February 1930

Notes

Chicago-Kent Law Review

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Recommended Citation
Chicago-Kent Law Review, Notes, 8 Chi.-Kent L. Rev. 3 (1930).
Available at: https://scholarship.kentlaw.iit.edu/cklawreview/vol8/iss2/1

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An Obligation

"All the things we hope for in the future must take their root in our educational institutions. We must depend largely upon the endowed colleges and universities for the standards of education in America. Our state institutions are overburdened with numbers; their support from taxation is unable to keep pace with educational demand; they cannot initiate the new, fundamental things that are necessary for the maintenance and advancement of standards. The inspiration and lifting up of public opinion which in turn will support the state universities on all these questions must receive contributions from the independent colleges.

"We have an obligation to our Individual Alma Mater of at least a minimum equal to the amount that the institution has expended upon us. That obligation is even greater because we each incurred it at a time when we could not then individually afford to repay. It was an advance to each of us on honor that we should support the institution that has enabled us to take greater and more important positions in the world, to do more effective work than we could have otherwise accomplished.

"This expenditure of money should be returned for the education of those who follow us. Unless we do so we have prejudiced the opportunities of someone in our country to attain the opportunities that have been given us. If we could incu-