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This is the tenth of a series of articles on Catholic law schools in America.

SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF LAW

WARREN P. MCKENNEY*

The formal beginning of the present College of Law dates back to 1911 under Rev. James P. Morrissey, S.J., then President of the college. The Institute of Law was originally organized as part of Santa Clara College with courses in law offered as part of the undergraduate curricula in both the afternoon and evening. In 1912, the Institute of Law was redesignated as the College of Law, Santa Clara University, and our first class, numbering thirteen, graduated in June, 1914.

The College of Law continued as an evening law school until the year 1929 when it was reorganized as a full-time day school. This was under the tutelage and initiative of the then President, Rev. Cornelius J. McCoy, S.J., and Rev. William Gianera, S.J., Dean of Studies, and later, President of the University. Father Gianera is still on our campus today as assistant to the President, and is known by the undergraduates and law students alike as "Father Santa Clara."

In 1933 a further reorganization took place under Rev. James J. Lyons, S.J., President. Through his efforts and the efforts of Father Gianera, the Hon. Edwin J. Owens was employed as our first full-time law school dean. Dean Owens served in this capacity during the period of 1933 to 1953 when he was appointed to the Superior Court Bench of the State of California on October 1, 1953.

Many accomplishments resulted during the administration of Dean Owens. In 1939, the College of Law received full accreditation from the American Bar Association and, in 1940, from the Association of American Law Schools. Again in the year 1939, the new and present law building was constructed through the generous contribution of Thomas I. Bergin, the first graduate of Santa Clara College in 1857.

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During the period from 1912 through 1943, when the College of Law closed for the duration of the war, the enrollment was small and select, having during that period of time only 159 graduates. However, during that same period many of our graduates, as members of the Bar, held very high positions in the judiciary and other governmental offices both state and national.



Dean Warren P. McKenney

In this regard it is to be noted that eighteen of these 159 graduates have been appointed to the Bench in California and one to the Bench of the federal district courts. In addition, many of our graduates have served as District Attorneys, Assistant District Attorneys, and as Assistant to the Attorney General.

In 1945 the College of Law reopened, and has continued to prosper to this date.

Our curriculum at the College of Law is basically that of all accredited colleges and universities throughout the United States, with special emphasis placed upon local California laws.

Our law library, located in Bergin Hall, has been developed as the working library

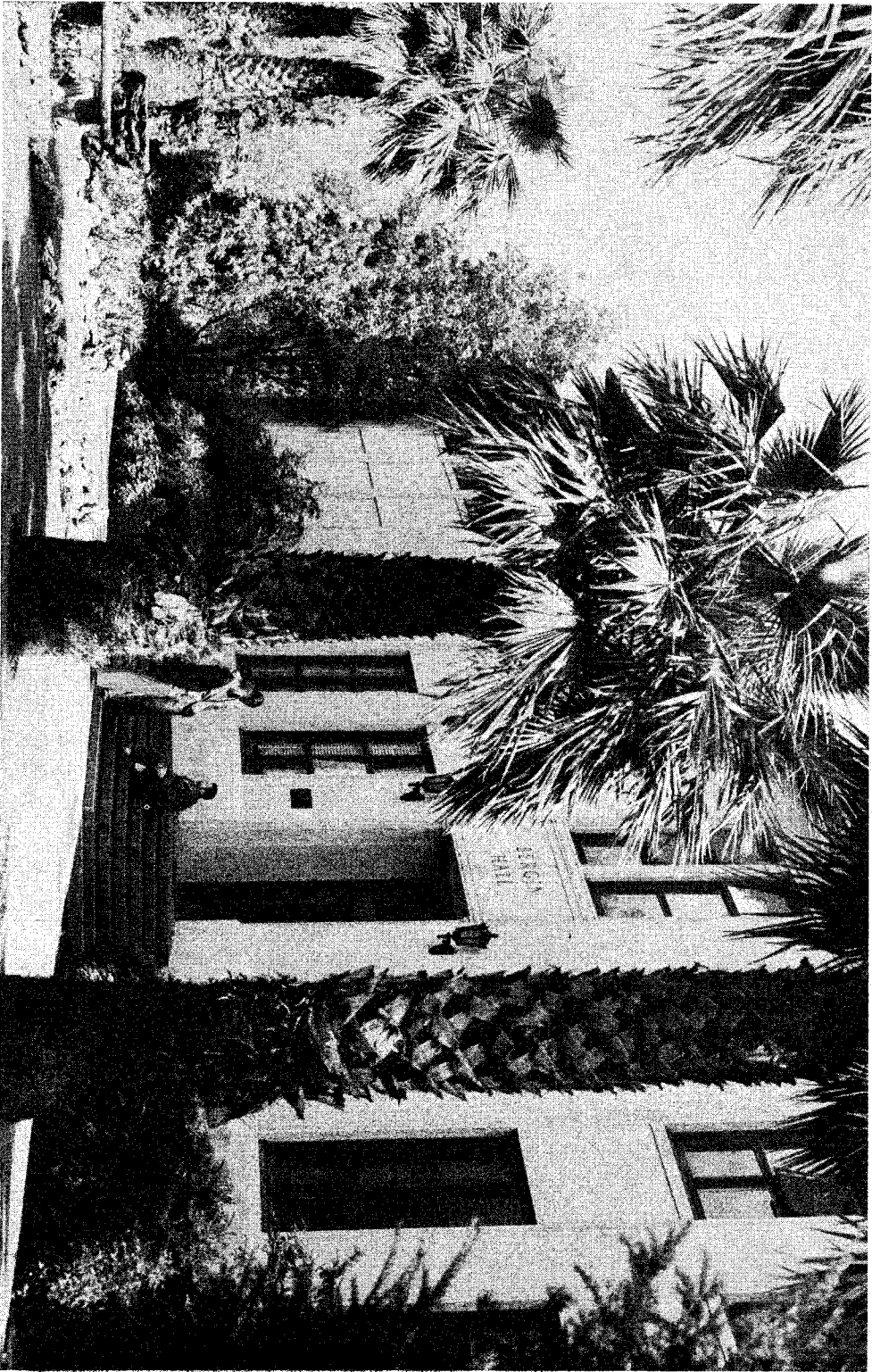
for the faculty and students of the College of Law, but, in addition, it also serves as a reference library for the members of the Santa Clara County Bar Association.

The rapidly growing library collection contains all the required materials of the Association of American Law Schools. The library consists of carefully selected materials in the fields of Anglo-American statutory, decisional, text book and periodical sources. Special fields of development have been in the taxation and medico-legal jurisprudence areas. The collection is classified and catalogued by author, subject and title entry. The librarian issues a quarterly *Library Bulletin* to the faculty of the College of Law, reporting new additions in library literature, and library news of interest to faculty, students and lawyers.

The student publication of the College of Law is the *Santa Clara Lawyer*, published four times during the academic school year. It is sent to all the alumni of the College of Law.

The St. Thomas More Society was established at the Law School during the academic year 1955-56. Its activities are primarily spiritual. Membership is open to all students of the College of Law and those students of the University who are interested in the teachings and philosophy of St. Thomas More. Its members attend a quarterly Communion Breakfast on the campus of the University, where lectures are given by prominent Catholic lawyers and members of the clergy concerning the application of Christian philosophy to current legal problems.

The purposes of the Santa Clara Law Society are to promote the best interests of the Law School and to bring together as members those persons among the alumni of the University interested in the welfare

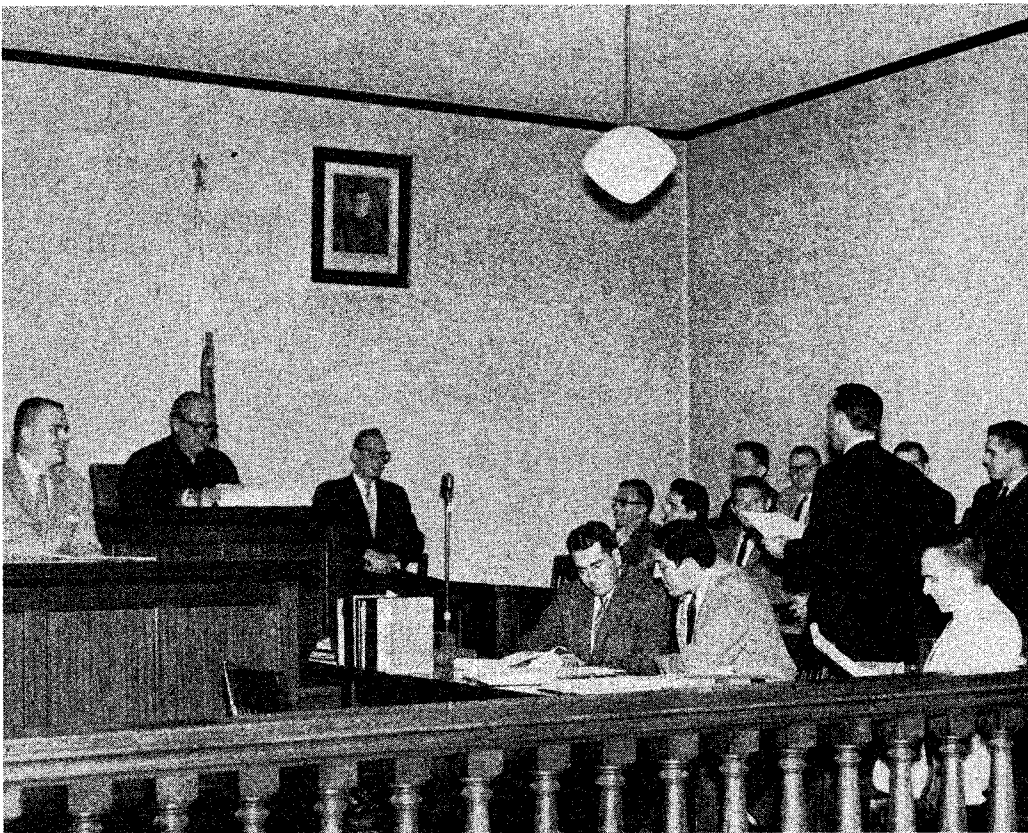


Bergin Hall, the College of Law, Santa Clara University.

of the Law School; to promote cordial relationship and closer cooperation, and to foster a spirit of loyalty and fraternity among its members, and between its members and the faculty of the Law School; to marshal the activities and influences of its members to the end that a law school of high standing may be maintained at the University; and to assist the Alumni Association of the University in effecting its purpose.

One of the unique features of the Law School is our tutoring system. It is believed that the program adopted by Santa Clara is of untold benefit to the students. Under the supervision of the Dean of the College of Law, outstanding second- and third-year

students are selected to carry on a program of tutorship for incoming first-year law students. The tutor selected contacts his group, consisting of not more than four freshmen. He advises them that he is available at all times for assistance in the study of law. He indicates to them the methods of approach and application. The tutor gives his group an examination, corrects the examinations, and advises his freshmen accordingly. The results are then presented to the full-time faculty member in charge, who discusses the problems, if any, with the individual freshman law student. Group seminars are held weekly, under the tutorage of the group leader. In this way freshman law students have had five pre-



Moot Court Trial in Bergin Hall.

paratory examinations so that when school finals come along they are not completely unprepared. This program is an honor program and the students are envious of those persons selected to be tutors. It is voluntary, born of the democratic nature of the College of Law.

It is the conviction of the Faculty of the College of Law that law graduates are inadequately prepared to meet the problems of trial practice. In keeping with its policy of teaching the law students to put into actual practice the legal principles and theories learned in the classroom, the College of Law maintains a practice or moot court program. Actual cases, both civil and criminal, are tried.

In addition to the trial moot court for the third-year law students, an appellate moot court is held for the second-year students. This program is under the supervision of the Director of the Appellate Moot Court. The Moot Court Committee of the Student Bar Association supervises the mechanics of the court, which consists of three members selected from the judiciary and members of the local Bar Association. Individual citations are awarded to outstanding participants in this program. A faculty committee composed of the Dean and two other members of the faculty select the outstanding members of the program to represent the College of Law in the State and National Appellate Moot Court Competitions.

In September of 1955, Warren P. McKenney was appointed Dean of the College of Law. Prior to his coming to Santa Clara, Dean McKenney had been connected with the District Attorney's office in Los Angeles from 1940 to 1942, and with the War Crimes branch of the Judge Advocate General's Department in Germany until 1946.

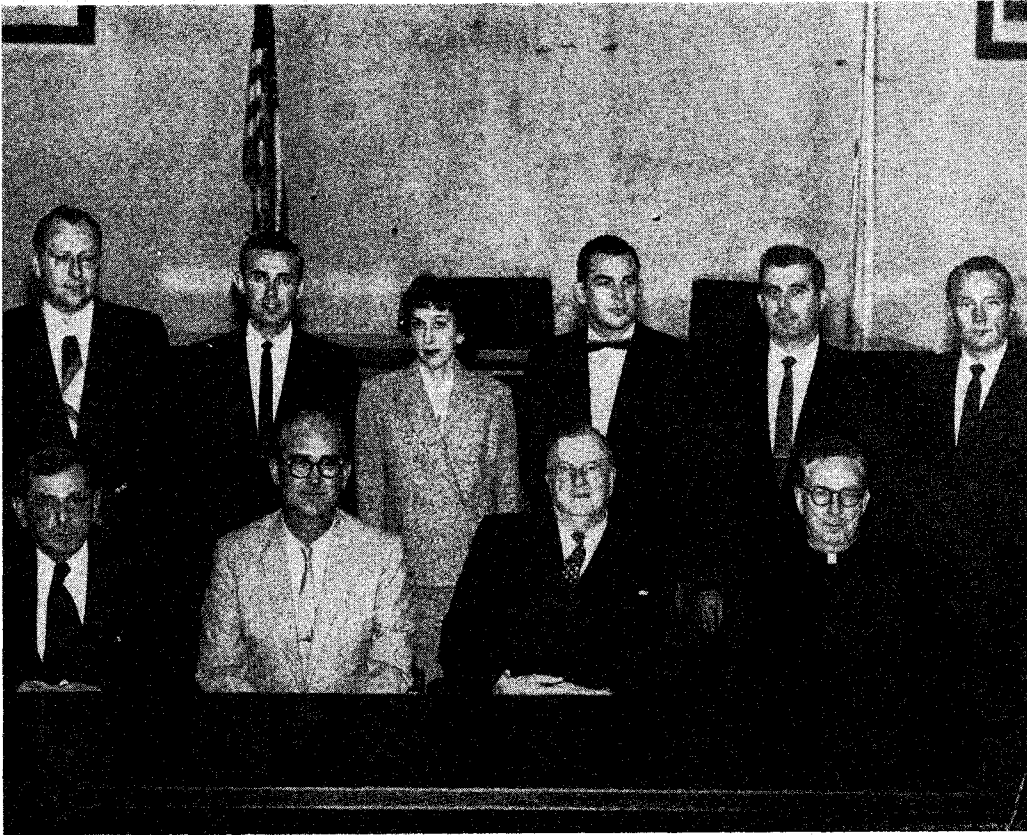
He had been Assistant District Attorney for San Antonio, Texas, during the period 1946-48, and Professor of Law at St. Mary's University from 1948 to 1955.

During the years 1912 to 1943 the average enrollment in the College of Law was 28. During the immediate post-war years the enrollment in the Law School varied from 72 to 116. In 1955 the total enrollment at the College of Law was 54 students. The enrollment as of September, 1958 was 124 day students. In this group were represented thirty-six colleges and universities throughout the United States.

In September of 1956 the Law School broke a tradition which had existed for 105 years when the first woman law student matriculated on the campus of Santa Clara University. Since that time the law school has been co-educational.

During the summer of 1956 the first Summer Session was established at the College of Law. The courses in law in the Summer Session are open to members of the Bar and to students who have satisfactorily completed their first year in law. Courses taken in the Summer Session may be credited toward the professional degree but time so spent may not be counted as part of the period of residence required for the degree. In any case it will generally be found advantageous to take one or more of the courses offered in the summer in order to increase opportunity for the election of more advanced or specialized courses in the third year.

During the 1958 Convention of the American Bar Association held in Los Angeles, the College of Law was honored by being given accreditation by the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools for the establish-



The faculty of the College of Law. Front, left to right: Robert Hayes; Dean Warren P. McKenney; Hon. Edwin J. Owens, Judge of the Superior Court; Rev. George Dunne, S.J., Advisor to the Law School. Rear, left to right: Austen D. Warburton; Robert G. Meiners; Patricia J. Coffman; William G. Sauers; Harold Everton; George A. Strong.

ment of an Evening Division. Beginning with September of 1959 the College of Law will operate a full-time Day and part-time Evening Division. Within four years, when the operation will be complete, it is expected that the enrollment in the Law School will be approximately 250 students.

With this in view the Administration and Board of Trustees have planned, and at the present time are considering, the building of a new law library, new class-

rooms, new faculty offices, new student lounge rooms and a new courtroom. It is expected that the groundbreaking for the new building will be during 1959-1960.

The Law School continues and will continue to follow the credo of the University of Santa Clara: "To mould men after the model of the Man-God, and thus form them to serve their fellowmen, their country and their God; this is the ideal and the purpose of The University of Santa Clara."