The Conference on Insurance

On January 15, 1954, the Law School presented a Conference on Insurance, the thirteenth in its regular Conference Series. The opening session was concerned with problems of the insurance contract. Professor Brainerd Currie of the Faculty presided; the speakers were Professor Friedrich Kessler of the Yale Law School, who discussed “Forces Shaping the Insurance Contract”; Mr. James B. Donovan, of Watters and Donovan, New York City, whose subject was “The Hardy Perennials of Insurance Contract Litigation”; and Mr. Herbert Brook, of Lord, Bissell and Kadyk, who spoke on “Recent Insurance Contract Developments and Their Implication for Future Litigation.”

Professor Wilber Katz introduced the luncheon session, which was concerned with insurance and investment. Mr. M. Albert Linton, chairman of the Board of the Provident Mutual Life Insurance Company of Philadelphia, discussed “Life Insurance as an Investment.” The subject of “The Insurance Company as an Investor—Impact on the Capital Market” was presented by Mr. Churchill Rodgers, general counsel of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company; he was followed by Mr. J. Edward Day, associate general solicitor of the Prudential Insurance Company, who spoke on “The Insurance Company as an Investor—Government Regulation of Investments.”

In the afternoon meeting, Professor Ward Bowman of the Faculty introduced a paper on “Government Regulation of Insurance Marketing Practices,” presented by Mr. Robert B. Ely, III, general counsel of the Insurance Company of North America, after which Mr. Barry Oakes, associate counsel, Bankers Life Company, Des Moines, spoke on “Principal, Agent, and the Public.”

Professor Allison Dunham presided over the evening session, which featured a discussion of “The Insurance Principle—Compulsory Insurance” by Professor Clarence Morris of the University of Pennsylvania Law School and an address on the subject of “The Insurance Principle—Government Old-Age and Survivors Insurance” by Mr. John R. Stark, Executive Office of the President (Bureau of the Budget), Washington.