

Bradshaw Writing B&PA History

Dr. William L. Bradshaw, Dean Emeritus of the University's School of Business and Public Administration, is writing a comprehensive history of the School,



Dr. W. L. Bradshaw

source work on the first half century of the School. Dr. Bradshaw has been a member of the faculty since 1927, and retired as Dean in August, 1961 after 15 years in that position. He continues to teach as a professor of political science.

which is observing its 50th anniversary. Dean Bradshaw outlined the School's history in a chapter he prepared for *A History of the University of Missouri, 1839-1939*, by the late Jonas Viles. His present project is an expansion on that chapter and will treat the School's history far more exhaustively. The finished product will provide an authoritative reference and

In one of the completed chapters, Dean Bradshaw relates that the background of the School can be traced to the Department of History and Political Economy which the University established in 1891. The first courses devoted exclusively to economics or political science were started the following year. In the next ten years the social sciences expanded rapidly. Separate departments were established in economics, history, political science, and sociology.

In late 1913 President A. Ross Hill proposed the organization of a School of Commerce to the University faculty, which formulated the essential requirements for such a School. The Board of Curators approved President Hill's recommendation to establish the School, which opened in September, 1914. The faculty was appointed in the following February. Dr. H. J. Davenport, professor of economics, became Dean of the Faculty. One of the ten initial members listed by Dean Bradshaw was Dr. Thorstein Veblen, professor of economics, who had already published his widely-known book, "The Theory of the Leisure Class."

In 1916 Dean Davenport resigned and the Board of Curators appointed as his successor Dr. Isidor Loeb, who had since 1910 been Dean of the University Faculty. The School's name was changed to School of Business and Public Administration in 1916.

Dr. Frederick A. Middlebush became Dean in 1925, when Dr. Loeb resigned to accept a similar position at Washington University in St. Louis. Dr. Middlebush, now President Emeritus of the University, was Dean until he became President in 1935 after serving a year as Acting President. During 1934-36, Harry G. Brown, professor of economics, was Acting Dean, and in 1936 Roy E. Curtis, professor of economics, was named Dean. Dr. Curtis served until 1942 when he began a series of leaves of absence to enter Federal administrative service; he resigned his professorship with the University in 1946; meanwhile, Prof. Brown again became Acting Dean, serving four years, until the appointment of Dr. Bradshaw in 1946.

When Dean Bradshaw reached the compulsory retirement age for an administrator and retired as Dean in 1961, Dr. John W. Schwada, professor of political science and Dean of the Faculties, was Acting Dean of the School for a year until Dr. William H. Baughn took over the deanship in 1962.

Among the outstanding faculty members, in addition to Dr. Veblen and Dr. Loeb, have been Karl R. Bopp, now president of the Federal Reserve Bank in Philadelphia, who is also an alumnus of the School; Dr. Davenport, for many years at Cornell University; Dean Bradshaw, who has served on numerous State commissions, and as a delegate-at-large to the 1943-44 Missouri Constitutional Convention had an important role in drafting and bringing about adoption of the new Constitution; and Dean Schwada, who was given leave of absence to serve under two governors as Budget Director and Comptroller of Missouri.

