

Conference on Insanity and the Law

On February 28, 1955, The Law School sponsored, as a part of its regular Conference Series, a conference on "Insanity and the Law." Professor Harry Kalven, Jr., presided over the afternoon session, which consisted of addresses by Dr. Addison M. Duval, assistant superintendent, St. Elizabeth Hospital, Washington, on "The Mental Health Program in the United States Today"; by Dr. Manfred S. Guttmacher, chief medical officer, Supreme Bench of Baltimore, on "The Problems of Psychiatric Classification"; by Mr. Abe Fortas, of Arnold, Fortas and Porter, Washington, on "The Durham Case—Repudiation of the M'Naghten Test"; and by Henry

Weihofen, professor of law at the University of New Mexico Law School, on "Commitment of the Mentally Ill."

The evening session varied the usual conference format somewhat in that it consisted entirely of a panel discussion of problems in the field under examination, taking the issues raised in the previous formal addresses as points of departure. Wilber G. Katz, James Parker Hall Professor of Law, presided over the panel. Participants included, in addition to Drs. Duval and Guttmacher, Mr. Fortas, and Professor Weihofen, Dr. Franz Alexander, Director, Institute for Psychoanalysis, Chicago; George H. Dession, Professor of Law, Yale Law School; Dr. Thomas M. French, Associate Director, Institute for

Psychoanalysis; Professor Kalven; Edward H. Levi, Dean, The University of Chicago Law School; Joseph D. Lohman, former member of The Law School Faculty, now Sheriff of Cook County; E. W. Puttkammer, Professor of Law, The University of Chicago Law School; Edward Shils, Professor, Committee on Social Thought, The University of Chicago; Herbert Wechsler, Professor of Law, Columbia University School of Law; and Professor Frank Remington, of the University of Wisconsin Law School.