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THE LAWYERS CLUB OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 20, 1963

NO.4

Harris Discusses Civil Rights: By a vote of 7 to 4 the Ann Arbor City Council last Monday night passed the first fair housing ordinance in the State of Michigan. The ordinance prohibits discrimination in the renting and selling of housing by owners or lessors of five or more housing units (apartments or houses). It also prohibits discrimination by real estate brokers and financial organizations. It has been claimed that this ordinance is inadequate and that it covers only 25 per cent of the housing in Ann Arbor.

The Ann Arbor Fair Housing Association, associated with CORE has sponsored picketing of the City Hall for the past 16 weeks in an effort to secure passage of a stronger ordinance covering all housing except one and two family dwellings in which the owner resides. In the past three weeks the AAFHA has staged sit-in demonstrations in the City Council chambers.

Professor Robert Harris made the following comments about the ordinance and demonstrations:

"I share the disappointment of the NAACP, CORE and many church groups at the failure to pass a more comprehensive ordinance. I think the philosophy behind the law that passed was two-fold: (1) free some more housing units for Negro occupancy, thus reducing the differential between what Negroes and whites pay for housing: and (2) the public accommodation principle--make those who deal regularly with the public do so without racial or religious discrimination. The ordinance fails to embrace the third goal sought--move the community towards neighborhood integration. Useful in itself, this would also ease our problem of de facto school integration.

A law covering noncommercial sellers would accomplish very little at first. Its ultimate utility would lie in two areas: (a) the conciliation efforts of the Human Rights Commission will be more effective if the HRC can threaten suit; (b) a law might convince some moral fence-sitters to sell on an open occupancy basis. In other words, a law might outweigh the current white mores which dictate "whites only" selling as proof of loyalty to white ex-neighbors, who are presumed to abhor Negroes.

"It is regrettable that some local ministers who fought hard for a broader ordinance have said they will not cooperate with the City to get the most good out of the law that did pass. They seem to have to have reached the mistaken conclusion that cooperation would somehow compromise their moral position."

Harris, a local officer of the American Civil Liberties Union, criticized CORE for using illegal political methods, regardless of their ends. Their action was in violation of a constitutional state trespass law. On the other hand, he criticized the city for employing a "dangerously vague 'loitering' ordinance" instead of the state trespass law, the proper method of handling the problem. He predicts that the local ACLU chapter will file an amicus brief in the sit-in cases, regarding the constitutionality of the loitering ordinance.

Harris listed four situations where he felt civil disobedience was justifiable: "(1) When the citizen repudiates all allegiance to the state and engages in revolution because the state is either unrepresentative (American Revolution, Ghandi) or committed to outrages against human dignity (underground movements against nazism); (2) when he repudiates all allegiance to the state on the same grounds, and flees from it (Thoreau); (3) when he refuses to obey a specific legal command that he do an act against conscience (conscientious objector); (4) Where he ignores the law in the good faith belief that the law is unconstitutional (sit-ins at segregated lunch counters)." He concluded, "I have no quarrel with the goal of the local sit-in demonstrators. I just think they're using the wrong end of the anatomy in pursuing it."

BARRISTERS' SOCIETY ANNOUNCES NEW MEMBERS: The Barristers, senior mens' honor society at the law school recently tapped sixteen men for membership. They are: Gerry Ball, Tim Carroll, Henry Cashen, Ron Dalby, Jon Denney, Tom Dignan, John Erickson, Pete Fazio, Dave Gray, Brick Howe, Lee Irish, Sam McKim, Tom McNamara, Dick Miller, John Tully, and Dan Vittum.

EDITORS' wastebasket;

International Law Society to Meet: The Society, formed last spring, will hold its first meeting next Friday (Sept. 27). Its purpose is to bring speakers in this field to the law school and to stimulate interest in such events as the International Moot Court, which will take place in the spring. Next Friday, Michael Scott of Cleveland will give the first in a series of talks on international practice.

He will discuss what he considers important in law school and the nature of his practice. Mr. Scott is a Michigan alumnus and also studied in Geneva. He will speak in room 132, at 3:30. Other meetings planned by the Society include a report by one of Governor Romney's Special Committee which toured Europe to check on Michigan's chance for international trade. The second talk on preparation and practice will be a talk on the World Rule of Law Center by Arthur Larson. All students are urged to come.

As a point of information, there are 31 women enrolled in the law school, 12 freshmen, 11 juniors, 4 seniors and 4 graduates. Unfortunately, they are not all single.

As an illustration of the efforts that Res Gestae personnel go to in order to get news, we would like to refer the reader to the following contract which was a necessary step in securing this week's lead story:

- I, Rosemary Pooler of Res Gestae agree that I will not use any information gleaned in today's interview with Robert Harris for any purpose of publication without having previously obtained his written consent to the proposed copy.
- I, Robert Harris, agree I shall only withhold my consent on grounds of inaccuracy of reporting what I said.

MISCELLANEOUS: The Lawyers Club announces that Judge Hans Rupp of the German Constitutional Court will speak next Thursday at 6:30 in the lounge. His subject will be constitutional law in Germany and the German Federal Courts. Judge Rupp is currently a visitor to the faculty....Mr. Champlin of West Publishing Co. will be at the law school during the week of Sept. 30, to present a series of lectures in legal research. They will be given at 3:30 in room 100. He carries special books with him for practical demonstrations in the methods used in the major sets of law books. In this manner, the students may participate in working out actual problems. There will also be a film illustrating the techniques and methods of legal research. Freshmen are particularly urged to attend the five lectures... To all

women students: There will be a special meeting to discuss reactivation of KBØ, national legal sorority, on Sunday, Sept. 29, at 7:30 P.M. The meeting will be in the Lawyers Club lounge. Even if you feel some antipathy toward the sorority idea, please come and express your views....Club residents are notified that the hours restrictions regarding visitors do not apply to members of their immediat families. Cohabitation does not establish a family relationship within the meaning of this rule.

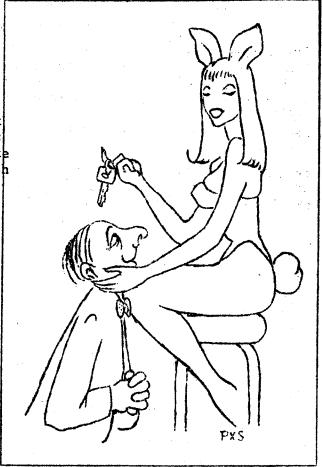
The PSURFS will hold try-outs for tenors, Monday at 10:00 P.M. in the Law Club lounge. This singing group is often the Law School's official representative at a variety of affairs and provides an enjoyable way to get away from the books for the musically inclined.

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AT THE FLICKS:

Campus: "Heavens Above"

State: "Lawrence of Arabia." Michigan: "Toys in the Attic" Cinema Guild: Fri - "Testament of Orpheus"; Sat. - "All Quiet on the Western Front."



"WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO AMEND THE CHARTER ON PAYMENT OF ANOTHER FIFTY DOLLARS"

QUADSVILLE QUOTES: -

The chemistry of the average Democrat is such that it's difficult for him to keep his old bowie knife in his pocket too long.

Judge not, that you be not judged.

- VII Matthew 1.