

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

History of Youngstown Law School

Experiences as teacher and Assistant Dean

O. H. 378

R. C. WESTENFIELD

Interviewed

by

Paul Zimmerman

on

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INTERVIEWEE: R. C. WESTENFIELD  
INTERVIEWER: Paul Zimmerman  
SUBJECT: Graduates of the law school, Professors  
DATE: December 11, 1975

Z: This is an interview with R. C. Westenfield, Attorney at Law, for the Youngstown State University Oral History Program on the History of Youngstown Law School by Paul Zimmerman at the Niles Bank Building in Niles, Ohio, on December 11, 1975, at 1:30 p.m.

Mr. Westenfield, do you remember anyone saying anything about the early founding of the law school?

W: The late Joseph E. Smith, who was dean of the college until his retirement, used to tell us stories at the dinner table of arguments among members of the law faculty as they sat about a restaurant table. This would have been, I would think, in the 1930's, and of course, the law school may have been earlier than that. I recall him expressing admiration for Judge Gessner, who was one of the deans of the law school in the early days, and for Attorney Theodore Johnson who was apparently a very witty and sharp attorney and a member of the faculty. Frankly, I can't pinpoint the commencement of the law school or its early organization of faculty because my acquaintance with it begins approximately in 1947, when I became a teacher of a couple of subjects in the law school, Constitutional Law for one, and legal ethics for another. In later years, I taught one or two other subjects.

Z: What were some of the methods used in the law school to teach? Did they use the case method?

W: The case method was almost universally used. I might add that that was, at that time, the typical method of instruction in most of the Ohio law schools. Case books were purchased throughout the Ohio law schools both for the part-time and the full-time law schools.

The method in the Youngstown Law School, and I think quite generally in the part-time law schools, was reading the case book prefaces--with additional assignments to check up on the relevant statutory law--and articles written in law reviews on the particular subject at hand.

The usual classroom procedure was that students were called upon to summarize, orally, particular cases which were within the assignment of that class period. Then they had to stand an oral cross-examination on it, as it were, by the instructor. Then, in addition, the instructor, in the form of short explanatory remarks or lecture remarks, took that case and brought it down to date if, in fact, it was not one of the latest cases on a particular point of law, which that case illustrated. So it was a combination of student exposition of the points of law represented by a particular case, cross-examination on it by the instructor, amplification by the instructor, updating by the instructor, and questions by other students. Generally, it was an interesting mode of procedure and contrasts somewhat with what I understand to have been the Harvard method or perhaps the method of a few of the full-time day law schools. The instructor might just lecture the whole hour and leave it up to the students to read all of the cases and statutes, and do their own updating. The lecturing instructor would lecture extensively on the theory of the law involved in the particular matter which he was discussing. This had the effect in many instances of leaving the student with less guidance, and subject to finding his own way through the law library to the conclusions and the particular facts and legal theories. Of course, the full-time day law schools had all day to spend in the library.

Z: What were the general times of class?

W: As I recall, classes met three times a week in the evening from seven o'clock to ten o'clock. Usually a student would have two subjects at the same time. For example, he might have contracts in the first year, which ran throughout the first year from 7:00 to 8:30; then from 8:30 to 10:00 he might have torts, which would also be a full year course. At other times and other years, he might have courses of lesser scope and extent that might occupy, instead of an entire semester, a half of a semester. This was the usual organization.

Z: How many years were required to obtain a law degree?

W: It was four years, three times a week in the evenings.

Z: Was that a complete year? Does that include the summers also?

W: There was, as I recall, a shorter vacation in the summer than was general in the liberal arts college.

Z: What kind of facilities did you have? Where did you meet?

W: During the years when I was there, classes were held pretty much in what was then the administration and classroom building. Since it was a night school, there seemed to be ample space a good bit of the time to hold these classes in the administration building. In the last few years, Ford Hall was acquired by the college, and that was the residence of the Ford family on Wick Avenue. It became the law school building. Classes then met there.

Z: Did you have complete office organization at the law school?

W: Yes. Too much cannot be said in praise of the dean's, Raymond L. Falls', leadership and inspiration. The faculty, during his leadership, was extremely well chosen and selected. The students, I think, felt that the faculty was preparing them for their profession. Of course, Raymond L. Falls spent much time as dean, even though he was one of the most active trial lawyers and had one of the busiest office practices in the city of Youngstown. He was an inspiration to many of the students. Some of them were fortunate enough that they later went into his law firm. Many of the students of his day have achieved outstanding positions, not only in the city of Youngstown, but throughout the entire Mahoning Valley. Raymond died at an untimely early age. For a time as acting dean, I coordinated the work until my resignation in approximately 1955, after which a Mr. Reese became the acting dean. He served until the law school was ultimately phased out.

Z: What was your relationship to the rest of the college?

W: Personally, for the period that I was there, I taught some classes in the undergraduate school for the first year or two. I then taught three nights per week with the law school for the first two or three years, after which my own burdens of practice compelled me to give up the day classes in the undergraduate school and limit my work pretty much to the night law school.

The law school was pretty much an entity to itself. Coordination was through the dean. At my time, Raymond L. Falls' relations were excellent with the undergraduate school and with the administration of the undergraduate school.

Z: Was Howard Jones proud of the law school?

W: Yes. Howard Jones was president pretty much from the beginning of the Youngstown College and even prior to its days as Youngstown College. He was instrumental in encouraging and in bringing about the establishment of the law school. I can't speak of the earliest dean, but I do recall that Judge Gessner was dean for a number of years. Whether or not Raymond L. Falls succeeded him or there was an intervening dean, I don't recall.

Z: I believe that he did succeed Judge Gessner. Could you tell us a little more about the classes that you taught, personally?

W: Throughout my stay, I taught the subject of my greatest interest, the subject of Constitutional Law. Partly because I had majored in political science in college and university training, I had found it of great interest. I think it was enjoyable to the students who were in the class as well as to myself. I must say that the Constitution of the United States today, which by virtue of court decisions, has been utterly transformed beyond recognition of a student of the 1940's, if he did not keep abreast of the change of thinking of the Supreme Court on the meaning of the Constitution. Whether there will be something of a slow down and continued liberality of the court in reversing former decisions and changing former landmark decisions of earlier courts remains to be seen.

Z: What law school did you go to?

W: I went to what is now Chase Law School in Cincinnati. It too was a part-time evening law school only we required five years of study down there to get through it. It therefore made the work at Youngstown Law School nothing new to me because the same methods of instruction were used in both schools. Of course, in both schools, the instructors were, for the most part, practicing attorneys whose practice had come to specialize them pretty much in the subjects which they taught. For example, both in the Cincinnati and Youngstown schools, the instructor in torts was one who was a specialist in negligence matters. In Cincinnati, he was chief counsel for the Cincinnati Street Railway Company and knew the latest case and latest point on negligence law all over the country and most especially in Ohio. In Youngstown, the teacher in torts was Knowles Wyatt. Knowles was probably one of the most emphatic and best teachers in the law school and certainly could not be surpassed in the subject of torts. His methods, however, were arbitrary and "woebetied" to the student who came into class one minute late or who was not prepared both to give an exposition of any case which was within the subject of the evening's lesson or to defend himself in questions upon it. Yet, Mr. Wyatt would be acknowledged by every student, I believe, who stayed

with him and successfully passed his class, as an instructor who gave them a wonderful foundation in one of the most important fields of practice.

There were other instructors of technical fields, such as bankruptcy law, who followed the lecture method a little more and the case book method a little less. Henry Church, I recall, was an authority in the city of Youngstown on real property law. His daughter, Pauline, was a student in the law school and now practices in Youngstown and also is an extremely respected attorney in the field of real property law as well as other fields. Henry Church, I'm sure, gave his students a marvelous foundation for understanding the law of real property.

Raymond Falls instructed in a number of fields. Corporation law was the field in which he was very active in his own practice and in which he was an instructor. Of course, it is a complicated field and a difficult field. I think most of the students felt that their instructors were not only specialists in the particular field, but by reason of practical experience they could give them some very practical pointers in how to proceed with that particular branch of law when they became attorneys. At the moment I can't recall the teacher of personal property law, but that too was a field in which very practical pointers were given to the students in the field.

- Z: There had been some criticism of part-time law schools in that they didn't give the students enough choice of electives. Were there any electives offered or was it a prescribed set course curriculum?
- W: It was almost prescribed. I do not recall whether there may have been in the last year of their study and in the last few years of the law school, some electives that were available. On the other hand, this whole matter of electives in the subjects of law schools is relatively a recent development from the standpoint of law schools, generally. The full-time day law schools probably over the period of maybe the 1940's or 1950's did provide some electives because, of course, in those law schools there were students who were particularly interested in the foreign service of the state department. They had courses in international law which, of course, were not offered in Youngstown Law School or any other Ohio night law school. There were a few electives, but the standard branches certainly carried through three or three and a half years of the four year program. That would have been true of the part-time law schools pretty much all over Ohio. As I said, until relatively recent in law school education the number of required subjects far exceeded the possibility of electives. In the full-time law schools, there would have been electives much

earlier than at Youngstown in federal procedure and federal court law as distinguished from Ohio pleading and practice and Ohio law.

The courses at Youngstown served the students who went there for the reason that they were bound to practice in Ohio. The reason that they were bound to practice in Ohio is that the Youngstown Law School was not accredited by the American Bar Association or the American League of Law Schools and therefore its graduates were not eligible to take the bar examination in very many of the other states of the United States, if any. In Ohio, we had the League of Ohio Law Schools and to have a law school whose graduates could take the Ohio State bar examination, a particular school was required to be a member of the League of Ohio Law Schools. It was an agency supervised by the Ohio Supreme Court which has full control of the admission of attorneys to practice, the requirements of their education, and whether or not they are eligible to take the bar examination. So that each of the Ohio law schools, both full-time and part-time, were members of the League of Ohio Law Schools, but the full-time law schools also were accredited by the American Association of Law Schools. The number of full-time law schools, of course, was quite small. Ohio State, the University of Cincinnati, and Western Reserve University were the three full-time law schools along with Ohio Northern University, which maintained a full-time law school through the whole period, but at times fell into problems with the accrediting authorities as did, at times, the night law schools.

Z: Why were the night law schools excluded from this accreditation?

W: The American Bar Association and the even stricter American Association of Law Schools and various universities had requirements of either full-time faculty members who were not permitted to practice law, but must give all of their time to teaching and research, or perhaps in some cases not a hundred percent of the faculty was required to be full-time, but a very major part of the faculty was required to be full-time. Furthermore, they were not permitted to teach in any other division of the university or college. They could not, for example, teach history or political science or any other subject. They must strictly teach in the law schools. In addition, the accrediting authorities required an accredited law school to have a law library which purchased and held in this library all of the reporting services of all the, then, 48 states with all the statutory enactments of all the 48 states, and all the congressional enactments and statutes of Congress of the United States, and all of the court reports of all the

courts. Financially, this was very expensive because, I suppose, there isn't a law book in my small library which you can buy for under \$17. In those days, those services were very expensive because you didn't buy the supplement just once, you bought it at least annually and usually semiannually, and often times more frequently than that. Of course, the legislative bodies of the United States and all its 48 states and the courts are every day turning out new law, statutory and by decision of courts. The accrediting bodies like the American Bar and the others required that a law library have all of these, and then finally they came to the requirement that there be a full-time law librarian trained in law library work who again was not permitted to put his or her time in as a general librarian in the library which held thousands of volumes of other branches or divisions of the college. It became an insuperable financial burden particularly when they began to require that the faculty members be strictly law teachers, give up their practices, and not teach in the undergraduate school. It was impossible to find instructors such as Raymond Falls, Henry Church, Knowles Wyatt, or John Newman, or any of the other many, many experienced and able teachers who gave their evenings to teaching and their daytimes to practice. It was impossible to find any competent persons who would give up their practice and devote their time to teaching, and the college couldn't afford to pay such people. They would only be able, on a night school program, to teach at the most three hours per night, three times a week, nine hours. That was somewhat below the standard teaching load in the rest of the university and the pay would have had to have been higher.

Z: What was the average size of the class?

W: Not large. I would think about 20 or 22. Never more than 25 and sometimes less would be the average size of the class in the first and second year. Of course, by the third and fourth year there was always some reduction. There were failures and there were others who became discouraged and dropped out. There were some transfers into the school too, people from other areas.

Z: Were there ever any full-time teachers at the school while you were there? I believe that they did hire some.

W: It may have been done as a final effort to continue the law school and meet the increasing requirements of the accrediting authorities. At the time I retired, I think, Mr. Reese was a full-time teacher there, but my recollection is that they also had him teaching classes in political science.

Z: How would these full-time teachers have been obtained? How could you lure them away from a practice, in other words?

W: Well, you wouldn't get a young ambitious man to become a full-time teacher and remain with it unless he would have been started out in the 1940's at, I suppose, \$12,000 or \$15,000 a year and unless he happened to be an intellectual and didn't like the stress of practice or did not like to deal with people but liked to deal with thought and the theory of the law. Other than that, it would have been necessary to find attorneys near the end of their practice willing to turn their practice over to their sons or nephews or young men whom they were willing to take in, and become teachers, but even then I think that they would have to have been paid very substantially above the level of payment of, let's say, history teachers, English teachers, and similar professors in other divisions. It would have been very difficult to obtain; it might even be difficult now, if the law school were reestablished, to obtain them unless it became a full-time day law school. Now we read that the number of attorneys graduating is beginning to exceed the demands for attorneys and the placements for attorneys. It's quite possible that a new full-time day law school could attract young and recent law school graduates because there are always some of them who are more interested in the theory of the law than in its practice.

Z: Were most of the students you had more of a practical blend, however?

W: Yes, they were. The students who came to Youngstown Law School, I suppose, were of older age on the average considerably than would be the case in Ohio State or Western Reserve Law School because many of them had, of course, four years of college but were engaged in employment. Many of them came to the law school and enrolled because their particular employment showed them that either there were opportunities for them that would be greater if they became attorneys, or because they long had a desire to become an attorney but couldn't afford to go to the full-time day law school and give up their employment. In other words, they had to work in the daytime to pay their way. A good many were married men, and this was the only opportunity that existed for them to enter the field of their choice.

Z: I remember reading about an admissions board. Could you tell us something about what it took to be admitted to the law school?

W: The Supreme Court sets rules for the admission of law

students and requires--I suppose it does now because it did then--a lengthy questionnaire to be filled out by every perspective law student and law school applicant. This is obtained from the clerk of the Supreme Court of the state of Ohio and must be filled out by the applicant for law school; it's quite detailed, quite long. Then the requirement further existed that there be an endorsement or expression of opinion from three persons as to the ability and suitability of the applicant to enter law school. They required consideration of reputation and character as well as of intellectual ability and particularly his suitability to the profession of law as nearly as the interviewers could estimate. The applicant was required to interview orally three persons who would then express their opinion of him confidentially. All this went down to the clerk of the Supreme Court and was in addition to his meeting the formal catalog requirements for admission to the law school.

Z: Did most all students take the bar exam?

W: Most of them did. Over the period with which I am familiar, from about 1947 through 1954, the bar exam results of the senior class of our law school at Youngstown compared favorably with the results of the other evening part-time law schools, in some occasions better than some of them. There were one or two years in which our class suffered some fatalities at the bar. We considered that serious enough to require some reassessment of instruction, or admission, or review courses, or some remedial action, but that was the exception. Our results were certainly equal to, if not better than, the average of the evening law schools, I think this is attributable in part to the fact that we had serious students of somewhat older than average age with practical experience who knew what they wanted, and we had devoted instructors who had skill and experience in instruction. Of course accrediting problem became our major problem particularly after the death of Raymond L. Falls and we just found no way to solve it.

Z: What was the effect of the GI Bill on the law school? Was there an increase in students?

W: Yes. Of course, my connection with the law school came at the time of the influx of veterans of the Second World War. They were being discharged. I think that some of the best college work as well as law school work that was probably ever done was done by these veterans who knew what they wanted and were not interested in playing around but in making up for lost time and getting what they could. They were there to get everything they could out of college and law school. One only has to look at the roster of law school graduates of those

years and their subsequent achievement in the Mahoning Valley to see that the Youngstown Law School made a very worthwhile contribution to the whole Mahoning Valley.

Also, it provided young lawyers who became competent lawyers, judges, prosecutors, trust department attorneys, industrial relations attorneys, and who on the whole have made for more competent leadership in Youngstown, Warren, Niles, and the rest of the Mahoning Valley than would have been the case without that law school.

- Z: There are a couple of things that I haven't been able to find out too much on. One of them is the various scholarship awards. I think there was one that was the Riegelhaupt Award, and the Maiden Award. Do you know anything about the foundation of these awards or how they came to be?
- W: No, I really do not. Judge Maiden for many, many years was one of the stalwarts of the law school faculty, an excellent teacher who was most highly regarded by the students and by the community at large. He was an example of the type of law school instructor who brought about an excellent reputation for that law school. Graduates from it, whom people like Judge Maiden would recommend, would find their way into law firms and into positions where they could rise in their profession. He may have set up an award himself or it may have been set up in his memory; I do not know nor do I remember how the other one came about. Was it the Riegelhaupt Award?
- Z: I believe so, yes.
- W: Well, of course, another of the ablest teachers in the law school was Judge Riegelhaupt who just recently retired from the common pleas bench in Youngstown who now continues to serve by appointment of the administrator of the Ohio Supreme Court where he is needed in the adjoining counties. In fact, he has been very busy on the common pleas bench in Warren helping the courts there to catch up with their dockets which are considerably in arrears at times.
- Z: Did he graduate from the school also?
- W: I don't know, you would have to look at the roster of graduates from back in, I would assume, the 1930's to find out whether Judge Riegelhaupt was a graduate or not. A number of the judges, of course, were.
- Z: How long did he teach? Was he still teaching there while you were there?
- W: Yes. Judge Maiden was teaching pretty much through the tenure of Raymond Falls as dean, which means that he continued to teach pretty well up until 1950 or 1951,

somewhere in there.

- Z: I've heard reports that one reason why the law school was discontinued was that there was an oversupply of lawyers in Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley. What are your impressions of this?
- W: There may have been some discussion to that effect among some members of the bar in Mahoning County and perhaps in Trumbull County, which are the two counties in which most of the graduates practiced. Some, however, practiced in Columbiana County and some elsewhere. I think if there was any such feeling, it was short lived. The graduates of the Youngstown Law School, for the most part, found a ready acceptance at the bar and acquired clients apparently, or went into practice as assistant prosecuting attorneys, city solicitors, ran for office, became judges, or were hired by the trust departments of banks, or by corporations such as Republic and Youngstown Sheet & Tube in labor relations. I don't believe that this problem was of any duration, if in fact it existed, because it was soon followed by a distinct shortage of attorneys.

The shortage now has apparently been filled. One need only look at the weekly reports of the Ohio Bar Magazine in which the first few pages set forth positions available and positions wanted. Until a year and a half ago, the positions available exceeded the positions wanted. Today the positions wanted exceed the positions available. So one might say again that the supply is catching up somewhat with the demand for attorneys. Published figures indicate that the numbers now going to law school and who have declared their intention of going to law school will provide possibly an excess supply of attorneys in the next several years. One can only say, however, that law is as broad as life. While a number of court practitioners or a number of office practitioners of law may reach the point where they lack clients, there are innumerable positions in government now for attorneys and in industry for attorneys. My own opinion is that the attorney will always find an opportunity to be busy whether in a typical law office or whether in some government agency because practically every governmental agency such as the Bureau of Unemployment, Bureau of Workmen's Compensation, and the Public Utilities Commission has its staff of attorneys. Of course, all of them say that they want experienced attorneys so sometimes the attorney has to flounder around and get a little experience for two or three years, and then if his office practice does not grow to meet his expectations or wishes he can look around for a position with some industry or governmental agency.

- Z: Did you view the requirements that the accrediting agencies put forth in the 1950's as an attempt to limit

the profession?

W: The official view was that it was an attempt to raise the standard of education of attorneys and to provide the nation with better trained lawyers. From the practical standpoint of a locality such as Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley, the achievements of many, many of the Youngstown Law School graduates will show, as I have said, that they have made a most valuable contribution to their communities. I suppose it must be said that in every profession, efforts to improve the quality of the graduate, his skill and service ability, are desirable. No one would be foolish enough to say that Youngstown Law School was comparable to Harvard Law School. Although, we have had records of Harvard Law School graduates who--as well as graduates from I suppose every other school--occasionally fail the Ohio bar the first time that they take it. There are other examples of those who are not nearly as successful in practice of the law as some of the part-time law students have been. But what would be true on the average would be, I suppose that the graduates of Harvard, Michigan, Ohio State, and Cornell--who spend full-time under instructors who are on the frontiers of legal theory and who are the writers on the subject as well as specialists each in a particular field of law--must be considered to come out somewhat better trained at the start in their field than someone who works all day, goes to classes at night, does his studying weekend nights and the nights he doesn't go, and perhaps meets the fatigues of industry and carries on the problems of head of the family while he is doing all of this. From the practical standpoint, the evening law schools turned out good practical lawyers. Now and then one of them rises to a position on a higher court by virtue of unusual interest and ability. We can't decry the effort to improve standards in any profession.

Z: One more question, I was wondering why they decided to change the degree from bachelor of law to a juris doctorate in 1970?

W: I think it has become typical of the degree that is now granted on completing the law school. The law school graduate is a seven year student who has put four years in undergraduate work and then three full years, or if it's a part-time school, four to five years work, on top of his undergraduate work. It was rather felt that to give somebody a degree of bachelor of laws when he had spent three years beyond his bachelor of science or bachelor or arts degree was not proper recognition for his scholarship. I think that is why a doctorate of law degree, or juris doctorate, is granted. I think some schools had been doing it all along. For example, the University of Michigan and the Univeristy of

California, long, long ago made that the standard degree.

Z: Do you have anything else that you would like to add that I haven't covered?

W: It would be appropriate for me, looking over the list of graduates I have here of our law school, to single out some for their outstanding success over others. So without naming names, I see a graduate of one of my earlier classes who is a lawyer of long and outstanding skill in Youngstown and who also has been time and time again the county chairman of a political party down there and who is on a first name basis with the governors and with national politicians in his particular field of the party. I notice another one who is senior trust officer in one of the major banks of Youngstown. I notice another one who had been a county judge and then a common pleas judge who is now on the bench and has been on the bench in Mahoning County for many years. I see a young lady, now a woman of mature years, who graduated in the 1940's and who is an active practitioner, as far as her family problems permit, in East Palestine. In the same class, I see another who is common pleas judge, a highly respected common pleas judge of Mahoning County, another who has been a federal United States Assistant Attorney, and another who has been on the staff of the law director of the city of Youngstown. Those are all out of one class.

As I look to another class, I see an assistant trust officer of another large Youngstown bank. Along with him, lately deceased, an attorney who was the mayor of Youngstown for a number of years--I believe one term--who then renewed the practice of law and became a specialist in his particular field of practice.

Out of the next class then, there is one who was a policeman in the city of Youngstown and then became a law student and graduated and then became an attorney in the law director's department in the city of Youngstown and now is a respected attorney with his own office. Another one was with the United States Steel Company for many years and headed up the pensions and claims department of the United States Steel Corporation in Youngstown. He has now embarked upon private practice, and a quit lucrative one. In the same class, Riegelhaupt is a most highly regarded and very busy attorney in the city of Youngstown.

In the next class, there is one who is not only an attorney, but a CPA. In the two fields he is a consultant for some of the leading large manufacturing firms for the city of Youngstown. The name after him is the trust officer of another large Youngstown bank. The name after him is

one who was both a medical doctor and an attorney and who served in a medical-legal capacity for a number of years, but I believe is now deceased.

In the next class are two attorneys who both are very active in Youngstown and highly regarded. That class shows only three graduates. Apparently the law school that year was beginning to taper off.

The following year, here we have an attorney who is a title specialist in the city of Youngstown along with another well-known attorney. We have an attorney who is now located in Cortland and who is a Trumbull County Attorney of great influence. There is another attorney who is a specialist in criminal law in Youngstown and whose name is in the paper on the average of once every couple of weeks anyway. Then we have a man who is consulted by, I suppose, fifty attorneys in Trumbull and Mahoning Counties every time they have a complex estate because he was the estate tax auditor for the Internal Revenue Service. He graduated from Youngstown Law School and audited the largest, as well as the ordinary, estates for the Internal Revenue Service. One couldn't do better today if he had a complex, large estate than to call this attorney in and say, "I want you to help me out on this thing," because he would be guided right in doing so. There is a common pleas judge in that same class of 1953. There is a county judge in that same class. There is a very active attorney in the Reserve Officer's Association and an extremely successful attorney. There is an attorney with a large firm. In fact, it is the firm that Raymond Falls used to lead in Youngstown. Next named is an attorney in Warren and Cortland where he practices and his son now practices with him.

In the next class is another policeman who became an attorney, worked with the law department, and now practices on his own. There were only two graduates in 1953. The other gentleman became a title specialist but now is in general practice.

In 1954, there is a gentleman from the Internal Revenue Service who completed his law work. If you have a problem in income tax, you get a ready ear if you call him up and talk to him about it. Second below him is named another Internal Revenue Service man who became a Youngstown law graduate and who now is tax consultant for some of the most important firms in Youngstown on income tax phase or any other kind of tax phases. In fact, I suppose his tax consultant work keeps him so busy that he doesn't bother much with divorces and that type of thing. One gentleman has long been with the law department of the city of Youngstown and with the county

prosecuting attorney of Mahoning County, but I believe now is in private practice. I see attorneys who are very active in the city of Warren on this list. I see another title expert whose opinions on titles will be accepted by banks in Mahoning or Trumbull County. I see one of Warren's leading trial lawyers in the 1954 class. The next name is an attorney who for years was the title expert for one of the banks of Youngstown and who now practices separately on his own. I see another who is in the courthouse and is a leader in the legal work for the county auditor of Mahoning County.

The last year, 1954, during which I did not know the students very well, I see three who are practicing attorneys and who are doing very creditably.

I'm particularly pleased to say that out of this entire list of graduates that I've glanced over between the years of 1947 to 1954, I know of none who has been reprimanded by the bar association or who has been cited to the Supreme Court or to the grievance committees for misconduct as an attorney. Although my personal acquaintance with these men as students extends only from 1947 to 1954, I could name earlier graduates of the Youngstown Law School who have been leaders at the bar in Warren, Girard, Niles, and Youngstown and Mahoning County as a whole. So the school made, as I have said, a valuable contribution to the life of the community. Even though with progress in the training of attorneys, it came to be felt that higher standards ought to be required. In the event that a law school should be reconsidered for Youngstown, I think, in this populous area, there would be a place for its graduates and, of course, I think now it would be required from the outset to meet the exact standards of not only the Ohio Supreme Court, but the American Bar Association for accreditation.

One of the handicaps through all of this period for some of the graduates has been, for one reason or another, they have a hard time moving to some other state. It isn't easy for an attorney, no matter what law school he is from, to move to another state. A Harvard lawyer practicing in Ohio who wants to go to Florida or California will not only have to establish residence, but take the bar examination there. But the part-time law school graduate and attorney would not be eligible to take the bar examination in the other states because the part-time law schools lacked accreditation in those states.

Z: Thank you very much, Attorney Westenfield, we really appreciate this.