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Ceremonies Dedicating the College of Law Building

Wyoming State Bar

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CEREMONIES DEDICATING THE COLLEGE
OF LAW BUILDING

October 3, 1953

G. D. Humphrey, President, University of Wyoming, presiding

INVOCATION Reverend C. T. Hawes
Pastor, First Methodist Church, Laramie

GREETINGS:

E. Keith Thomson, Past President, University of Wyoming Alumni Association

R. Dwight Wallace, President, Wyoming State Bar

Fred H. Blume, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Wyoming

C. A. Zaring, State Board of Law Examiners

REMARKS R. R. Hamilton, Dean, College of Law

DEDICATORY ADDRESS Honorable John C. Pickett,
Judge, U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit

BENEDICTION Reverend Mr. Hawes

R. DWIGHT WALLACE

President Humphrey, Dean Hamilton, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is indeed an honor to be present on this occasion of the dedication of the new building to house the College of Law at the University of Wyoming. As you know, we have an integrated Bar in Wyoming, operating by virtue of Statutory Law and under Rules adopted by our Supreme Court.

As a consequence every Judge and practicing attorney in the State is a member of the Wyoming State Bar. I can speak for every member in stating that we are all proud of the record of the College of Law in our University here.

Through the years of its existence, it has made steady progress and has consistently turned out fine lawyers, well-educated in the Law and with high ethical standards.

There has always been complete co-operation between the Law School and the Wyoming State Bar. One outstanding example being *The Wyoming Law Journal*, published by the Faculty and students of the College which is of great practical benefit to all of the members of the Bar.

The Wyoming State Bar Association, as a whole, is more than happy that the College of Law will not have adequate facilities to continue its fine work in sending out graduates, well-grounded in the Law and with the training that will not only make them fine attorneys but also men and women to take leadership in civic and public affairs.

The American Bar Association well realizes the necessity of having adequate working quarters and facilities, so is presently engaged in the project of a \$3,500,000 American Lawyers Center in Chicago. The University of Wyoming has been one step ahead in providing a monument to the legal profession in this State.

We can rest assured that from this new Law School will come men and women, well-trained to battle for the rights of their clients and to maintain in this Country the Freedom guaranteed by our Constitution and Laws as against all of the threats of Communism and other noxious "Isms" which endanger the Peace of the World.

FRED H. BLUME

President Humphrey, Dean Hamilton, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I was present and helped in dedicating the Hall of Justice—The Supreme Court Building at Cheyenne—and I am glad to be present today at the dedication of this Law Building. The students who will emerge therefrom may at some time in the future occupy the Hall of Justice or at least help in developing and molding the principles of law and justice applied therein. This building is dedicated to the administration of law and justice no less than the various Halls of Justice in the state. We must see to it that government according to law shall not perish; that the fundamental principles of justice that have come down to us during the ages and the principles of freedom and liberty that illustrate the American way of life shall be preserved. And in order that that may be possible, the existence of the profession of law is essential, even though the people as a whole may not fully realize that to be true. Hence it is necessary to educate and train some of our young men and women in the law. Upon them and their contemporaries will soon devolve the privilege and the duty to guide the destiny of our nation and to see to it that the guarantees contained in the Constitution of the United States and in the Constitutions of the various states will be upheld and preserved against all assaults thereon. So the people of Wyoming and this University and the young men and women to be trained are to be congratulated for the erection of this splendid edifice, dedicated to so noble a purpose. And the members of the Supreme Court of this State are glad to join in that congratulation.

R. R. HAMILTON

Today, the College of Law finds itself at the end of one era, and at the beginning of another. The first was characterized by the struggles of a small, young school for recognition in its state and throughout the nation. Such recognition has been attained, but it has not come easily or quickly. Those who were responsible for the organization of the school 33 years ago, envisioned it as a relatively small one, of high quality, organized primarily to serve the needs of a growing but sparsely populated state. Its admin-

istration has never deviated from that purpose. Its success is attested by the fact that its graduates occupy positions of honor and trust in many states and foreign countries, and that they exercise leadership at all levels of our state government.

The progress of the College has not always been under the most favorable conditions. It has always operated with the minimum number of staff members. Its quarters have always been inadequate. Funds available for library development and maintenance have always been limited. Despite the unvoidable handicaps, the school has attained very high standing nationally, and its graduates are eligible to enter bar examinations in all states.

With this day a new era dawns for the College. For the first time it has a home of its own. Its new quarters are commodious, and ideally designed for law school purposes. The court room makes possible expanded work in trial practice. For the first time in many years, the entire library is arranged for most convenient use by faculty and students. Law review work will be refined and improved, and it is hoped that the College may further extend its usefulness to the Bar of the state.

Upon the occasion of the dedication of the new home for the College, perhaps a word of caution would not be inappropriate. As we view this building, and the other magnificent ones on our campus, we may, in an unthinking moment, be tempted to conclude that a great college and a great university consists principally of physical plant; that because a college or university has beautiful buildings it follows that the institution in question is great. Of course little reflection is required to expose the fallacious nature of any such conclusion. An education institution does not consist of material things, important as they are. Rather it is made up of peoples' minds, their creative imaginations, and their devotion to ideals. Strip a campus of such people and the university ceases to exist. Magnificent buildings become empty, resounding halls. On the other hand, if a catastrophe should reduce these buildings to shapeless masses of rubble, the university would continue to exist. In final analysis, a university exists in the minds and souls of those who carry on its functions, and in the minds and souls of those who support it.

The staff pledges continuance of its devotion to the ideals of the College which have been so far advanced. The facilities afforded us by the people of the state will be utilized to the end that the administration of justice in Wyoming may be further refined and improved. Preparation of prospective members of the legal profession is a high privilege to which the staff has dedicated its energies and professional competence. We recognize our responsibility in this regard and accept it as a sacred trust. We are inspired by the confidence in the College and its work which providing this new home for the College implies. Upon the occasion of this dedication, I

am certain that all of us connected with the work of the College rededicate our professional lives to the principles for which the College stands. The people of the state, and the Board of Trustees have expressed great confidence in us. To them we express our determination to justify that confidence.

DEDICATORY ADDRESS

JOHN C. PICKETT

I accepted as an honor the invitation to participate in the dedication of this splendid Law School Building. Its construction is fully justified from the progress which the school has made since its origin. I came to Wyoming at about the time the law school was founded and have had an opportunity to observe its growth, and I am proud of the well deserved reputation it has earned within and without the state. I have come to know personally a very large number of its graduates, and for many years I did business with them as a practitioner and more recently have had the opportunity to observe them from the bench in the federal courts. I can say without equivocation that they meet the standards of practicing lawyers as well as the graduates of any of the law schools in the country. Their basic understanding of the law and the administration of justice is excellent and their ethical standards are high. We find them today rapidly assuming the leadership in the bar and the judiciary of our state and gaining prominence elsewhere. All of this illustrates that the school gives to its students a proper foundation for their entry into the practice of their chosen profession.

This has been accomplished under what most schools would consider adverse conditions. The facilities for teaching were of the makeshift variety but it may well be that in the end this arrangement was actually beneficial to the students. The school was small and of necessity those attending were closely associated together and with the faculty. I have no doubt but that the discussions and interest which developed under such an arrangement were extremely helpful. There are those who believe that reading and attending legal lectures is not enough, but that in addition there should be actual discussions of the subjects taught in groups small enough that all may take part. Many of the more prominent law schools throughout the country now believe that they will obtain better results by offering subjects to smaller classes and more opportunity for individualized training for their students. It is prophesied by leading legal educators that the system of teaching large classes and the mass production of lawyers is on the way out.

With this fine new structure, Wyoming Law School enters into a new era. If, as we have been led to believe, facilities have a decided influence