

EDITORIAL

This edition of the Lau Journal comes propitiously towards the end of 1973, and it is felt by the editor that a word in the way of new resolutions, or even a reaffirmation of old ones, would not be altogether out of place.

The position of editor of the Lau Journal affords one a particularly interesting vantage point, in that one maintains continuous and direct contact both with the Faculty students who are one's contributors, and with the Lau Society which is the Journal's parent body. It would be ostrich-like to deny that far more co-operation is needed between Committee and Students if the Society as a whole is to achieve its declared aims; and in stating this, the editor does not intend to start off slinging a match between Committee and Students: mutual lampooning is to no avail, and hardly worthy of University undergraduates. Students in the Faculty should, on their part, resist the common temptation to criticise and stop there: they should stand up, speak and act to bring their purposes to effect. On the other hand, the Committee should encourage more participation by the students who are its clientele, by organising group work.

Co-operation among Lau students can, of course, also be taken to the terrifying extreme of academic parochialism which has been the hall-mark of life at this University for the past few years. It is not suggested here to list the age-long arguments against professional elitism, even when practised in miniature, as it were, by budding lawyers. We must realise, however, that the Lau Society should set itself the goal of ridding its adherents of the 'ligi' stigma, and this it should do by opening its horizons within the University, within the country, and, indeed, within the international community.

One of the basic tenets so strongly pronounced by our Faculty Staff is that Lau follows man from the cradle to the grave, with the corollary that every situation has its legal consequences. It should be the aim of any Lau Society Committee, and of all Lau students, to seek this legal aspect in the whole environment around them, and not to telescope this environment into the restrained realms of the 'purely legal'.

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