



A BRIEF TRIBUTE TO DEAN H. REESE HANSEN

Deans of u.s. law schools generally don't last long—too often, the job of raising money gets to them. Not H. Reese Hansen. Well into his seventh year as dean of the J. Reuben Clark Law School, he has survived the pace of a three-year, \$11 million fund-raising campaign, which would have downed a lesser dean. ☞ In a profession with an average term expectancy of two years, Dean Hansen's service is worthy of note. When asked if he intends to slow down, the dean smiles and indicates that he has just regained the stride that a decade ago he reserved for the St. George Marathon. Besides, he adds, it would be a shame to lose his recently acquired familiarity with every time zone in the continental u.s. The dean, lest he be accused of being in it for the frequent flyer miles, can point to the Law School's uncut video footage of him braving a seat-securing adventure on a local airline. ☞ The completion of the Howard W. Hunter Law Library marks a high point of Dean Hansen's tenure. Although it will not be formally dedicated until March 1997, the library is fully operational—much to the delight of 467 BYU law students. While the students, faculty, and staff are



impressed with the new facility, Dean Hansen knows firsthand how grateful the BYU Law School community should be to the Board of Trustees as well as the members of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society and Law School alumni and friends. As a member of more than two dozen sabbatical accreditation teams for the American Bar Association, Dean Hansen has seen other law schools in significant detail. As a member of the Accreditation Committee of the American Association of Law Schools, he has the unusual opportunity to closely examine the operation and status of nearly half of all law schools in the United States each year. These opportunities have given the dean a deep understanding of the favorable circumstances under which the faculty teaches and the students learn at the BYU Law School. ☞ Though there is gratitude to share with many, before we forget the Herculean effort it has taken to get this project completed, the *Clark Memorandum* wishes to pay a brief tribute to Dean Hansen, without whose efforts the building might not have been constructed at all or—perish the thought—might still be under construction. —*Clark Memorandum*