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Yale Law School Sesquicentennial Year

Foreword

The Yale Law School officially began in the 1824 school year, when Yale College bestowed on several New Haven attorney's apprentices the honor of listing their names in its catalog. They were studying during their spare time in a proprietary law school with which Yale had theretofore maintained only an informal relationship. For another 80 years the faculty of the school—and not Yale—shouldered the institution's debts and shared its infrequent dividends. It was during the succeeding 70 years that a major law school blossomed.

In this issue we honor a slice of what has been accomplished in the century and a half since those inauspicious beginnings, focusing attention on an important group of faculty who reach retirement age in a span of years embracing this sesquicentennial year. The following articles, about or in honor of those professors, capture part of the flavor of Yale Law School's growth. The point is not to pile up praises for these seven scholars or for the school, but to celebrate the continuing development of a center for the application of good minds, both veteran and novice, to the problems of society.