Law Professors Get Federal Positions

Three University of Michigan law professors have been appointed to legal posts in the Nixon Administration.

Prof. Thomas E. Kauper is serving as assistant attorney general in charge of the Justice Department's antitrust division, while Prof. Roger C. Cramton will have completed six months as assistant attorney general in charge of the Office of Legal Counsel.

The newest appointee is Prof. John H. Jackson, who was selected as general counsel to the Office of the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations, a post that will figure heavily in 1973 trade discussions involving the U.S., the European Common Market, and other countries.

Kauper, a specialist in antitrust and property law and a member of the faculty since 1964, was appointed to the Justice Department post last spring. As antitrust chief, he is responsible for government action on mergers and other business activities. Formerly he served as deputy assistant attorney general in the Office of Legal Counsel under William H. Rehnquist, now a U.S. Supreme Court Justice.

After U-M Law School graduation in 1960, he served as law clerk for Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart and spent two years with the firm of Sidley & Austin in Chicago.

Prof. Cramton, a member of the faculty since 1961 and an expert in administrative law, began as head of the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel in July. His duties included rendering legal opinions to the President on constitutional issues relating to Presidential powers and powers of the executive branch of government.

Prior to the appointment, he served as chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, a permanent, independent federal agency concerned with the fairness and effectiveness of the government's procedures in dealing with private citizens.

Cramton is a 1950 graduate of Harvard College and received his law degree from the University of Chicago in 1955. He was assistant dean of the University of Chicago Law School before joining the U-M faculty.

Appointed general counsel to the Office of the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations in December, Prof. Jackson will provide legal counsel on many aspects of U.S. foreign trade policy. In addition, he will assist in gaining congressional support for revised U.S. trade legislation.

A member of the faculty since 1966, Prof. Jackson is a leading authority on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the principal international contract controlling trade among non-Communist countries.

Jackson graduated from Princeton University and received his law degree from the U-M in 1959. Prior to joining the U-M faculty, he taught law at the University of California, Berkeley, from 1961-64.

E. Blythe Stason Dies at Age Eighty

E. Blythe Stason, dean emeritus of the University of Michigan Law School and a pioneer in atomic energy law and other areas of administrative law, died in Ann Arbor on April 10 after a brief illness. He was 80.

E. Blythe Stason (from Law School Painting)

An engineer turned lawyer, Stason first taught electrical engineering at the U-M while completing his legal studies here. He assumed the Law School deanship in 1939 and remained in that post until 1960.

Dean Stason was known as one of the founders of administrative law as a separate branch of legal inquiry, and made many contributions to atomic energy law.

His 1500-page volume, "Atoms and The Law," co-authored with Prof. William J. Pierce and Samuel Estep of the Law School, was one of the first extensive legal studies to deal with such topics as civil liability for radiation damage, state regulation of atomic energy, and administrative practices of the Atomic Energy Commission.

He also helped draft the "Uniform Anatomical Gift Act," which set forth uniform national standards for donating human organs for transplant purposes.

Following his retirement from the deanship, he served as administrator of the American Bar Foundation in Chicago and then taught law for several years at Vanderbilt University. In 1970 he returned to the U-M to pursue scholarly activities at the Law School. That summer he received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University.