Moot Court

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fied the defendant of his promise and upon demand by plaintiff, refused to perform. The plaintiff, who was on relief and totally without funds, came into the clinic for aid and his case was accepted, two students being assigned to it. After an unsuccessful attempt to settle the dispute out of court, an action in replevin was brought and the fodder attached. The students then appeared before a justice of the peace and presented the case, getting a verdict and obtaining 90 shocks of fodder for their client.

The division is completely governed by students assisted by faculty members. The student organization is comprised of a chairman, vice chairman and committee, who assists in directing the administration of the section. The students engaged in the work are both receiving and giving value, and the organization is such that the legal aid division acts as a tilting ground where prospective lawyers may practice without fear of serious results.

Its objects are being admirably realized and those interested in its activities look forward to its ever increasing expansion.

Julius Schlezinger

Moot Court

The Moot Court is under the supervision of the Committee on Law School Affairs. Its procedure is simple. Three judges, who are usually seniors, sit in the capacity of an appellate court to hear arguments on moot cases. The attorneys for the respective parties in these cases are the members of the first and second year classes. Participation in Moot Court is beneficial to the student in three ways. In the first place, it gives him the experience of facing a specific problem and collecting the rules of law and the statutory enactments that will, in his mind, govern the decision of the court. Secondly, he is asked to arrange his arguments and material into a brief to present to the court, as is the usual requirement of all courts of appellate jurisdiction. In the third place, he is given the privilege of standing before the court and orally presenting his case. It would appear that the latter is the most important of the three,
as the regular school curriculum only provides such opportunity during the last quarter of the senior year.

A brief account of the first Moot Court session of the year may serve to give a more definite idea of the system. Prof. Mathews served as the Presiding Justice, assisted by Mr. Black as justice. The question before the court was the validity of a will which had been signed by one witness before the testator had signed. The same witness did not know that it was a will which he had signed. The second witness signed when the will was so folded that it was impossible for him to see if the testator had yet signed, the name of the testator being only visible as it appeared in the attestation clause. The attorneys were, Mr. Herbert for the contestant (plaintiff in error) and Mr. Gosline for the proponent (defendant in error). The court held the will invalid. The basis of the decision was that the publication of the will was not necessary, nor was the order of signing a controlling matter so long as both signatures were annexed as a part of one transaction, it was decided that it was necessary for the will to be presented to the witness in such manner that he at least it would be possible for him to see the testator's signature. Though the law on the case was declared in favor of Mr. Herbert, the decision of the judges as to the merits of the arguments and briefs of the participants resulted in a close decision for Mr. Gosline. We hope to give every student in the law school an opportunity to take part in Moot Court during the next two quarters.

Charles M. Ross