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FOREWORD TO THE FIFTIETH VOLUME

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Soon after beginning to teach at Duke Law School in 1950, I was told that the students wanted to establish a student-edited law journal in which all the articles would be written by students. This publication, however, would bear little resemblance to the student-edited *Duke Bar Association Journal*, which had been started in the early 1930s, but was discontinued in 1942 due to wartime conditions. Because I had recently served on the *Harvard Law Review* and probably also because I was far junior to the rest of our law faculty, I was further informed that I had been selected—or drafted—to be the faculty advisor for this project. An LL.M. candidate, Bob Foster—who later taught and was dean at the University of South Carolina Law School—would be my assistant advisor.

Although my other responsibilities as a fledgling law teacher seemed great, I sometimes thought they were much less demanding than advising the students about getting the *Duke Bar Journal* underway. There were numerous administrative details. Also, since any student was eligible to write a proposed article, the quality of first drafts varied greatly. Nonetheless—sometimes after considerable editing and rewriting—the first issue appeared early in 1951. The articles were of excellent quality and dealt with well-selected and timely topics. Even today, I encounter former students who were on the editorial board then or who contributed articles to the first issue

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of the *Duke Bar Journal*, and I enjoy reminiscing with them about the challenge we faced in publishing that issue.

Pursuant to orders to active military duty, I left Duke in 1951, but when I returned to Duke in 1956 as a visiting professor, the *Duke Bar Journal* was going strong. The faculty advisor was Professor Melvin G. Shimm, who was also serving as editor of *Law and Contemporary Problems*. In 1957 the *Duke Bar Journal* became the *Duke Law Journal*—probably in order to make clear its scholarly attributes. Subsequently the two issues per year was increased to six, and articles were solicited from non-student contributors. Indeed, in later years I had the honor of having some of my own articles published in the *Duke Law Journal*.

The *Duke Law Journal* has now reached the half-century mark; and, looking back, I take great pride in having played a part in its establishment. Most of all, I am proud of being associated with a law school whose outstanding students have displayed for a half-century great initiative, resourcefulness, perseverance, writing skills, and editing ability in creating, sustaining, and expanding a premier legal periodical.

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