

## *Legal Ethics*

In past years lawyers and judges have spoken to luncheon meetings of first-year law students from time to time about the practice of law. This year these meetings have been made more frequent and used as a framework for a luncheon seminar on the ethical problems of law practice. The class has been divided into four groups, each of which will meet six times during the school year at the Quadrangle Club. Practicing lawyers are invited to participate (not to make a speech or give a lecture) in the discussion of ethical problems raised in an outline distributed to the students and the visitor in advance of the meeting. In leading these discussions, I try to allow them to follow the lines of interest of the group, keeping only within the general outline of the topic. The visitor adds enough illustrations from experience, and practical wisdom, to make them into good "bull sessions" on the always interesting problems of the conflicting loyalties and duties of lawyers.

The subject matter of the series of meetings is organized according to the various functions of lawyers and the ethical problems implicit in those functions. For example, the problems of the ethics of advocacy for the courtroom lawyer are now being discussed. Later we plan to take up some of the problems of advocacy before other tribunals (e.g., administrative agencies and legislative committees) and to discuss problems in other roles of the lawyer—the ethics of negotiation and problems of the adviser and draftsman.

There is no attempt to make a detailed study of these problems; but we hope to raise many of the major questions as well as to provide a forum for discussion and analysis of the ethical problems which the students see in their new profession.

F. B. MCKINNON



Left to right: Mrs. Jean Allard, Law and Behavioural Science Fellow; John Leary, librarian of the American Bar Center; a member of Mr. Leary's staff; and F. B. McKinnon, who is currently doing research for the Bar Center on problems of legal ethics and concurrently conducting a series of luncheon-seminars on the same subject for first-year students of the School.