

without the faith of our laymen in our court procedures and decisions. To our laymen, therefore, it is essential that the courts continue to function in a free environment in order to fulfill their responsibilities to the citizens they serve. The preservation of our heritage of freedom depends upon this cornerstone of our democracy.

The Major Challenge of Our Time

Time alone will tell whether or not this cornerstone will remain intact in the future. The future is the realm of the unknown for all of us. As we stand today upon its threshold we feel the powerful pull of this unknown, the awareness of its dangers and the stirring demands of its lofty peaks as yet unscaled in the social relations of man. On charting our course we find a number of complex problems facing both the legal profession and the layman:

Lawlessness, to be met with intelligent and resolute action.

Juvenile crime, which calls for the deepest understanding, discipline, and self-sacrifice in all of our local communities.

Law interpretations, which require the immediate attention of our most brilliant legal minds.

Judicial administration, which needs discernment, judgment and maturity for the solution of its problems.

World communism, which must be combated by a reaffirmation of the positive, creative, dynamic, and democratic concepts rooted in the rule of law and in the inherent dignity and preciousness of every human being.

This is what our Nation faces in the future—a Nation which has been, since its inception, a beacon for the oppressed peoples of the world who are still struggling heroically to achieve freedom. Will we continue to be a beacon to these people? Will we light the way to freedom, security and peace under law for all mankind? These questions constitute the major challenge of our time.

Attention of speakers addressing audiences of young people is directed also to "Our American Heritage—A Bill of Rights" (Pages 50-51); "What America Means to Me" (P. 27) and the editorial, "Law in a Treehouse World" (P. 49).

*School Assemblies
or Youth Meetings*

LAW AND YOUTH

(An adaptation of addresses prepared by the Illinois State Bar Association and the New York State Bar Association.)

People are said to be most interested in things that are very old or very new. If this is true, and if it is true also that young people favor the very new, I am in a fortunate position, because my subject today is old in a historical sense yet brand new in that probably none of you in this audience ever has had occasion to think about it before.

Law had its beginnings centuries ago, in fact hundreds of years before the birth of Christ. The evolution of law is a dramatic story, but I am not here to talk of that. Instead I am going to attempt to give you a conception of what law means to you—how it affects your daily lives now, during your school days, and how it is going to help shape your lives in the future.

It is an appropriate time to think about this. This day has been proclaimed by the President of the United States as LAW DAY USA, for the very purpose of encouraging Americans of all ages to reflect upon the meaning of law in American life. Since you have most of your lives ahead of you this is more important to you than anyone else.

Extent To Which Laws Affect Us

Some people live a lifetime without ever feeling that they are in direct, personal contact with the law. They may never be arrested, never on trial, never sued and never sue anyone. Yet every day of their lives these same people are affected by laws, and protected by them, in almost every thing they do and every place they go.

The same is true of you. If you are inclined to doubt this let's consider the few hours that have elapsed since you got out of bed this morning. I'm going to point out to you some of the ways in

which each of you has been personally affected by law, even though you probably were unaware of it.

You may have awakened to the strains of music on an automatic clock radio, or to the voice of a newscaster. In either case laws made it possible. An act of Congress created the Federal Communications Commission which allocates radio channels so broadcasts aren't jumbled. And the newscaster you may have heard wasn't told what he had to say, because freedom to report and to comment on the news is guaranteed to him under the federal constitution. The electricity that operated the radio, or the lights in your room, and the wiring that conveyed the electric power are subject to laws both as to rates and safety requirements.

The clothes you put on to wear today had to be labeled, to protect you against misrepresentation as to materials. The transportation that brought the clothes to the stores where you bought them were subject to laws as to methods of operation and rates. If you had a glass of milk, cereal and eggs for breakfast, you were protected by laws governing marketing and quality.

The newspaper you or your parents may have read at the breakfast table was free, under guarantees of the constitution, to print the news, just as the broadcaster was to report it orally, without fear of government censure or reprisal. It probably told of someone being acquitted of a crime by a jury, a reminder that in our country every person accused of a crime is presumed to be innocent until his guilt is proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

You finished breakfast and started to school. Traffic laws protected you, whether you walked or rode a bicycle or drove a car, assuming you were old enough under the law to have a driver's license—another requirement of law. In some states laws require that your car carry liability insurance to protect others in case of accidents, and to protect you if someone damages your car.

At school, the buildings and facilities and teaching staffs all are made possible by local taxes imposed by law upon owners of property in the school district. The salaries of teachers, their educational qualifications, in some cases the courses you study, and certainly the amount of time you spend in school, are controlled either by laws or by school authority granted under laws.

Our Legal System and Your Future

I could go on indefinitely, citing examples of how laws affect you in all of your waking—and sleeping—hours. But I am sure you get the idea. We rely upon law in almost everything we do, often

without being aware of it. As the President of the United States said recently in a statement about Law Day, we rely upon law almost as much as the air we breathe; we depend upon it constantly without being conscious of it.

Important as all of this is, it is not the most significant aspect of law in your lives. The big thing is what law means to you in terms of your future. Let me illustrate my point with a little parable about two men.

One is Eric Schumann. He is 32 years old, married and the father of two children. Eric is a machine operator in a farm equipment factory, a job he has held since he was discharged from the army some years ago. He is a hard worker and is looked up to by his fellows as a good citizen.

So far, Eric's description might fit Joe Smith equally well. Joe is the same age, has the same size family, and the same kind of job. He, too, is respected by his associates. But there the parallel ends. Joe Smith lives in East Peoria, Illinois. Eric Schumann lives in East Germany.

There is a very great difference in their lives because of that fact of geography.

Joe Smith is planning to buy a new home for himself and his family within the next few years. Eric Schumann has no such dreams. Eric feels lucky that he has an apartment that sort of "goes with" his job at the factory. For Eric is a good worker and a good party man. If he weren't, he wouldn't even have the apartment all to himself. He'd be sharing a room or two with some other family.

Joe Smith plans to send his children to college when they are old enough. What college? Whatever college he or the children choose. Eric Schumann is not so sure of his plans for the future of his children. Perhaps if they are good students, and if they become active in the youth organization, they will be able to go to college. What college? Whatever college the government decides they attend. What will they study? Whatever the government decides or will approve.

Freedom of Opportunity is Vital

Will Eric have anything to say about this? Not very likely, unless he becomes very influential in the party, which doesn't seem probable now. As a matter of fact, Eric isn't even sure he'll *KNOW* his children very well when they reach college age. Right now, Eric's wife works at a fulltime job—that helps with the apart-

ment, too. The children attend a day nursery all day, where they're cared for by government-aid governesses. This probably will go on until they are of school age, when they'll be taught by government-appointed teachers using government-approved text-books and classroom materials. Then the Youth Organization will take up much of their free time, just as the party work takes up much of Eric's free time now. There isn't really too much time to get to know your own children.

There is a possibility that Eric may be able to take his wife and children on a vacation soon, though. He's trying to wangle a trip to next year's trade fair out of the party and his factory manager. If he gets it, he may be able—just may be able—to swing it so that he can take his family with him, by train.

If he were Joe Smith, he'd take his family on a trip in their car. But Eric doesn't have a car. He doesn't even see many new cars, and he certainly doesn't have any hope of owning one in the near future.

Is all this just a matter of economics? Hardly. Given an equal opportunity with Joe Smith, Eric might work harder and amass more worldly wealth than Joe Smith. But he doesn't have the opportunity. He doesn't have the freedom to choose his job, or exercise his individual enterprise and initiative for his own advancement. He doesn't have the freedom of individual choice and action that Joe Smith has, because he doesn't live under a legal system which recognizes individual rights as paramount.

It is hard for us to imagine what life would be like if we did not have the kind of individual freedom Joe Smith enjoys. That is because we always have had this freedom protected by our constitutions and laws. And as long as the Constitution and the first ten amendments, which are our Bill of Rights, are in force and effect we always will have the freedoms they guarantee.

I hope all of you have read the Bill of Rights. If any of you have not, you can correct that deficiency in about three minutes, because that is how long it takes to read the 462 words that make up the Bill of Rights. It can be the most useful three minutes of reading you ever indulged in. And if you have read the Bill of Rights before, I suggest a re-reading of it, because these 462 words are, for Americans, more meaningful than any like number of words in the English language. And their meaning—freedom under law for the individual—is the message that Law Day seeks to convey to all Americans.

"LIKE THE AIR WE BREATHE . . ."

A statement by the President of the United States, recorded and filmed for radio and television on the occasion of the first observance of Law Day on May 1, 1958.

MAY FIRST has by proclamation been designated "Law Day." The reason is to remind us all that we as Americans live, every day of our lives, under a rule of law.

Freedom under law is like the air we breathe. People take it for granted and are unaware of it—until they are deprived of it. What does the rule of law mean to us in everyday life? Let me quote the eloquent words of Burke: "The poorest man may, in his cottage, bid defiance to all the forces of the Crown. It may be frail; its roof may shake; the wind may blow through it; the storms may enter; the rain may enter—but the King of England cannot enter; all his forces dare not cross the threshold of that ruined tenement!"

But the rule of law does more than ensure freedom from high-handed action by rulers. It ensures justice between man and man—however humble the one and however powerful the other. A man with five dollars in the bank can call to account the corporation with five billion dollars in assets—and the two will be heard as equals before the law. The law, however, has not stopped here. It has moved to meet the needs of the times. True, it is good that the King cannot enter unbidden into the ruined cottage. But it is not good that men should live in ruined cottages.

The law in our times also does its part to build a society in which the homes of workers will be invaded neither by the sovereign's troops nor by the storms and winds of insecurity and poverty. It does this, not by paternalism, welfarism and hand-outs, but by creating a framework of fair play within which conscientious, hard-working men and women can freely obtain a just return for their efforts.

This return includes not only good wages and working conditions, but insurance as a right against the insecurities of injury, unemployment and old age. In the words of a great American lawyer: "The law must be stable, but it must not stand still."

Another direction in which the rule of law is moving is that of displacing force in relations among sovereign countries. We have an International Court of Justice. We have seen the exercise of an international police function, both in the United Nations force in Korea, and in the United Nations force assigned to the Gaza Strip. We have agreements in Article II of the United Nations Charter to the most fundamental concepts of international conduct.

We have elaborate rules of international law—far more complete and detailed than most people realize. More than once, nations have solemnly outlawed war as an instrument of national policy, most recently in the Charter of the United Nations. We have, in short, at least the structure and machinery of an international rule of law which could displace the use of force. What we need now is the universal will to accept peaceful settlement of disputes in a framework of law.

As for our own country, we have shown by our actions that we will neither initiate the use of force nor tolerate its use by others in violation of the solemn agreement of the United Nations Charter. Indeed, as we contemplate the destructive potentialities of any future large-scale resort to force, any thoughtful man or nation is driven to a sober conclusion.

In a very real sense, the world no longer has a choice between force and law. If civilization is to survive, it must choose the rule of law. On this Law Day, then, we honor not only the principle of the rule of law, but also those judges, legislators, lawyers and law-abiding citizens who actively work to preserve our liberties under law.

Let history record that on Law Day free man's faith in the rule of law and justice is greater than ever before. And let us trust that this faith will be vindicated for the benefit of all mankind.

LAW DAY U. S. A.

Suggested Statement by Judges at Opening of Court

TODAY we are celebrating LAW DAY U. S. A. And we have cause for celebration because we are the beneficiaries of the richest heritage of liberty under law in the history of civilized peoples.

By presidential proclamation the nation has set aside a "day" to recognize the place of law in American life. It is appropriate that this be done. Law is the intangible force that makes freedom and progress possible. It is law that brings order into the affairs of men—that enables them to lift their sights above mere survival, to accumulate possessions, to develop the arts, to pursue knowledge, and to enjoy life among their fellows. Law gives the individual citizen security he could obtain in no other way; it protects the family and other groups organized for the advancement of common interests; it permits the growth of great cities and the development of enterprises, large and small. It is the cement that holds our free society together.

This court of law—representative of the vast judicial system of our state and nation—is one of the cornerstones of our structure of government under law. The judges of our courts—from the lowest to the highest—are subject to control only by the law of the land and are accountable only to their own consciences and to Almighty God. No American judge can be overruled by any authority on earth save that of a superior court upon appeal duly taken under the law. And every American judge presides over a court dedicated to the living American ideal of equal justice under law.

We in this court room—the judge as presiding officer, the attorneys as officers of the court, and other citizens as litigants or jurors—share the profound responsibility of preserving, strengthening and passing on to future generations our judicial system which unconditionally guarantees equal justice under law to even the most humble among us. This guarantee is a vital part of our heritage as American citizens.

To keep alive this ideal of equal justice in this day of dictators