

# WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW QUARTERLY

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## EDITORIAL NOTES

Charles Nagel, the pre-eminent graduate of the Washington  
University School of Law, and recognized as the most distin-  
guished member of the St. Louis Bar, died on January 5, 1940.

At the time of his death Mr. Nagel had been a member of the

Board of Directors of Washington University for over forty-seven years, and was one of the three directors composing the Law School Committee. He was a member of the Faculty of the Law School from 1885 to 1909. Even after leaving the Faculty, Mr. Nagel was often consulted regarding changes in the personnel of the Faculty.

Mr. Nagel was a many-sided man. Professionally he specialized as an adviser, but when the welfare of his clients demanded, he was a vigorous and successful advocate. As a holder of public office—municipal, state, and national—he was more than a conscientious follower of routine. He made constructive suggestions for the improvement of the public service, and these were always based upon actual governmental experience. The phase of his personal activity which, apparently, he most enjoyed was in seeking to mould public opinion in our American Democracy. Like Hume, Bentham, Dicey, and other British publicists, whose writings he studied thoroughly and admired profoundly, Mr. Nagel believed that public opinion, when formed deliberately and unemotionally, is even more powerful than law and therefore deserves the constant and devoted attention of all educated citizens. In every phase of activity Mr. Nagel exhibited frankness and courage, but, at the same time, he showed tolerance for the views of those who disagreed with him.

An article which will more fully develop the attributes of Mr. Nagel will be published in one of the future issues of the QUARTERLY.

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### THE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW QUARTERLY

The quarterly meeting of the Staff with the Advisory Board was held on January 11th. Mr. Sam Elson was chosen as the new chairman to succeed Mr. M. L. Stewart. Mr. Norman Parker will succeed Mr. R. B. Snow as secretary.