

DEAN ARES: NONPAREIL**Willard H. Pedrick***

Dean Ares has been a continuing source of exasperation. He excels at so many things. For example, on graduation from law school he secured a judicial clerkship with Justice William O. Douglas. Earlier I had secured a judicial clerkship with a judge who later was to become Chief Justice Fred Vinson of the United States Supreme Court, but I clerked for him at the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. When Dean Ares decided to go into academic life just nine years out of law school, he began at the law school of New York University—certainly one of the top ranked law schools in the United States. It's true that it only took me seven years to get to the Northwestern University Law School faculty, but I had to serve one year in the minor league before I was ready for a nationally ranked law school.

Then in 1966 he was invited to and accepted the appointment as Dean of the University of Arizona College of Law where he had previously been a student himself. Northwestern, my own law school, never offered me a deanship. Indeed, to find a law deanship, I had to turn to a university that had no law school, knew very little about law schools, and less about law school deans.

We were then deans together for an extended period, Dean Ares at University of Arizona College of Law while I was deaning at the Arizona State University College of Law. Both of us entered this strange weigh station in legal education in 1966. Everyone credits Dean Ares with having performed prodigious feats as dean of the law school, and, what is more, it only took him seven years as dean to do it. I labored for nine and one-half years and then threw in the sponge.

In looking at his modest resume in the directory of law teachers, I noted that he served as a Reporter for the American Law Institute in 1966. It took me twenty-five years to be appointed a Reporter for the Commissioners on Uniform Laws in 1991. Now at age sixty-six, he has done it all and thinks it an appropriate time to retire from the full-time faculty. In my case I didn't think I could retire with a clear conscience until I was seventy-five.

So this young whipper snapper (he is twelve years younger than I) has indeed been a source of exasperation to me over the years. Sometime in the early 70's I thought that taking him to court might enable me to secure the respect to which I thought age entitled me. So in the early 70's we met at the court, a tennis court, to determine whether greater experience would entitle me to demand proper recognition of my seniority. It was a moderate day in July as I recall with the cooler clime of the high country of Tucson registering a modest 105° Fahrenheit. The first set of this quite unremarkable match went to Dean Ares with a score of 6-2 as I recall, then to my absolute astonishment I managed to finally win the second set at either 6-4 or 7-5. At that point we were both perilously near "meltdown," and we arrived at the statesman-like decision that it

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would be well for the match to be declared terminated at that point, leaving us both free to claim at least a moral victory.

Now, he has demonstrated that he can reach retirement from the full time faculty quicker than I did. I think I have now reached the point where I am prepared to acknowledge his superiority.

I have long admired and respected Dean Charles Ares. He is one of the country's leading legal educators. He is, in my view, entitled to credit for modernizing the University of Arizona College of Law, entitling it to recognition as one of the country's absolutely first rate law schools. As I went about the task of deaning at a brand new law school, he was always cooperative, always helpful in building a good relationship between the two Arizona law schools. It is truly exasperating, though, to see a man twelve years younger accomplish so much in the field of legal education, legal scholarship, and public service. He certainly has made his mark on legal education and on Arizona.