When reading a footnoted opinion one’s eyes are constantly moving from text to footnotes and back again. . . . If footnotes were a rational form of communication, Darwinian selection would have resulted in the eyes being set vertically rather than on an inefficient horizontal plane.

Abner Mikva
Goodbye to Footnotes
56 U. Colo. L. Rev. 647 (1985)
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Contents

Ex Ante

117 Why Not Settle This Outside?
Honorable Bruce M. Selya

Articles

121 Family (Proper)ty
Richard H. Chused

131 The President’s Evidence
David P. Currie

137 Whizzer White at Yale
Dennis J. Hutchinson

149 Just Let Me Read Some of That Rock ‘n Roll Music
Fred S. McChesney

153 A New Age of Federalism?
Thomas W. Merrill

163 Eastern European Diary
Constitution-Building in the Former Soviet Union
Ronald D. Rotunda

177 Translation Without Fidelity
A Response to Richard Epstein’s Fidelity Without Translation
Green Bag 2d 21 (1997)
William Michael Treanor

185 More Fidelity, Less Translation
A Loyalist’s Response to Professor Treanor
Richard A. Epstein

From the Bag

189 The Wall Chart
Honorable Danny J. Boggs

191 The Rise & Fall of the Green Bag
Donald R. Richberg
Contents

Terms of Art

195 Slogans & Shibboleths
David Franklin

Reviews

199 Becoming Lawyers
The Role of the Socratic Method in Modern Law Schools
Lani Guinier, Michelle Fine, & Jane Balin
Becoming Gentlemen: Women, Law School, & Institutional Change
Elizabeth Garrett

209 Fear of Discretion
Philip K. Howard
The Death of Common Sense: How Law Is Suffocating America
Kate Stith-Cabrantes

217 Those Who Play With Cats
West Publishing
Blackie the Talking Cat & Other Favorite Judicial Opinions
Kent C. Olson

Ex Post

221 Ballad of Regulatory Reform
Richard Craswell

223 On the Importance of Lawyers
Richard Craswell

227 A Few Parting Words
Proposed Draft Submitted to Censors Dec. 31, 2027
Robert C. Berring