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A History of Columbus University School of Law

Yvette Brown

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HISTORY OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Similar to many great organizations and movements, the Knights of Columbus had a modest beginning: A small group of like minded men met in Saint Mary's church basement in New Haven, Connecticut seeking a vehicle to reflect their religious and social needs. Thus, on October 2, 1881, the largest catholic fraternal organization was born. The group chose the name Knights of Columbus in February of 1882. Little did those early Knight's realize that their original meeting requested by Father Michael J. McGiveny, a twenty-nine year-old curate, would lead to an organization that a mere 25 years later would charter a chapter in every state in the union, and a 100 years later, build a membership of over one million. Nor did Father McGiveny realize that a century later his organization would donate over 92 million dollars and more than 41 million volunteer hours to community and church programs.¹

Father McGiveny envisioned a fraternal organization that would embody the principals of catholicism, and service, and highlight the catholic contributions made to American society and culture. The founding members also wanted to combat the strong anti-Catholic sentiments festering in the country that were symbolized by the drunken disorderly unruly Irish immigrant caricature.² The founders also desired to provide financial assistance to the families of

deceased members through an insurance program. Thus, the relationship between the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic University of America is a natural one and almost predestined given the fact that the Knights and Catholic University share the same catholic, charitable, and educational missions.

The Knights of Columbus strong commitment to education and to Catholic University began in 1899. This commitment also marked a shift from the Knights being a regional organization to a national organization.³ Prior, to beginning their relationship with Catholic University, the Knights' educational work consisted primarily of donating books to libraries, providing lecture courses, and instituting scholarships for local institutions. In 1899, however, Catholic University asked the Knights to endow a chair in American History.

The Reverend Dr. Philip Garrigan, vice-rector of Catholic University initiated the request when he spoke at the 1899 Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Convention. Garrigan wanted to combat anti-Catholic sentiment by endowing a chair in American History in order that the great contributions of Catholic Americans would be recognized and appreciated. On April 13, 1904, after five years and many pleas from Supreme Knight Edward Hearn to the membership, the Knights presented Catholic University with a check for \$55,633.79 for the endowment of a chair in American history. The Knight's pride in endowing the chair was exemplified by the size of the check, four feet wide and ten feet long.⁴

The American history chair was only the beginning of the

Knights' connection with Catholic University. In December of 1904, Cardinal Gibbons again asked the Knights for financial help. The University treasurer's speculative investments had failed and lead to a severe financial burden for Catholic University. And once again, the Knights came to Catholic University's rescue contributing nearly \$25,000.⁵

By 1907, the University had managed to recover 45 percent of the debt lost through investments. The University's financial picture, however, was still grave. During a meeting of the University's trustees on April 10, 1907, the trustees recommended the creation of a \$500,000 endowment fund. This endowment, with a new diocesan annual Catholic University Collection, and the recovered investment funds would accrue sufficient interest to maintain the University's solvency. The University recognized that only one organization, the Knights of Columbus, had the financial and business skills and the commitment to Catholic University necessary for such an important project. Thus on July 18, 1907, Archbishop Glennon formally requested that a Knights of Columbus Endowment Fund be created. Archbishop Glennon pleaded and exhorted the Knights, that a Knights of Columbus Endowment Fund would enable the Knights to "centralized your Catholic activities" further admonishing "no object worthy enough, definite enough, and Catholic enough, has been laid before you."⁶

On January 6, 1914, the Knights of Columbus presented Catholic University with securities worth \$500,000 for the "Knights of Columbus Catholic University Endowment Fund". The agreement

between the University and the Knights stipulated that the interest from the endowment fund was to be used for fellowships for which Knights and their families would have a preference, and that any residual interest would be used for the University's general expenses.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS EVENING SCHOOL

You...represent an educational institution, for does not such an organization as yours instill a regard for the rights of others, a regard for the law and for morality?⁷

Arthur T. Hadley
President Of Yale
Dedication of the Knights of Columbus
Headquarters 1906

One of the Knights most influential educational endeavors directly resulted from a patriotic gift to the country. During World War I there was no United Service Organizations, to serve American troops. The Knights recognized the need to provide welfare services to the soldiers, and they raised \$14 million dollars through a per capita tax on its membership and other fund raising activities. In conjunction with other service organizations, such as, the YMCA and the Salvation Army, the Knights continued to raise additional funds. The National Catholic War Council and the Knights of Columbus are credited with raising approximately \$30 million dollars through these joint

efforts. The Knights used these funds to provide chaplains and other services for the soldiers.⁸

After World War I ended, the Knights continued their war motto "Everybody welcome---everything free"⁹ by establishing evening schools for the returning veterans to use the generous donations for their intended purpose, serving our American troops at war or peace. Before there was a GI Bill, there was the Knights of Columbus Evening School Program for veterans. After the war through prudent financial management, the Knights had a war chest of \$19 million dollars. The organization took these funds and offered scholarships for veterans to attend bachelor of arts programs at the Catholic University of America and other institutions and establishing their evening school program. The Knights wanted to use the funds for educational purposes so the returning soldiers whose educations had been interrupted or delayed due to the war could resume their studies. One of the evening schools established was in Washington, D.C. The Knights welcomed all veterans regardless of religion.

In 1919, the Washington D.C. chapter of the Knights of Columbus eagerly accepted the challenge of establishing and administering an evening school. The Knights choose Dr. Frank O'Hara, a professor of economics at Catholic University of America, to be the first dean of the Columbus School. The school was first located in St. John's College, a boy's day high school, in the 1200 block of Vermont Avenue. St. John's College graciously allowed the school use of its facilities during the evening. This school

was the precursor to the Columbus University School of Law. The school offered English, shorthand, history, public speaking, and auto mechanics. The accountancy and law classes were a later addition to the curriculum.¹⁰ During one year over 2,000 World War I veterans obtained a free education at the Knights of Columbus Evening School.¹¹ Eventually the School was open to non-veterans for a small fee.

COLUMBUS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Columbus students are safe from exposure to the false, pernicious and sometimes blatantly anti-Catholic doctrines flourishing in many secular schools.

Dr. John R. Fitzpatrick, Dean¹²
Columbus University School of Law

By 1922, however, the funds for this worthy endeavor were nearly exhausted. The local Washington D.C. council of the Knights of Columbus voted to continue sponsoring the school, but to limit it to law and accounting to meet the World War I veterans needs for advanced studies. Thus, in August 1922, Columbus University School of Law was incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia. Dr. O'Hara continued as Dean until 1925 when Prof. Francis J. Hemelt succeeded him. Prof. Hemelt and Dr. O'Hara are credited with being the primary movers and shakers in the organization and incorporation of Columbus University.¹³ Columbus University holds

a special place in American education history; It is the only non-sectarian educational institution established to educate and train World War I veterans admitting Catholic and non-Catholics controlled by Catholic laymen. Columbus University charter required all members of the Board of Trustees to be members of the Knights of Columbus.¹⁴

Eventually due to it's phenomenal growth, the newly created Columbus University outgrew its' temporary home at St. John's College and moved to a new location at 1314 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Little did Dean O'Hara and Leo A. Rover, a primary mover and shaker in the organization of the Columbus University School of Law and a prosecutor in the Teapot Dome litigation, realize that the first class of twelve law students¹⁵ would eventually grow to become the third largest law school class in the country with 1,059 students in 1939¹⁶; Harvard Law School lead the nation with 1,387 students and St. John's College of Brooklyn had second place with 1,107 students. Catholic University Law School had 85 students¹⁷.

Obviously, given Columbus University Law School astonishing growth, the school had to move again to a larger facility. The University chose the home of a former U.S. Secretary of State and noted international lawyer, John Foster Dulles. Columbus University purchased the spacious elegant four-story Dulles mansion at 1323 Eighteenth Street, N.W. and also later purchased the adjoining townhouse at 1825 Eighteenth Street, N.W. The University remodeled the new facilities so that the former bedrooms were used for classrooms and the ballroom became, "probably one of the finest

moot court rooms in Washington schools"¹⁸. A jury box resided where musicians used to play at elegant and stately Cabinet functions. The new Columbus University location also had a large library, with a glass skylight, and the school acquired 1,000 new volumes during the summer of 1932 to meet the students and faculty needs.¹⁹

Columbus University School of Law was a trail blazer in many areas including the admission of female students and teaching practical lawyering skills. In 1932 Columbus required students to take a public speaking course taught by Prof. Arthur Dering a Catholic University faculty member. During 1932, Columbus also added an international law course to the curriculum taught by Prof. Edward C. Wynne, assistant chief historical adviser of the Department of State.²⁰ Columbus University, however, was a pioneer in teaching practical legal skills. The school devised a three prong approach: First, the students were taught to draft legal documents pertinent to the subject matter in each class. Second, the students were required to volunteer in a law office to gain actual hands-on experience. Third, groups of students were required to attend trials together. And finally, the students would conduct post mortems on the trial discussing the legal issues and principals and the trial lawyers performances.²¹ In addition to teaching practical lawyering skills and the basic law school curriculum, Columbus offered a diverse range of legal subjects including international law, aviation law, government contracts and South American law.²² Columbus University's dedication to providing students with practical lawyering skills and legal theory did not

go unrecognized. On August 27, 1942 the American Bar Association granted Columbus University provisional approval.²³ During this time period, the American Bar Association would grant a school provisional approval for two years, and then the school could apply for full approval after the two year waiting period. Two years later, in 1944 Columbus University Trustees hosted a dinner and celebration at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. to celebrate its' American Bar Association full approval. The guest list included the President of Columbus University William E. Leahy, Dean James J. Hayden, Justice Justin Miller of the United States Court of Appeals, and Will Shaforth of the council on legal education of the American Bar Association, and Columbus University law faculty, friends, and alumni.²⁴

Columbus University School of Law continued following its motto "Ad Astra Per Castra" (to the stars through military camps) (service) after the bombing of Pearl Harbor by providing the Air-Raid Warden Service with a large office at the law school. The school recognized the need for civilian defense and in cooperation with the Dupont Circle Area Post No. 21 of the Air-Raid Warden Service provided training for more than 1,600 air-raid wardens on the law and regulations governing blackouts. Furthermore, thousands of individuals were trained in the school's classrooms in bomb and gas work and first aid.²⁵ Columbus also delayed the starting of all classes during the war to aid those students who had to work later because of World War II.

THE WOMEN OF COLUMBUS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

World War II also changed the student body at Columbus University. Since most able-bodied men of college age volunteered to serve our country, a larger pool of women began to apply to the school.²⁶ Women, however, were always welcome. During the 1942 commencement, Judge Morris had the pleasure of awarding the bachelor of laws to a mother and son team, Mrs Gladys E. Doing and her son, Perry, and to two husband and wife couples, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis W. Dowell and Demetrius H. Bagley. Judge Morris also had the rare pleasure of awarding a diploma to his own secretary Elizabeth H. Brantley. Many of the graduates held government jobs while attending law school and were working mothers, including Adeine Norris, whose three-year-old daughter watched her mother graduate.²⁷ Women were also represented among the faculty. Dr. Miriam T. Rooney, an expert in legal jurisprudence and in the philosophy and history of the law, taught a course in jurisprudence.²⁸

One of the school's former graduates, Mary Catherine Barlow Smallwood also earned her Master's in Library Science from Catholic University and later became the law librarian at Columbus University until she became a full-time professor of law at Columbus University. In 1950, she was appointed to the Municipal Court in the District of Columbia by President Truman.²⁹

Columbus University supported its' firm belief in the

education of women as lawyers by providing full law scholarships to graduates of Dunbarton College, Trinity College, Georgetown Visitation College and Immaculata Junior College.³⁰

COLUMBUS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW FACULTY

Columbus University School of law included many distinguished jurists and legal scholars. Dr. John R. Fitzpatrick was dean of Columbus University School of Law from 1932-1941. He earned his bachelor's degree from George Washington University and his bachelor's, master's and doctor degrees in law from Columbus University. During this time period, he quadrupled the enrollment until the school was the third largest law school in the United States, and he started the schools' boxing team.

Dr. Fitzpatrick was also a renowned criminal lawyer and served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia from 1929-1934. He prosecuted a wide variety of cases including cases involving a fashionable girls school proprietress, a countess, and two brothers who swindled a church rector. Dean Fitzpatrick also served with distinction during World War II as a lieutenant commander in Naval Intelligence. After resigning as Dean, he began a labor law practice in Frederick, Maryland and taught labor law at Catholic University's postgraduate law school.³¹

Louis G. Caldwell, a lecturer on administrative law at Columbus University, was also a partner at the prestigious

Washington law firm of Kirkland, Fleming, Green, Martin & Ellis. He was a former secretary of the administrative law section of the District Bar Association in addition to having served on various committees of the American Bar Association. He was also the first general counsel of the Federal Radio Commission.³²

Robert D. L'Heureux

Barnard T. Welsh

Richard W. Galiher

Edward M. Curran

Dean Hayden a former dean at Catholic University School of Law succeeded Dean Fitzpatrick at Columbus University. Dr. Hayden was a legal scholar and earned his bachelors of philosophy from the University of Wisconsin in 1918, his Master's of Arts from Catholic University, and bachelor of laws degree from Georgetown University. Furthermore, he served with distinction in World War I.³³

COLUMBUS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW ORGANIZATIONS

Life at Columbus University was not all lawyering skills and aviation law. Columbus also provided many intellectually and physically stimulating extracurricular activities for the student body and faculty. The Columbian Debating Society providing students with many interesting discussions including topics ranging from the modification of the jury system to the abolition of

capital punishment.³⁴ Students interested in writing could submit articles to the Columbus University School of Law "Skipper". For those interested in more lively activities they could attend the Halloween Dance.³⁵ On the other hand, there was always the Freshman Hop or the Alpha Mu Chapter of the Sigma Delta Kappa Fraternity of the School of Law or the Pi Chi Club, composed of female law students.³⁶

For the more athletically challenged the Athletic Association³⁷ and the Explorers, Columbus University School of Law Boxing team, provided excellent outlets. Life, however was quite demanding for the young boxers. Dean Fitzpatrick, only provided tuition and fees scholarships for the boxers, whose lives tended to be filled from sun up until sun down with work during the day, classes in the evening, and study and training at night or on weekends.³⁸

COLUMBUS SCHOOL OF LAW CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

This merger...is intended by the Trustees of both institutions to result in an expanded and strengthened School of Law, which in its downtown location will enable the merged Law School under the direction of Catholic University to increase its service in this field of education.

Catholic University Press Release³⁹

Columbus University was not the first school to be considered as a potential match to merger with Catholic University Law School, but it was and is the perfect match. The first involved the

Georgetown University Law School. In 1894, the General of the Society of Jesus and Pope Leo XIII expressed an interest in Georgetown University Law School merging with the Catholic University of American Law School to promote Catholicism and education.⁴⁰ Needless to say, this proposed merger never took place. Georgetown University Law School retained counsel with Hamilton & Colbert Law Firm and strongly declined the invitation: "Speaking, therefore, for myself and all the Professors, I wish to assure you that the contemplated transfer will never be consented to or permitted by us to be carried into effect".⁴¹

There have been many great unions in American history, but the union of Columbus University and Catholic University of America Law School shall always remain one of our country's most special unions. For this merger represents a joining of the principals of service, catholic education, catholicism, and patriotic service to our country.

Unlike many mergers both sides brought substantial assets and resources to the bargaining table. Columbus University contributed an excellent faculty, dedicated student body, two downtown townhouses including the Dulles Mansion, and an extensive law library. In addition, Columbus donated and transferred all of its personal and real property including all endowment funds or trusts to Catholic University of America.⁴² Moreover, Columbus University was without indebtedness and financial obligations.⁴³ Likewise, Catholic University Law School contributed its standing in the educational community, the resources of a large prestigious

university, a larger faculty and administration attunded to the needs of students, and the opportunity for students to avail themselves of the many rich extra-curricular activiites and the wide selection of courses in various fields.

After the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University outgrew the two downtown townhouses, Catholic sold them and used the proceeds to build Leahy Hall without incurring substantial debt for the law school. Two of the major reasons for the continued success of the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University of America is not only that Catholic University and Columbus University combined their resources but also that the Knights of Columbus continued their generous support to both Columbus School of Law and to Catholic University after the merger. This support can be easily seen today in the ever popular and relaxing Knights of Columbus Courtyard and Fountain at the Columbus School of Law new building and the Knights of Columbus Scholarship Fund at Catholic University of America.

Ultimately, one of the Knight's greatest gifts to Catholicism was the Knights' Tower at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the installation of the carillon. The Catholic University of America was honored to be chosen as the site for the Basilica. The Knights donated \$150,000 for the carillon installation and one million dollars for the construction of the Tower. But as Luke Hart said "throughout all the ages, the Knights' Tower will be a monument to the Order, giving evidence of the undying loyalty of our members to Mary,

Mother of God... and these bells will forever ring out the glory of man's redemption."⁴⁴

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2. Kauffman, Christopher. "The Knights of Columbus: Lay Activism from the Origins Through the Great Depression." *U.S. Catholic Historian* 9(3): 261-274 (1990).
3. Kauffman, *Faith and Fraternalism*, p.144.
4. Kauffman, *Faith and Fraternalism*, p. 158.
5. Kauffman, *Faith and Fraternalism*, p. 161.
6. Kauffman, *Faith and Fraternalism*, p. 161.
7. Arthur T. Hadley, President of Yale, Speech at the dedication of the Knights of Columbus national headquarters in New Haven, CT June 1906 quoted in Kauffman, Christopher. *Faith and Fraternalism: The History of the Knights of Columbus*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1992.
8. Sweany, Mark. "Educational Work of the Knights of Columbus." *United States Bureau of Education Bulletin* 23 (1923): 1-12.
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10. Edmund Monk, "Columbus U. Again Schools Veterans," *Washington Evening Star*, 3 March 1946. D.C. Public Library, Martin Luther King, Washingtoniana Room Morgue Files from the Washington Evening Star newspapers. File Colleges & Universities Columbus 1922-1963.
11. Proctor, John Clagett, ed. 1930. *Washington Past and Present*. Vol. II. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., p. 799.
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17. "Columbus Third in U.S. Law School Enrollment", Washington Star, 25 December 1939. Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
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20. "Columbus U. Is Established in New and Spacious Home", Washington Post, 11 September 1932. Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
21. "Columbus U. to Give Students Experience in Practice of Law". Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
22. "Columbus Law School Adds Five Courses To Graduate Group". Washington Star. 18 January 1942. Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
23. "Columbus U. Law School Gets Approval of Bar Association". 6 September 1942. Washington Post. Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
24. "University Group Schedules Dinner". 3 November 1944. Washington Post. Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
25. "Columbus University Opens Courses to Train 1,600 Wardens". Washington Star. 11 June 1942. Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
26. "Columbus Law Classes Begin Changed Student Body". 20 September 1942. Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
27. "Columbus U. Graduates Hear Jurist". 12 June 1942. Washington Post. Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
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34. "School to Have Official Ring". Washington Star. Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
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36. "College Players to Make Debut". 17 November 1929. Washington Star. Colleges & Universities: Columbus 1922-1963 File. MLK Public Library Archives.
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38. "fitzpatrick's Boxing Team Recognized After 10-Year Fight". 1 February 1940. Washington Daily News.
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40. Letter of Most Rev. Apostolic Delegate to Deans of Law and Medical Faculties of Georgetown University, March 1, 1894. (Copy) Catholic University Muellen Library, Department of Archives and Manuscripts.
41. Reply of Dean--Faculty of Law-- March 6, 1894, page 1. (Copy) Catholic University Muellen Library, Department of Archives and Manuscripts.
42. Agreement Between Columbus University of Washington, D.C., Inc. and The Catholic University of America, Inc., page 1 (December 19, 1953). Catholic University Muellen Library, Department of Archives and Manuscripts.

43. Memorandum for His Excellency Patrick a. O'Boyle, Archbishop of Washington, Re: Columbus University (February 10, 1949). Catholic University Muellen Library, Department of Archives and Manuscripts.

44. Kauffman, p. 401.

**Knights of Columbus
Supreme Council Archives
New Haven, CT 06507**

January 25, 1950.

Mr. James F. Hayden, Dean,
Columbus University of Washington,
18th & N Streets, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hayden:

On January 12th I assumed the post of Historian of the Knights of Columbus, with a commission to write the history of the Order. One of the important phases of their activity was the establishment of Night Schools after World War I. Out of the school established in Washington evolved Columbus University of Washington. I gather that in the early years there were some stormy sessions over its charter and existence. To clear up some difficulties and to pursue some further research at this end, I should like to know:

- a) The exact date of the issuance of the first charter (the summer of 1922 I believe)
- b) The exact date of the issuance of the amended charter
- c) Whether any students ever received a B.A. degree from Catholic University through credits gained at Columbus University? If so, how many and when?
- d) Whether any students received the B.A. degree from George Washington University through credits gained at Columbus University? If so, how many and when?
- e) Similarly with Georgetown University
- f) Did Columbus University ever grant a B. A. degree? If so, how many and when? Has it the power by charter to grant such a degree?

1/25/50

g) Was the privilege accorded by Catholic University of recognizing for credit collegiate courses at Columbus University ever withdrawn? When?

h) Did Catholic University ever recognize the high school courses taught by Columbus University? If so, when? If not, did any other institution so recognize them?

i) Is there an active Alumni Association at Columbus University? Does it have an active file of graduates?

j) Are there available the graduation lists, by name, of those receiving the LL.B. and accountancy degrees? If not, are the numbers of such graduates available by years?

k) Is a list of the Trustees available from the beginning to the present?

I regret that I must submit such a list of questions, as I know from experience as a Registrar that these can be most annoying when they come from so many sources. But the connection of the University with the Knights of Columbus is little known outside of Washington and its contributions need publicity on a larger scale.

Should you wish to check further on my authority to thus delve, may I refer you to Mr. William E. Leahy in the Bowen Building, with whom I have talked.

I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Historian.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
COLUMBUS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

January 27, 1950

Rev. Dr. Arthur J. Riley
P. O. Drawer 1670
New Haven 7, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Riley:

Replying to your letter of January 25th, some of the questions are easy to answer and some I am afraid will have to be answered by other institutions. It is gratifying to learn that the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus are writing a history of the Order and that as a part of this project they are recording the activities of the Night Schools established by them following World War I. I have, on several occasions, suggested to our Trustees that the Supreme Council should be interested in promoting the only University in the United States originally organized and still conducted by members of the Knights of Columbus. The answer has always been that the Supreme Council no longer had any interest in the activities of Columbus University of Washington, D. C. It is a great pity, if it be the truth, because this institution has always been a great credit to the Supreme Council and to the Order in general and could, if properly supported by the entire Order, constitute an outstanding achievement of the Catholic laymen of this country acting through the Knights of Columbus.

Answering your questions as listed, I am glad to submit the following data:

A. The exact date of the first Charter was August 26, 1922. This Charter of incorporation was secured under the laws of the District of Columbia.

B. The exact date of the issuance of the amended Charter was June 11, 1934. The amended Charter is known as Public Number 303, 73rd Congress, and approved by the President of the United States on June 11, 1934.

C. We have no record to show whether any students ever received the B.A. Degree from Catholic University through credits gained in whole or in part at Columbus. Catholic University should have that information.

D. George Washington University would be the only institution having information to show whether credits from Columbus were accepted there toward the B.A. Degree.

E. Georgetown University should have information to show whether they granted the B.A. Degree to any students on the basis of credits earned at Columbus.

F. Columbus University has never granted a B.A. Degree so far as I can learn. It does have the power to do so under the Charter acquired August 26, 1922.

G. I do not know whether Catholic University either recognized for credit college courses taken at Columbus or withdrew that privilege. Catholic University should have that information in its file.

H. I do not know whether Catholic University ever recognized the high school courses taught by Columbus University. Their records from 1919 to 1925 should have the answer. I do not know whether any other institution recognized high school credits awarded by Columbus University; that is a matter which our own files may throw some light upon and I shall examine them for that purpose.

I. There is an active Alumni Association at Columbus. They use the list of graduates which the institution itself provides.

J. We do have available graduate lists for some of the years in which the LL.B. Degree, the LL.M. Degree and the Accountancy Degrees were awarded; however our graduate lists are not complete. Our first graduating class in Law was 1925. We have the basic records alphabetically arranged showing the names of students who have received Law Degrees since 1925, but our statistical tabulations showing the number of graduates by years does not go back of about 1937.

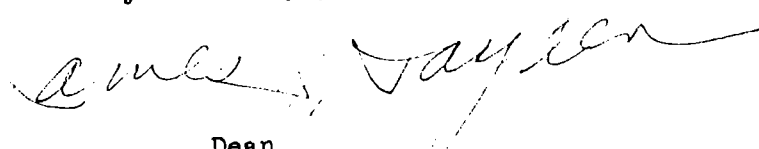
K. It is likely that a list of the Trustees from the beginning of the school to the present is available in the records of the Secretary of the University. I shall request him to make up such a list from his records.

I am interested in your comment that the contributions of Columbus University and its connection with the Knights of Columbus need publicity on a larger scale. I quite agree with this thought and hope that some way will be found to publicize the outstanding job of the Knights of Columbus after World War I in organizing the school in Washington as well as similar schools in other parts of the country. Incidentally, Columbus University was originally organized in 1919, as the "Knights of Columbus Evening School" and continued under that name until it was incorporated in 1922, as Columbus University of Washington, D. C.

In delving into our old records it is possible that other information may come to light which might be of assistance to you and I shall be glad to call your attention to any data which might be useful in writing the history of the establishment of night schools after World War I.

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,



Dean

89th CONGRESS
2^d SESSION

S. 3213

A BILL

Relating to the merger of the Columbus University of Washington, District of Columbia, into the Catholic University of America, pursuant to an agreement of the trustees of said universities.

By Mr. BEALL

MARCH 30 (legislative day, MARCH 1), 1954

Read twice and referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia

83D CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3213

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 30 (legislative day, MARCH 1), 1954

Mr. BEALL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia

A BILL

Relating to the merger of the Columbus University of Washington, District of Columbia, into the Catholic University of America, pursuant to an agreement of the trustees of said universities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the merger of the Columbus University of Washington,
4 District of Columbia, a corporation organized under the pro-
5 visions of subchapter 1 of chapter 18 of the Code of Laws of
6 the District of Columbia, 1901 edition, which incorporation
7 was altered and confirmed by Acts of Congress approved
8 June 11, 1934, and June 18, 1953, into the Catholic Uni-
9 versity of America, a corporation organized under the pro-

83D CONGRESS
2D SESSION

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1 visions of class 1, chapter 18, of the Revised Statutes of
2 the United States relating to the District of Columbia, which
3 incorporation was altered and confirmed by Act of Congress
4 approved April 3, 1928, be, and the same is hereby, approved
5 and confirmed.

6 SEC. 2. The Columbus University shall upon the ap-
7 proval of this Act convey its real and personal property,
8 including any trusts or endowment funds which it has or
9 enjoys, to the Catholic University of America, to be used
10 by it for the students thereof to the same extent and for
11 the same purposes that Columbus University and its stu-
12 dents have used or enjoyed the same, or for the general
13 purposes of the said Catholic University of America.

14 SEC. 3. After the completion of the merger herein pro-
15 vided and after the law students presently enrolled in the
16 Columbus University have completed their courses, but not
17 later than June 15, 1957, the said Columbus University shall
18 be dissolved and no longer operate as an educational insti-
19 tution, and thereafter the law school of the Catholic Uni-
20 versity of America shall be known as the Columbus School
21 of Law of the Catholic University.

22 SEC. 4. Nothing in this Act contained shall be so con-
23 strued as to prevent Congress from altering, amending, or
24 repealing the same.