed out that the idea of cooperatives is nothing new at the college. Two years ago, Mr. Bor-

sodi, an economist, made a survey of St. John's, with a view to putting the whole life of the community on a cooperative basis. One of the ideas which he proposed and which is about to be put into practice is the granting of a charter by the college to any group which wants to organize its activities on a cooperative basis. The Dean concluded by mentioning that a community, in planning its activities, gets a knowledge which deepens and supplements the liberal arts.

Mr. Fulton, after some general remarks, announced that some members of the college had found it good to organize the Student Employment Bureau cooperatively. He read a proposed constitution for this organization, which could also serve as a basis for other coops on the campus. Mr. Fulton then announced that there would be a meeting of all persons interested in the Student Employment Cooperative, as well as in coops in general, this Sunday evening at 8 o'clock in Room 24, McDowell Hall. He concluded by expressing his hope that other undergraduate organizations at St. John's would follow the lead of the Student Employment Co-operative.

The preamble to the constitution of the S. E. C. reads as follows: "Whereas it is desirable in any community to organize all communal activities for the common good, and whereas such participation is most fully realized by action on a cooperative basis, we do hereby propose that the Student Employment Bureau be organized cooperatively in accordance with the following articles."

Sports

The powerful Pinkney softball team continued on its merry way towards the championship, defeating the upperclassmen of Randall and the frosh of Chase and Paca, as the season rolled into its second week.

Ham Durning easily held Randall in check as his mates pounded out a 21-5 victory. Bob Novak made his debut as a left-fielder in this game and promptly hit two home runs to pace the attack, along with Van der Voort who hit his second four-bagger.

Paca put up another classic fight but couldn't hold its own against the

classy Pinkney nine. The freshmen, well-stocked with "ringers," bowed by a score of 13-3, to the pitching talents of Tom Cosgrove. The hitting was generally weak, errors accounting for most of the runs.

Chase-Stone, valiantly and desperately fighting to stay in running for the title, were on the verge of elimination after their second loss to Pinkney on Monday, 11-5.

Tom Cosgrove hurled an eight-hit-ter to win his second game in as many days. He was admirably supported afield and at the plate, the winners collecting about 15 hits off the combined efforts of Dick Harris and Maury. The latter, however, tried to lift his team from the doldrums by sending a tremendous drive to deep centerfield with two men on, good for four bases. Bill Chenoweth and Tony Hammond also had home runs.

Chase-Stone came bounding back after this defeat at Pinkney's hands to plaster Paca-Carroll in the worst beating of the season, 36 to 8. George Smith was victim of the attack, his pitching having no effect on the thundering Chase-Stone bats. Ian Robertson and Dick Maury shared the hurling duties for the winners.

The battle for the championship may be over this afternoon, for a victory for West Pinkney would automatically eliminate both Randall and Chase-Stone. Paca-Carroll, of course, is already out.

I. R.

Music Department

On July 14 the first meeting of the madrigal group was held. This group is composed of members of the regular St. John's chorus, who decided that they would like to spend the summer evenings singing English madrigals and other light music. The hope of Mr. Nabakov, the director, is that with a small group of voices he can build a good nucleus for the regular chorus which will begin next fall. At present the madrigal group is rehearsing four Psalms of Heinrich Schutz, a sixteenth century composer, and an English madrigal by John Dowland entitled *Weep Ye No More Sad Fountains*.

Arts

We are happy to see that the college has stepped in where angels fear to tread and is providing the community with the kind of passive entertainment everyone has been urging whether they knew it or not. Somewhere else in this COLLEGIAN there is a more sustained exposition of the plans for the year but our immediate concern is the first of these Saturday nights. Tomorrow evening at nine in the Great Hall, the Film Club, under the angelic eye of the administration will present the French film classic *Carnival in Flanders*. (You may gather from the build-up that the Film Club is interested only in great films when they're possible.) Not only is this one of the best films that will be in the vicinity in the near future but it's one of the best that has been made in the last decade. The number of such films is smaller than you think. *Carnival in Flanders* is about "sly things in a medieval French town." This means that the women come out and welcome the invading army while their men hide. The town goes unscathed, but little else. It was directed by Julian Duvivier and has had a sea of light and serious criticism. On top of all this it won the International Film Award for whatever year it was made in.

For almost a half-dollar you can see some very bad movies in town all next week. There is *The Youngest Profession* at the Circle with only the *double entendre* in the title to recommend it, and that's not very original. Deanna Durbin will be *held* for some time along with Joseph Cotton and others somewhere. Also promiscuously selected short subjects.

We are happy to report that we have at last come across an epic-making double-bill program. The place is the Little in Washington and the bill is *The Golem* with Harry Baur and Julian Huxley's *Monkey into Man*. We could wax eloquent about this arrangement of bedfellows. Both films should be seen. *The Golem*, directed by Duvivier (see *Carnival in Flanders*) is based on a Hebrew myth about a rabbi who made a clay man and brought him to life.

CALENDAR

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

Fri., Aug. 6—Sat., Aug. 12, 1919

Friday, August 6:

3:00-5:00 P. M.
5:00 P. M.
6:30-8:00 P. M.
6:30-8:00 P. M.
8:00 P. M.

Athletics
Vesper Service
Music Seminar
Bible Class
Formal Lecture —
Rhetoric — Mark
Van Doren

Back Campus
Great Hall
Humphreys Hall
McDowell 22
Great Hall

Saturday, August 7:

10:30 A. M.-12:00 M.
9:00 P. M.

Athletics
The Film Club Presents: "Carnival in Flanders"

Back Campus
Great Hall

Sunday, August 8:

7:00-8:00 P. M.
8:00 P. M.

Recorded Concert
Student Employment
Co-operative

McDowell Plaza
McDowell 24

Monday, August 9:

3:00-5:00 P. M.
5:00 P. M.
7:00-8:00 P. M.

Athletics
Vesper Service
Recorded Concert

Back Campus
Back Campus
McDowell Plaza

Tuesday, August 10:

3:00-5:00 P. M.
5:00 P. M.
8:00 P. M.
7:00-8:30 P. M.

Athletics
Vesper Service
Bible Class
Meeting of the Madrigal Group

Back Campus
Great Hall
McDowell 22
Humphreys Hall

Wednesday, August 11:

3:00-5:00 P. M.
5:00 P. M.
7:00-8:00 P. M.

Athletics
Vesper Service
Recorded Concert

Back Campus
Great Hall
McDowell Plaza

Thursday, August 12:

3:00-5:00 P. M.
5:00 P. M.
7:30 P. M.

Athletics
Vesper Service
College Meeting

Back Campus
Great Hall
Great Hall

Friday, August 13:

3:00-5:00 P. M.
5:00 P. M.
6:30-8:00 P. M.
6:30-8:00 P. M.
8:00 P. M.

Athletics
Vesper Service
Music Seminar
Bible Class
Formal Lecture—to be announced

Back Campus
Great Hall
Humphreys Hall
McDowell 22
Great Hall

Saturday, August 14:

10:30 A. M.-12:00 M.

Athletics

Back Campus