A Note from the Editor

Buffalo Law Review

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Recommended Citation
Buffalo Law Review, A Note from the Editor, 1 Buff. L. Rev. ix (1951).
Available at: https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/buffalolawreview/vol1/iss1/4
A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

A few words to those now perusing these pages may be in order. First, greetings to the many among you we can not now claim as friends; may that situation be soon rectified. Whatever the reason for your attention to our efforts — whether merited respect due others than ourselves, a catholic interest in legal stuff, or mere curiosity — we do welcome your consideration. And to those readers we have known before, and on whose interest we can rely, we add to the above our best regards.

The many hard lessons to be learned in the course of inaugurating a review need not be dwelt upon now; they will not be soon forgotten. But some of our impressions gained along the way may be of more general interest. The effort put into this affair has been largely a labor of love as we started off some yards behind scratch, but one unexpected and welcome compensation has resulted: our worries over that infamous bogey known as the bar exam have been crowded from our view by the more pressing problems embodied herein. As for our finals here at school, we must plead nolo contendere; our capacity for concern has long since been over-extended. The frequent denouements encountered in our review work deserve mention, as when, in the course of discussing, with counsel for the loser, a case we then felt was a considerable extension of the existing law, his only comment was, “Hell — we were lucky to get a dissent.” Some of the small but heartening pleasures our work provided should also be noted: the many times our uninitiated choice of noteworthy cases was verified by several other reviews — though this pleasure was short-lived for obvious reasons; the pleasant afternoon afforded us by the editors of the Quarterly at Cornell; the day we got our new office; even the arrival of the first-unsolicited subscription; and the never-ending shop talk. Our filing system is a joke to be sure, and our deadlines have broken all existing speed records for backward running, in a highly competitive field — but we offer our wares unafraid for the most part. If the last resort of disappointed litigants is indeed the law reviews, then this forum is open for business. We solicit your comments suggestions and correspondence.

Lastly, if we may borrow some phrasing from a friend, new projects of this sort create new obligations. Many persons have been most generous with their help. We shall not forget their interest.
Whatever his present place or future position, Louis Jaffe must always be known to us and to his many friends hereabouts as Dean Jaffe, as thus it was when we first met him and learned to catch his seemingly innocuous questions on the first bounce, so to speak, whenever possible. Perhaps some of you may have been fortunate enough to know him as a student at Harvard Law School or as law clerk to Mr. Justice Brandeis. As the chair he now occupies attests, he may be most widely known for his achievements in administrative law. Besides his academic experience, he spent some years working with federal agencies in Washington and has written frequently in that field. It is our pleasure, however, to present some of his views on a matter of torts, a subject to which he introduced us. Mr. Jaffe’s article on res ipsa loquitur should be of interest to many, of course, being the work of a recognized legal scholar who is noted for his deft way with words and ideas. We expect further that you will find it appealing as we did, in taking up the cudgels most ably with Dean Prosser and Professor Seavey.

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We wish to call attention to our book review section to which we have given special emphasis. The result has been some very worthwhile reviews. To mention just one of these — in reviewing the Gluecks’ latest work on juvenile delinquency, Judge Victor B. Wylegala has utilized statistics from the records of the Erie County Children’s Court. These, together with the insights gained in his years of work with juveniles, afford a unique presentation of the problems in that field. We plan to continue this sort of offering in the future and would welcome the suggestions and aid of interested members of the profession in this regard.