Ground Broken For New Building

The luncheon, in Burton Dining Hall, which followed the groundbreaking ceremony.
Invocation

Almighty God, creator and sustainer of all life, without whose blessing and sufferance no human work can long prosper, we praise Thee for that which we have begun in this place and time.

We thank Thee for the sense of justice which Thou hast implanted within mankind and for the readiness of men and communities to uphold and preserve a just order.

We thank Thee for the dedication and vision of leaders in this community which have led to this new undertaking, for teachers and students committed to justice and human dignity, and for the noble heritage upon which this new venture is built.

We pray, O God, for Thy guidance and direction in all our labors. May freedom under the law continue to flourish among us. May the men and women who go forth from this place to their responsibilities be continually aware that Thou art a God of justice who dost see to the right, maintaining Thy Rule and overthrowing all powers in opposition to it.

Help us, O God, to be faithful to the whole legal tradition which lies behind our understanding of law and justice in our day; to be ready to deal with this tradition with critical insight and boldness; and to be courageous in the battle for that proper balance between freedom and order, apart from which we can not live and flourish in accordance with Thy Will.

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.

Amen.

Delivered by Dean Walter Harrelson of the University of Chicago Divinity School at the groundbreaking for the new Law School Building.
On December 5, 1957, ground was broken for construction of the new Law Building. The Building, which will face on the south side of the Midway, will connect with Burton-Judson Residence Halls on the west, and will immediately adjoin the national headquarters of the American Bar Association on the east. The result will be a Center for the Law without parallel in the nation.

The brief ceremonies at the site opened with an invocation by Dean Walter Harrelson of the University Divinity School. That invocation is reprinted elsewhere in this issue of the Record. Chancellor Kimpton then asked all those present to join with him in turning a spadeful of earth. Included in the large gathering were alumni, Faculty, University officials, students and other friends of the School. Following the groundbreaking ceremony, a luncheon was held in the Dining Hall of Burton Court.

Glen A. Lloyd, JD’23, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University, presided and spoke briefly about the past achievements of the School and the great assistance the new building would provide in carrying out its program for the future. Dean Levi discussed the School’s current opportunities and problems, and introduced a representative group of guests. Charles Rhyne, President of the American Bar Association, closed the program with an address which is printed elsewhere in this issue of the Record.

The new Building will provide, among other facilities, ample lounge and exhibit space, a spacious Library Reading Room, stack space for 300,000 books, a large number of Faculty and research offices, four classroom and five seminar rooms of various sizes, a courtroom, an auditorium, administrative offices, a legal aid suite, rooms for the Law Review, a conference room, student study rooms, stack carrels, and a variety of other special facilities. It is the current expectation, based on contractor’s estimates, that the Law School will be installed in the new building for the Autumn Quarter of 1959.