THE NEED OF "VISION"

The builders of every enterprise are men of vision. Men of commonplace talents may carry on a business once firmly established. But the man who can envision his castle of dreams and transmute that vision into reality is the man who builds for posterity.

We need in our Alumni Association men of vision, men who can foresee the immense possibilities of public service involved in this movement. We have among our graduates men of transcendent ability; men of high ideals; men who are incorruptible; who have struggled up from adversity to become a prominent at the bar of Massachusetts. We have among us material for judges, attorneys general, governors, congressmen and senators. Massachusetts and the Nation need the very contribution that Suffolk Law School is eminently qualified to make.

But until we can organize as other schools have done, our graduates will continue to play lone hands, will continue to be outgeneralled and outnumbered in law and in politics in this Commonwealth.

But if we organize, if we select with great care those among us whom we are to support and then through the whole weight of our organization build the thing we will accomplish glorious results. When the day dawns that Suffolk judges are sitting in every court in the Commonwealth, side by side with the graduates of other schools, we will find that popular prejudice against evening trained lawyers has vanished into the limbo of forgotten things.

We need men of vision to take active part in organizing our new association. Such men we already have in our Executive Committee of Founders. We need more of them. Let us make it a committee of one hundred strong.

Alumni Convention

The Alumni convention of March 10th, 1927, was a notable event. It was held in the school auditorium. Trustees and Faculty occupied the platform, while the graduates spread out in an impressive array on the main floor.

The opening feature of the evening was a program of songs by Martin W. Powers '25, the well known radio artist, and by Mrs. Gleason L. Archer. While Mrs. Archer sings very seldom in public, her naturally rich voice has been trained under an acknowledged master, Prof. F. Morse Wemple of the New England Conservatory of Music. She was persuaded by the Dean to assist in inaugurating this unique feature in Alumni meetings. Mr. Power's accompanist was Miss Ethel Shaunessy, while Miss Louise Furman acted in a similar capacity for Mrs. Archer.

Dean Gleason L. Archer, who was drafted by the Trustees of the School to organize the new Alumni Association, acted as presiding officer. In a brief address at the beginning he outlined the needs of a strong organization but stressed the need of becoming acquainted with one another before electing officers.

As Director of Organization until January 1, 1928 (when the permanent organization will be effected), Dean Archer announced his intention of calling upon alumni to serve on various temporary committees with the right to change the personnel of any committee if members first appointed failed to attend meetings of a committee.

Alden M. Cleveland '24 was appointed Alumni Secretary for 1927 and Martin W. Powers '25 was appointed Treasurer for the balance of the year.

The first business was the adoption of a name. This provoked a lively discussion but the assembly finally agreed upon "Suffolk Law Alumni Association."

An Alumni catalog was discussed but final action thereon was deferred until the committee could supply more definite figures on cost of same.

The question of an Alumni Club House provoked much discussion but no definite action was taken.

One of the most important results of the meeting was the adoption of the following motion sponsored by P. Emmet Gavin '26. "The fee for charter membership in the association shall be $10. to all graduates who join prior to January 1, 1928, but $20, thereafter (except to graduates of the class of 1928 or subsequent classes)."

The following graduates spoke from the floor on one or another of the matters under discussion:

Robert A. Barrett '23
Jeremiah P. Killey '18
James A. Mulhall '23
P. Emmet Gavin '26
George A. Douglas '09 of the Faculty

Morris Katzeff '12
Albert J. Cohen '26
Max Reiser '25
William P. Doherty '25
James A. Monagle '25
Philip J. Gallagher '21
Frank Keester of the Faculty.
Sidney S. von Loesecke '28
Martin Berkall '25
Emil N. Winkler '24
Walter V. McCarthy '20
James H. Brennan '21
Kenneth C. Dunlop '19
William V. Hayden '19
Joseph F. O'Connell of the Trustees.
Herbert C. Kuhn '23
Isaac Mostow '16
Hiram J. Archer of the Faculty.

Club House Project

Having canvassed the situation very thoroughly, Dean Archer decided that if the Alumni Association were to have a Club House during the coming year it would be necessary to call upon the school for aid. He discussed the matter with his associates on the Board of Trustees of the school and found them willing to authorize the purchase if a suitable building could be secured.

While not yet at liberty to disclose the location, Dean Archer has already selected one of the finest colonial houses on Beacon Hill and is waiting only to ascertain the response of the Alumni before making the purchase.

The building is near the school. It has high ceilings, beautiful staircases, spacious rooms, fireplaces and every virtue of colonial architecture. It has a very favorable location and is in every way worthy to be the home of a great alumni association.

The school will buy the building and offer it to the alumni association rent free, provided the association raises a sufficient fund adequately to equip the building as a club house.

The front of the building should be sandblasted to bring out the beauty of its masonry. The name of the association should be placed over the main entrance. Interior alterations, including installation of lavatories in the men's room, are necessary. Painting and decorating should be done during the coming summer. A working library, furniture and equipment must be provided.

The cost of equipping the club house as above indicated will cost in
the neighborhood of ten thousand dollars. But an emergency fund in addition to that amount should be provided to take care of the expense of a resident secretary and for necessities. After the first year these latter expenses can be met out of annual dues.

The association should speedily be placed on a self-supporting basis — a matter of no great difficulty where Suffolk Law School is offering the building rent free. To finance the beginning of things is therefore our real problem. A modest endowment campaign is essential.

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THE VALUE OF LOYALTY

By GLEASON L. ARCHER, LL. D.

The soul of every movement is loyalty, loyalty to the common purpose, loyalty of man to other men whose interests and welfare are identical with his own. Loyalty is of two kinds.

There is the light loyalty of the lips whose worth is empty words. There is a deep loyalty of the heart whose worth is as measureless as love itself. This is the loyalty that impels one to serve in the very hour of danger, in the morning of battle. This is the only loyalty worthy of the name.

He who possesses loyalty of the lips will utter apologies. He will frame lies and formulate excuses. He will skulk during danger. He will hide during the battle. But with loud huzzas he will join the ranks of the victorious army when the fighting is over and the rewards of victory are in sight.

In every aggregation of men we find both types of loyalty. Yes, and we find still a third type, the positively disloyal—the saffron tinted gentry who proclaim their own unworthiness everywhere under the delusion that they are injuring others. All three types will be found among the graduates of Suffolk Law School.

I have in mind two individuals of the Class of 1914, the first class to receive law degrees from our school. Both had passed the bar examinations in January 1914. Both attempted to evade the rule that a student cannot receive his degree if he owes tuition. Each man gave his promissory note for $10.50. These notes are still in our archives unredeemed. It is not difficult to catalog these men.

I have in mind two other men who were students in the pioneer days of the school. One was a man vehement, positive and sometimes wrong in his answers but honest at all times. The other was a man of equal brilliancy but who would not scruple to cite a case in 29 Metcalf in support of his problem answer and whose motto often voiced was “Do the other fellow before he does you.”

Today the first man is an eminent lawyer, just now very much in the public eye. He belongs to our new alumni association. The second man made a failure of his law practice. He is soured against life. He has a grudge against the world and against alumni associations.

In organizing our new alumni association we shall accomplish more than the mere enrollment of members. We shall separate the wheat from the chaff among our graduates. Were the membership fee but one dollar we might expect all but the disloyal to join. But the convention of March 1927 most wisely set the charter membership fee at $10.

Those whose loyalty is of the lips will hesitate. They will make excuses. Though they might pay twenty-five dollars to join the City Club or fifty dollars to join the University Club, neither of which would take any interest in them personally, yet they will hesitate to pay $10 to this new organization whose sole purpose is to aid them and their fellow graduates.

But out of this beginning we shall lay the foundation of a great organization. Those whose loyalty is of the heart will band themselves together now, this year. They will be ready to speak and to act for one another, to advance the interests of their fellow members without regard to those graduates who remain outside.

To the new alumni association Suffolk Law School pledges active cooperation and financial support. This day we unfurl the banner of your Alma Mater and call to the colors every red-blooded, true-hearted son of Suffolk.

By the authority of the Trustees, I am to be your Director of Organization until January 1928. My task is to enlist you, to organize you, to get you acquainted with one another, to provide you a club house if I can, and to place in your control when I surrender my commission a strong alumni association.

Success is already assured. In the new association there will be one type of man only—he whose loyalty is of the heart, who serves in the hour of danger and in the morning of battle. Is your name on the muster roll of volunteers?

SUFFOLK ALUMNI NEWS

A Great Opportunity

By GEORGE H. SPELLANE, ’21

Professor of Law in Suffolk Law School

The Suffolk Alumni have a great opportunity through membership in the Suffolk Law Alumni Association. Every genuine Suffolk graduate who can do so will undoubtedly become a member of the Association and it is hoped that many will find it possible to be active in its affairs and upon its Committees.

Those of us who have interested ourselves in this movement firmly intend that it shall be successful in a high degree. The Executive Committee of Founders should not be increased beyond the membership of one hundred nor will a larger contribution than the $100 limit be solicited from any alumnus joining its ranks.

We wish to have the membership closed at as early a date as possible, but we also desire to give every true Suffolk man who so desires, an opportunity to place his name upon the honor roll of this Committee.

To that end, we have devised a plan that will permit the inclusion of this many budgets which might otherwise allow no provision for it during the current year and we are going to place the subscription of the amount named, on a monthly basis. That is to say, $10 a month, for a period of 10 months at which time the full subscription will have been paid in.

This, we believe, will give an impetus so that the ranks of the Founder’s Committee will be quickly filled.

Let every Suffolk man who can do so, become a member of the Executive Committee of Founders of Suffolk Law Alumni Association.

Next Alumni Meeting

It is imperative that every graduate of Suffolk Law School who wishes to identify himself with the new association be present at the meeting of Thursday evening, April 14, at 7:30 P. M. Let us fill the auditorium even better than at the last meeting. Permanent records of attendance with the name of every person present will start at the next meeting. From these records, disclosing faithful or lax attendance, will later be determined one’s eligibility for office if a rule now pending is adopted.

So whether you belong to the “enthusiastic Boosters” or the “Anvil Chorus,” come to this meeting and let us have your help. If he who his help and your criticism. If he
runs the "steam roller" over your suggestions in a meeting it will be because he has spent hours on a topic to which you have given as many minutes. He has but one object in view—to lay the foundations of a great permanent alumni association. If you give him half a chance he will do it. He can't do it unless the alumni are with him.

One of the purposes of these meetings is to get acquainted. A lively discussion conducted without animosity is highly beneficial. Come and do your bit.

J. N. Heffernan '18, President of the City Council of Boston, who will be the first speaker of the evening.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Should we not have the following provisions in the Constitution or By Laws? Consider carefully the laws to be adopted in January 1928?

I. Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting and the election of officers shall be held on the second Tuesday of January.

II. Membership.

(a) Membership in the association shall, subject to certain exceptions, be limited to graduates of Suffolk Law School or to Suffolk trained lawyers not graduates who were in good standing when they left Suffolk Law School.

(b) Membership in the Board of Trustees or on the Faculty of Suffolk Law School shall render such member ineligible to membership in the association. Honorary members may be elected at any regular monthly meeting.

(c) Nominations to membership after organization shall be made by the Membership Committee. Election shall be by a three-fourths vote of those present at any regular meeting.

(d) Membership shall be forfeited by four months non-payment of dues, which are hereby made payable (after the last Tuesday of each month) by the secretary, but a member must be notified by the secretary or treasurer one month before adverse action. Membership may be restored for misconduct, but unless such member voluntarily resigns forfeiture shall not be decreed except by recommendation of the membership committee after due investigation.

III. Membership Committee.

The Membership Committee shall consist of one representative from each class having members in the association.

IV. Eligibility for Office.

Eligibility for the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer shall be limited to those who have completed their law training in Suffolk Law School at least thirty months prior to the annual meeting before which election is sought. All such candidates must have been members of the association one full year and have attended at least two-thirds of the monthly meetings of the year prior to said annual meeting.

V. Secretary.

So long as the Alumni Association continues to occupy a club building owned by the school and the care and cleaning of such building is a duty of the secretary of the association the Trustees and Faculty shall have the exclusive right to nominate the secretary. In the event of a graduate of Suffolk Law School.

VI. Duties of Secretary.

The secretary shall keep an accurate record of each member at the monthly meetings, as well as a record of business or other important features of such meetings. He shall act as Treasurer of the Club House and be responsible for janitor service. All routine affairs of the association will be under his charge.

VII. Elections.

(a) Membership in the association shall be nominated and elected in the following order:

(1) Nomination papers signed by at least twenty members shall be filed on or before December 15th of each year. The Faculty shall thereupon investigate the record of attendance of each member at alumni meetings from January to December, consider his general qualifications for the office sought and from the list select not more than three names for the office. Certified nominations will be printed in the Alumni News for January to be mailed to the members at least one week prior to the annual meeting. Australian ballots will be prepared and the election held at the January meeting. No member whose record has not been investigated by the Faculty in the manner indicated, shall be elected or serve without compensation.

(b) Election will be held at the call of the President (or Director until January 1928) or of the chairman of the committee. The secretary shall notify committee members in advance of such meetings.

IX. Judicial Appointments.

Candidates for judicial appointments in the various sections of Massachusetts may be nominated by the Dean, Faculty or upon request of any five members of the association. The secretaries shall thereupon as soon as convenient arrange for the candidate to meet the Committee on Judicial Appointments in order that the said committee may be fully informed concerning his fitness and availability for the office sought. If thus prepared, when a vacancy occurs in the court to which he aspires, the committee will be in a position to advocate his cause with the same zeal and promptness manifested by the alumni associations of other schools in behalf of their own candidates.

PERSONAL MENTION

George A. Douglas '09 was tendered a very high compliment when selected by the court some months ago to defend Peter Mclaughlin, the last of the so-called "car barn bandits." Three of them have already been executed for murder. The same evidence and the precedent of the other convictions will weigh heavily against the accused. No lawyer could have been assigned a harder task. Perhaps no lawyer in Massachusetts is better qualified to defend the doomed client than is Professor Douglas.

Douglas was one of the original nine who attended that fateful lecture by Gleason L. Archer September 19, 1906, at 6 Alpine Street, Roxbury, when Suffolk Law School was founded. He is a product of evening schools; of the evening High Schools of Boston and of Suffolk Law School. But he is also a graduate of the University of Hard Knocks. He was a jewelry salesman during his law school days.

But upon graduation from law school in 1909 he at once plunged into the profession of law in which he has been singularly successful. In September 1910 he was appointed to the faculty of his Alma Mater as instructor in Criminal Law and Agency. His success led to his being appointed to a permanent professorship. For nearly seventeen years he has been one of our most popular and efficient faculty members.

John J. Heffernan '18, President of the City Council of Boston, is one of the most interesting young men in public life in Massachusetts today. At the early age of thirty-four he has attained an elevation second only to that of Mayor of Boston. In fact he is acting Mayor whenever the chief executive leaves on a vacation or business trip. There are those who believe that Heffernan will be the next Mayor of Boston.

He has served with distinction in the Massachusetts Legislature and has long been recognized as a local leader of his party. His ability as a speaker is well known and his speeches reveal a profound insight into life and the needs of society. He is strictly temperate in his manner of life and presents the rare spectacle of a politician who does not indulge even in tobacco. A charming wife and small daughter furnish the home background for this rising young man of whom Suffolk Law School is justly proud.

To Dean Archer and the Faculty he is still "Heffernan of Brighton." For eight years after his graduation from law school was another John Joseph Heffernan to whom necessity bestowed the distinguishing title of "Professor of Practical Law." The two Heffernans became bosom friends, remaining in the same class and division until the day of graduation. Both are now practicing law in Boston.