

The Use and Disposition of Private Property

The second of the three conferences held in 1952-53, celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Law School, took place on February 27. Under the general subject, "The Use and Disposition of Private Property," its topics ranged from the transmission of wealth in one generation to the next to the recently developed public controls on an owner's use of his property.

The Conference Committee was composed of Associate Professor Walter J. Blum; Professor Allison Dunham, Associate Professor Harry Kalven, Jr., Professor William R. Ming, Assistant Dean James M. Ratcliffe, Professor Max Rheinstein, Professor Malcolm Sharp, and Professor Roscoe Steffen. The Conference was open to the general public.

Taking a keynote from the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration, the Conference emphasized the many changes which have taken place in the rules of property since October, 1902, when the Law School was founded.

Max Rheinstein, Max Pam Professor of Comparative Law, presided at the morning session, which was devoted to the subject, "The Property Owner and His Family." Participating in the panel were Richard W. Efland, professor of law, University of Wisconsin, who spoke on "The Owner's Choice of Succession," and Frank H. Detweiler '31, of Cravath, Swaine and Moore, New York, whose topic was "The Owner's Control over Property Use and Disposition after His Death."

The luncheon session, held at the Quadrangle Club, was on the topic, "The Property Owner and the Public." Professor Allison Dunham, who presided, extended a special welcome to Roscoe Pound, Professor and Dean



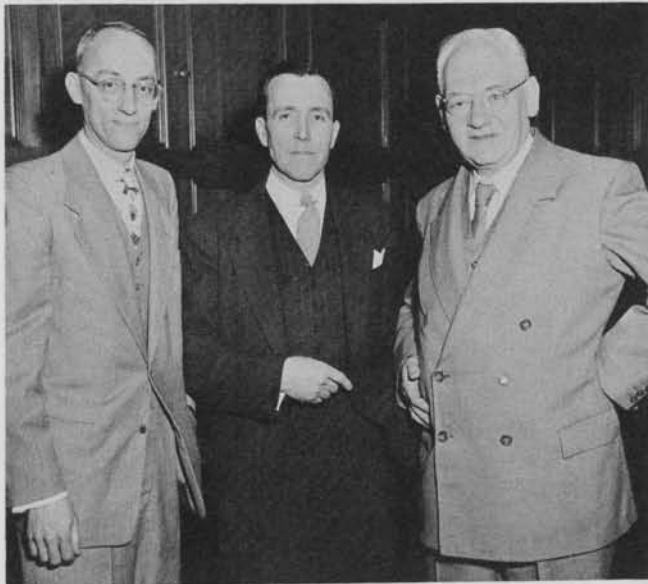
Left to right: *Walker Cisler, president, Detroit Edison Company; Roy Blough, director of the Office of Economic Affairs; Roscoe Pound, Dean and Professor Emeritus, Harvard Law School; and Professor Allison Dunham.*

Emeritus of the Harvard Law School, whose paper was on "The Changing Role of Property in American Jurisprudence." In his remarks Dean Pound mentioned that his visit was somewhat of a home-coming. During 1909-10 he served as a member of the Law School's early faculty. Joining with Dean Pound and Mr. Dunham were Roy Blough, director of the Office of Economic Affairs, the United Nations, who discussed "The Effect of Tax Laws on the Use and Disposition of Property," and Walker Cisler, president, The Detroit Edison Company, speaking on "Private Property and the Development of Atomic Energy."

Professor Sheldon Tefft presided at the afternoon session on "The Property Owner and Purchasers and Creditors." The other members of the panel were Charles G. Grimes, general counsel, Chicago Title and Trust Company, who spoke on "Rights of Creditors To Limit the Owner's Disposition and Use of His Property," and W. Page Keeton, dean and professor of law, University of Texas Law School, who discussed "Rights of Disappointed Purchasers."

Following the reception and dinner, the evening session took place with Associate Professor Walter Blum in the chair. The topic of the evening discussion was "The Property Owner and Programs for the Conservation of Family Estates." Joseph Trachtman of New York spoke on "The Use of Trusts and Other Family Arrangements," William J. Bowe, professor of law, Vanderbilt University, presented his views on "The Use of Life Insurance," and René A. Wormser, of Myles, Wormser and Koch, New York, discussed "Methods of Disposing of Family Business."

The papers of the Conference have been published and can be obtained from The Law School Office.



Left to right: *Richard W. Efland, Frank H. Detweiler '31, and Professor Max Rheinstein.*



At the reception preceding dinner (left to right) Walter Blum, Roscoe Steffen, William Crosskey, and Joseph Trachtman.



The program is getting a thorough perusal at the speakers' table from (left to right) William J. Bowe, Harry Kalven, Jr., and Joseph Trachtman.