Birthday Gift Fund
Totals $56,984

At the Centennial Banquet on Oct. 23, two heartwarming birthday gifts were presented to the Law School.

Ralph M. Carson, of New York, represented a committee of New York alumni that sparkplugged a Birthday Gift Fund to be used for top-level purposes not feasible within existing fiscal resources. Mr. Carson presented the Dean with a check for $53,439, contributed by about 550 alumni who wished in this way to express their affection and support for their Alma Mater. Additional contributions brought the fund to $56,984 on Dec. 2.

Another birthday gift came from The University of Michigan Alumni Association of Taipei, Taiwan. Two Chinese palatial lanterns were sent with a message from the Hon. Lian-chien Cha, Vice Minister of Justice of the Republic of China and president of the Taipei alumni group. The lanterns are symbolic of light, and came with the wish that the Law School may continue to "flourish and bring future light to world peace and welfare of mankind with its efforts in promoting the Rule of Law." The lanterns will be hung in the Hutchins Hall Alumni Room.

These thoughtful and generous remembrances are most sincerely appreciated by the faculty and all others interested in the Law School.

A firm and final budget for the use of the Birthday Fund has not been fixed, but a list of top-level items is under consideration, and others may be added. The following are being studied:

1. Inviting distinguished professors, leading practitioners, and other specialists to spend more or less extended periods in the School, engaging in seminars or conferences, assisting in developmental work, or associating in the Lawyers Club with students.
2. Offering special graduate instruction in comparative and international law, especially as provided by professors from foreign countries on appointments not to exceed one semester.
3. Presenting special lectureship, with emphasis on the humanistic aspects of the law.
4. Engaging in exceptional research projects, including assistance to finish some significant treatise, or to carry out some project that will contribute toward improvement of the law or administration of justice, or that will penetrate newer areas of the law.
5. Offering scholarships for outstanding but needy students.

Dean Stason, accepting the gifts on behalf of the School, expressed appreciation for them especially because of the loyalties which the gifts represent.

Business Manager Named

Maurice M. Rinkel has been appointed to the newly created post of Business Manager of the Lawyers Club.

Operating the dining room, and serving as hostess for the Club, is Mrs. Wilda Morgan. Prof. John W. Reed continues as Secretary of the Club's Board of Governors.

This new management arrangement was devised after the retirement of Mrs. Georgia Peavey as Director. The increasing complexity of the Club's operation and the enlarged program of speakers and seminar leaders in the Club required a shift to more and specialized personnel.

Mr. Rinkel, a certified public accountant and holder of a master's degree from the University's School of Business Administration, is also Business Secretary to the University's Board in Control of Student Publications, and is Auditor of Student Organizations.

Mrs. Morgan, who came to the Club from a public school position in California, served until a year ago as Director of Residence Halls at the California Institute of Technology.

Job Placement
Picture Is Good

The number of job opportunities for law students and graduates increased slightly during the 1958-59 school year. Representatives from 78 law firms, corporations and government agencies interviewed at the School on 95 separate schedules. They conducted 750 individual interviews. More than 300 other lawyers and corporate executives notified the Placement Office about openings, an increase of 50 over the preceding year.

Of the 212 members in the 1959 graduating classes who registered with Placement, 66 per cent had reported employment by October 1; 18 per cent were subject to military service call; and the remaining 16 per cent had not reported. Michigan drew the greatest number of students, with New York, Ohio and Illinois next in that order. Most of the students took jobs in law offices; some are in government offices, corporations and banks.

It appears that the activity this year will be greater than last. Sixty-seven representatives interviewed at the Law School from October to Christmas vacation as compared with 49 during the same period last year. There is a definite increase in the number of opportunities for summer employment for second-year students. More firms are interviewing earlier in the fall, and third-year students are getting offers earlier each year.

Although a number of students will have made decisions by the first of the year, the School will have good students seeking locations during the second semester. The Placement Office will appreciate hearing about any and all opportunities for these men, and for former graduates who are in military service or are interested in a change. Prof. Laylin K. James is Director of Placement; Miss Elizabeth Bliss is Placement Secretary.

PROFESSOR TRACY DIES

John E. Tracy, professor emeritus of law at The University of Michigan, died Dec. 21 after an illness of two months. He was 79.

Professor Tracy practiced law for more than a quarter century in Michigan, New York City, and Chicago before joining the Law School faculty in 1930. He retired in 1950.

Among his books are The Successful Practice of Law (1947), The Doctor as a Witness (1957), and the forthcoming Stories of Famous Trials, the manuscript for which was completed for publication just before his illness. He was the author of various other books and articles on law and legal practice, and was an occasional contributor to the Michigan Alumnus Quarterly Review.

"Professor Tracy had a rare gift for bringing the practicalities of the law into the classroom and into his personal consultations with students," Dean E. B. Stason has commented. "He performed invaluable service in his advice to young attorneys embarking upon legal careers."

Tracy received his A.B. degree from Maryville College, in Tennessee, in 1901, studied law at the University of Wisconsin, 1901-03, and was admitted to the Bar in 1904. He practiced law in Menominee and Marquette, Mich., New York and Chicago during the period 1904-30. He was honored by the Michigan State Bar in 1957 for 50 years' service to the profession.