

SPRING PROGRAM SURVIVING TRADITION

ARGUMENTS

REUNIONS

AWARDS

DINNER DANCE

April 22, 1972, was the day of the Law School's 29th Spring Program. Annually since 1943, alumni, students and friends of the Law School have gathered for one day in the spring.

The format is traditional. Each year it has included final arguments of the intramural Moot Court competition, judged by Supreme Court justices, the awards of scholastic honors to students, a reunion luncheon for alumni, the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Law Alumni Association, a meeting of the WLAA Board of Directors, and the gala spring dinner dance for alumni and students.

Each year, at the Alumni reunion luncheon, the Wisconsin Law Alumni Association presents awards to a distinguished Faculty member and a distinguished Alumnus of the Law School. The 1972 recipients of these awards are Prof. Nathan P. Feinsinger, a member of the Faculty for more than 40 years, and the late Judge Arthur W. Kopp, a member of the Class of 1900.

The presentation to Professor Feinsinger was made by Professor Willard Hurst. That to Judge Kopp, which was accepted by his son Roy W. Kopp, President of the newly merged Board of Regents, was made by his long-time associate, M. A. MacKichan, Platteville.

Professor Hurst's remarks, and Professor Feinsinger's response:

The faculty member whom we honor today, Professor Nathan P. Feinsinger, has a distinguished career recorded in *Who's Who*. His activities have been varied beyond even that record, however. By his own account he is the first man to graduate from the University of Michigan with Phi Beta Kappa rank, earned in a major in old Roman band instruments. He has been a member of the sheriff's posse of Aspen, Colorado. July 16 is by

proclamation set aside in the Island of Hawaii as Nathan P. Feinsinger Day, when the pineapple juice flows freely.

An institution like the University of Wisconsin Law School builds on personal loyalties. Following his graduation from the law school of the University of Michigan, Nate Feinsinger spent a year of graduate law study at Columbia. Then, in 1929, he came to this faculty, where he has been since—a full professor after 1935—though he has taught as a visitor at Chicago, Michigan, and Stanford. Over those years he has given as generously of himself as anyone I can remember in the law school, with a door always open to students and to colleagues seeking counsel as well as learning.

The law school needs to bring to its students many things, not the least some sense of the responsibility of handling power and the practical subtleties that enter into making human relations work. Samuel Williston praises a distinguished Boston lawyer as a man "who caused things to come about." Nate Feinsinger has been a man who knew how to cause things to come about.

Here the law school record becomes woven into a public record. From 1937-1939 on appointment of the governor of Wisconsin he was Special Counsel—in effect, General Counsel—of Wisconsin's first Labor Relations Board. It was a pioneering service, both in the labor relations field itself—then just emerging—and in difficult problems of federal-state relations in this new area of public regulation.

He had his full baptism of fire on the national labor relations scene in World War II, when from 1942 to 1945 he served the National War Labor Board, first as Associate General Counsel, and then as Director of National Labor Disputes and as a public member. He returned to Washington in another war crisis, when in the adjustments to the Korean War he was from 1951 to 1952 Chairman of the Wage Stabilization Board.



Mr. Feinsinger and Mr. Hurst

His key roles, however, were in the longer, more sustained problems of peacetime labor relations. He served as special representative of the Secretary of Labor in labor disputes from 1946 to 1949. He was chairman of public fact finding boards in steel, meat packing, and airline labor disputes in 1946 and 1948—hot spots, all of them. His most continuous service to the labor relations field was as contract umpire under the General Motors-United Automobile Workers contract from 1954 to 1968—a most unusually long record compared with the customary tenure of contract umpires. In that period he built such a workable body of precedent that the annual docket of grievances filed before him fell from one of several hundred cases at the outset to an average of about 12 per year.

Back at the law school it was appropriate to this record of experience that he should set up and direct a Center for Teaching and Research in Disputes Settlement. The Center's concept is that lessons learned in the specific area of labor relations should be capable of some transference to other problem fields.

There are two things to be said, over-all, about this record of mingled law school and public service. One is institutional: few men have done more to bring into being a new field of legal order than has Nate Feinsinger in the area of labor relations. In the past 40 years the development of labor relations law and practice has provided a modern analogy to the rise of Equity. Nate Feinsinger has an honorable place in that record, comparable to the law-making record of the creative English Chancellors. The analogy holds the more, because—as with the development of Equity—there were major questions of the separation of powers to be resolved in the interplay of law and collective bargaining—problems of the proper balance between government intervention and private dealing, problems of the proper balance within the firm between management prerogative and union claims.

The other general comment on the record is personal. Nate Feinsinger, one qualified to speak has told me, kept the peace almost single-handed in the contentious trucking industry during World War II, with all that that outcome meant to the war effort and the country's economy. He kept the peace there, and thereafter in countless other situations, basically because of the man he is. He is a master judge of human nature, with extraordinary antennae to pick up other people's reactions. He has high capacity to grasp general goals always with a hardheaded sense of the particular facts of the situation at hand; his operations have always shown the insight of Holmes's appreciation that "general propositions do not decide concrete cases." Perhaps above all he has been able time and again to exorcise fear among parties to disputes—bringing contestants to a sensible working knowledge of each other, out of their confidence in his combination of humor, acuteness, and integrity.

To keep the peace with principle and commonsense is a top accomplishment for men of law. As fellows in that profession we can all take the more pride in the company of Nate Feinsinger.

Professor Feinsinger's response:

I could have listened to Willard speak all day.

First of all, I am happy to note that the Alumni have changed their past practice and are now bestowing the Distinguished Alumni-Faculty Award on professors midway instead of at the end of their careers.

I can think of many persons more deserving of this award than I am. The list would include, for example, Dick Campbell, for his pioneering work in the field of automobile accidents; Bill Foster, who

bore the brunt of the attack on the Law Faculty during the recent unpleasantness on the campus; the Faculty as a whole for its readiness to consider the students' grievances but insisting that any reforms be considered in an atmosphere of reasoned persuasion rather than force; Mrs. Nellie Davidson and her staff, who really run the Law School but graciously permit the Faculty to believe they work for us; and last, but not least, to Dean Kimball for his successful efforts to cement Law School relations with the bench and bar and for his good sense in quitting while he was ahead.

With full recognition of these and other priorities, I am most grateful for this award. Thank you.

M. A. McKichan's remarks in honor of Judge Kopp follow:

I am pleased and happy to have the honor of announcing, on behalf of the U.W. Law School, that Arthur W. Kopp, deceased, formerly of Platteville, Wisconsin, has been awarded the 1972 University of Wisconsin Law School Distinguished Alumnus Award by the combined vote of the Law School Board of Visitors and the Law School Board of Directors with the cooperation of the Benchers Society.

This ceremony is particularly meaningful to me as Judge Kopp was like a second father to me and I was associated in the practice of law with him, or in the Circuit in which he was a Judge, from 1935 until his death.

Judge Kopp was born at Big Patch, Wisconsin, on February 28, 1875. He died at Platteville, Wisconsin, at the age of 92, on June 2, 1967.

He was married to Emily K. Hutton in 1902—she died in 1955 while she and Judge Kopp were on an ocean liner bound for the Middle East.

His immediate family, who sur-



Judge Kopp

vive him, are his son, and my law partner since 1935, W. Roy Kopp, Platteville, Wisconsin, Marion, who married Earle Greenwood and lives at Houston, Texas, and Miss Emily Kopp, Platteville, Wisconsin. Marion could not be here today, but I am most happy that Emily is here.

Judge Kopp is honored today because of his outstanding contributions to the profession of law and to the Law School as a practitioner,

as a judge, in government service, and in his continuing interest in the Law School and its students, staff, and welfare.

Without elaboration, some highlights of his long law career—1900-1967—should be mentioned.

All of the time he was going to school prior to entering the Law School, he has told me, he had the ever present dream of becoming a lawyer and going to the University of Wisconsin to get his degree.

He was a school teacher after graduating from the Platteville Normal School in 1895; he was principal of schools in Muscoda for three years and then entered the Law School. He graduated from the Law School in 1900. At that time, all professors except two or three, including the Dean, were prominent attorneys in Madison; his favorite teachers included Burr W. Jones, John M. Olin, and Robert M. Bashford. Judge Kopp regarded John M. Olin as one of the greatest trial lawyers that ever lived in Wisconsin. In connection with his school activities, he was very proud of his election to the Order of Coif.



M. A. McKichan, Miss Emily Kopp, Roy Kopp

He was Grant County District Attorney for two terms—1905 to 1909. Under the caucus system, in his first contest for District Attorney, his opponent was John J. Blaine, later to become Governor and United States Senator.

From 1909 to 1913 he was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, representing the Third District in the 61st Congress. This was during the administration of William Howard Taft. He declined to run for re-election.

He served in his second term in the then important Committee on Naval Affairs, and he had many interesting trips as a result—including riding the first passenger train to go to Key West, Florida.

During his practice he enjoyed membership in and was active in the affairs of the American, Wisconsin and Grant County Bar Associations. He served as President of the Wisconsin Bar Association in 1929-1930.

He earned a reputation as one of the nation's leading authorities on gas fumes in lead and zinc mining, and for a period of some 20 years he enjoyed a career of trying this type of case from coast to coast.

At the time of Judge Kopp's retirement from active practice, and when he became a judge, he was known as one of the leading trial lawyers in Wisconsin, and represented as local counsel many insurance companies.

He was a member and chairman or presiding officer for many years of the Committee of the Supreme Court and State Bar Association on Rules of Practice and Procedure, which work continued when this committee was replaced by the Judicial Council. His contributions to these agencies were valuable in promoting the administration of justice in Wisconsin.

He was elected Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Wisconsin in 1942. He remained on the bench for 12 years, until his retirement in 1955.

It was said, in connection with his retirement, that for 12 years Justice in the Fifth Circuit wore silver rimmed glasses, bow ties, and a benign expression. The last comment could not be made, however, without recognizing that Judge Kopp's grandfather came here from Prussia, and the drill master technique was present in his court. He ran a very tight ship, and insisted that proceedings continue without any form of delay.

After he stepped down from the bench, he continued to help as needed and handled several assignments as a substitute judge.

As a jurist, his decisions and court conduct earned him attention as one of the state's top circuit judges.

He continued to practice in association with our firm from his retirement from the bench until his death. He came to the office every day.

Judge Kopp's life contained a brimming measure of personal achievement; and for all of his active life, he was a most gracious, fun-loving man, who was respected and loved by all who knew him.

To memorialize Judge Kopp's selection, there will be a bronze plaque at the Law School, bearing his name and a brief summary of his relations with the school and his professional achievements. A biographical statement will also be published in the Law Review, and filed in the School Library.

I am therefore most pleased to present at this time to W. Roy Kopp a certificate of this award hereby made to Judge Kopp and his family.

BUNN HONORED

DINNER DANCE

The Spring Dinner Dance, in addition to providing the main social event on the Law School calendar, affords law students an opportunity to present their own citations for services to the student body, and their Teacher of the Year award. This year the Teacher of the Year was chosen by a poll of the entire student body.

Honored by the Student Bar Council for their services to the student body were: Earl Schmidt, Ray Thoenig, Dan Blalock, Horace Harris, Jean Chafet and Bruce Kerr.

Professor George Bunn was chosen Teacher of the Year. President Stephen Brown made the presentation with the following remarks:

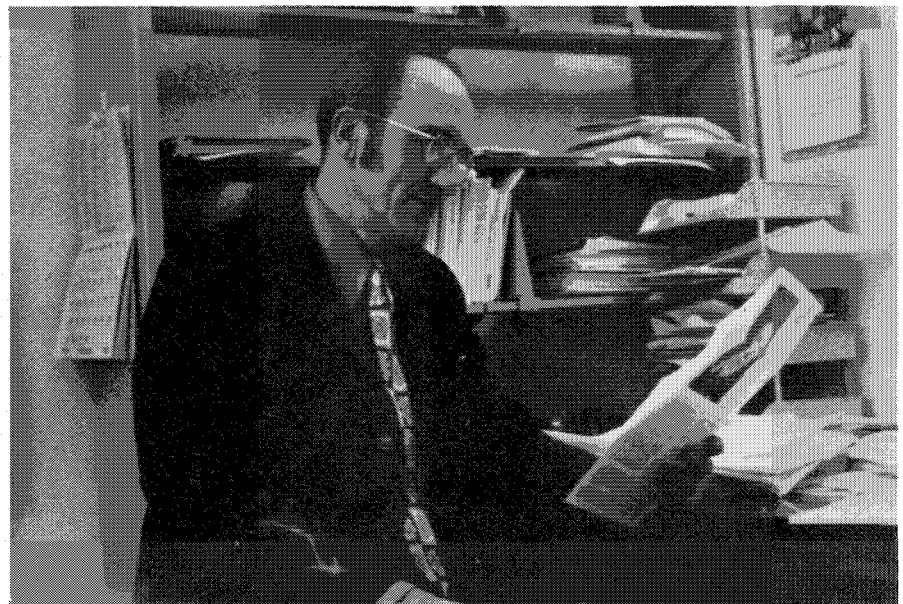
The man honored tonight has earned the respect and appreciation of his students for his use of stimulating and innovative teaching methods. He has utilized the practical problem-solving method in his teaching in areas of rapidly changing law. Despite the ever increasing

size of classes he continues to use the problem-solving method and devotes an extraordinary amount of time to class preparation and student evaluation. He is always available to students and communicates his ideas effectively to them.

Having received his law degree at Columbia he worked briefly for the Atomic Energy Commission before becoming an associate with the Washington law firm of Arnold, Fortas and Porter. He became a partner with the firm and after 10 years was appointed General Counsel of the U.S. Arms Control & Disarmament Agency. During that time he served in the U.S. delegation to the Geneva Disarmament Congress, with the rank of Ambassador.

He came to Wisconsin in 1959 and has been professor of law since 1970.

It is with deep appreciation and gratitude that we the students present this award to Professor George Bunn.



Mr. Bunn