

December 1928

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Recommended Citation

T. W. A., *College of Law Registration--Raising Requirements for Entrance*, 35 W. Va. L. Rev. (1928).
Available at: <https://researchrepository.wvu.edu/wvlr/vol35/iss1/5>

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West Virginia Law Quarterly

and THE BAR

Published by the Faculty of the College of Law of West Virginia University, and issued in December, February, April and June of each academic year. Official publication of The West Virginia Bar Association.

Subscription price to individuals, not members of The West Virginia Bar Association, \$2.00 per year. To those who are members of the Association the price is \$1.50 per and is included in their annual dues. Single copies, 50 cents.

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EDITORIALS

COLLEGE OF LAW REGISTRATION—RAISING REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRANCE.—One hundred and sixty-one law students were registered in the College of Law the first semester of this year which is the largest enrollment in the history of the school. We believe that the time has arrived when the law school should put itself on a graduate basis. There are two distinct points of view in legal education. One is that the uneducated man should have an equal opportunity with the educated to practice law. Often an uneducated lawyer makes more money because of a certain native shrewdness which the educated man sometimes lacks. This fact is generally cited as a justification of that point of view. Some people even think that an uneducated Bar aids the ideal of democracy. Hence, it has been said that the law is the only learned profession for admission to which no learning was required.

With this point of view, we register a dissent. There is no particular object in spending taxpayers' money to produce greater quantities of lawyers. The need for quantity in this direction disappeared about two hundred years ago.

Instead of quantity production of lawyers, there is a greater need for education and background in the profession. Men who fill this requirement may or may not be able to make more money than those trained in some inferior school who are not acquainted

with the traditions and theory of the law. A good trader or a promoter can always make money. These are arts which are impossible to teach in any school. An educated man is always a social asset and particularly so in the practice of law. To produce that kind of lawyers should be our ideal.

Therefore, we believe that the time has come when the College of Law should require three years college work for entrance instead of two so that all of its students would be candidates not only for the L. L. B. but also for the A. B. degrees. In other words, it should be a graduate school. This is in line with what all the better law schools are doing. We do not want to be the last one to conform this movement in legal education.

The College of Law would appreciate comment from the Bar on this proposal whether favorable or unfavorable.

—T. W. A.

A NEW DORMITORY TO COMMEMORATE THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLLEGE OF LAW.—This year marks the 50th year since the foundation of the College of Law. There is no logical reason why one anniversary should be any more important than another. There seems, however, to be a peculiar magic in round numbers and a certain prevailing human weakness which leads people to celebrate fiftieth and one hundredth anniversaries. We therefore may be pardoned for taking advantage of this anniversary to urge a new project for the development of the school.

Age, after all, is relative. Most state law schools in this country are very young. Therefore, when the College of Law of West Virginia has achieved the ripe age of fifty years, it has earned the privilege of calling itself a venerable institution. Certainly, it has the chief attribute which is commonly associated with institutions of age and standing. We refer to a body of excellent tradition. There is a tradition of good hard work which every student of the West Virginia College of Law feels upon entering and which the older students impress upon the newcomers. Such a tradition is impossible to establish in a few years. Much remains to be done, however, in building upon this tradition. Contact and ideas which students get from their fellows is fully as important as the character of the instruction. The greatest difficulty which modern colleges have to face is that the subjects studied do not become a part of the thought and daily life of the students. The chief interests of the students are elsewhere. Their entire social life is apart from the interests which they are sent to college to acquire. They gather certain miscellaneous information from their studies