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Spring 1974

Leon Wallace Ends IU Career

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Leon Wallace ends IU career

Present day career consultants couldn't have made a more natural career choice for Leon Wallace than the selection he made for himself.

In 1926, after Wallace finished his undergraduate education—which had included two years at University of Illinois and two years at IU—he and his bride went to San Francisco for him to work for Rand McNally as a production manager. Four years later, however, he gave in to the attraction he had always had for law, so he returned to Bloomington to enter law school.

This May, Wallace, having reached the age for mandatory retirement from teaching, will leave the IU Law School with a career record that has included two and a half years as a student, two years as a part-time teacher, 28 years as a teacher, and 15 years as dean.

Since 1966 he has been the Charles McGuffey Hepburn Professor of Law.

Wallace's father was a lawyer in Terre Haute so the young man who was later to be IU's law dean, had always thought

that he would eventually be a lawyer.

When Wallace finished law school in January 1933, Dean Bernard Gavit offered him a full-time faculty position. Wallace thought he should return to Terre Haute to enter practice with his father, so for two years he limited his teaching to three classes, which he taught one day each week.

Wallace feels that the experience he gained in his 13 years of general practice in Terre Haute gave him a greater insight into the way the law works. He was then able to share that insight with his law school students when he joined the faculty on a full-time basis, beginning in 1945.

In his early years of teaching, Wallace continued to prepare briefs, but usually not for his own cases. Instead, he explains, he was a lawyer's lawyer, preparing briefs for lawyers who would argue cases before the Indiana State Supreme and Appellate Courts.

In considering the importance of practice experience for law teachers, Wallace feels his own work in his father's practice was helpful, but he points to the lack of success that some states have had

in setting practice experience requirements for law teachers.

Wallace thinks that other kinds of experience—such as clerkships—can be equally instructive for law teachers.

In thinking about the kinds of persons who taught law 30 years ago, Wallace says that the same quality of teachers existed then as today. He goes on to say, "When I came here IU didn't have a national reputation, but it had some excellent teachers."

When Wallace started teaching, he had considerable practice experience in property law, so it was natural that he teach in that area. However, he was also needed to teach labor law, so he had to learn about that.

In discussing teaching specialties, Wallace points out that the whole field of law has expanded so much in the past 30 years that the degrees of specialization have had to increase.

In reflecting on other similarities between now and 30 years ago, Wallace thinks that the quality of student has not changed. He regrets, however, that legal education has become so popular that many persons who would be good

Dean seeks alumni input

My customary message appears on the inside pages. In addition to that, I would like to use the front page to bring an important item to your attention. We would like to improve this publication and we need your help. Please send us news of what you are doing. We have over 3,000 graduates and yet we publish very little news of your achievements. We would like to publish more but we simply do not have the information.

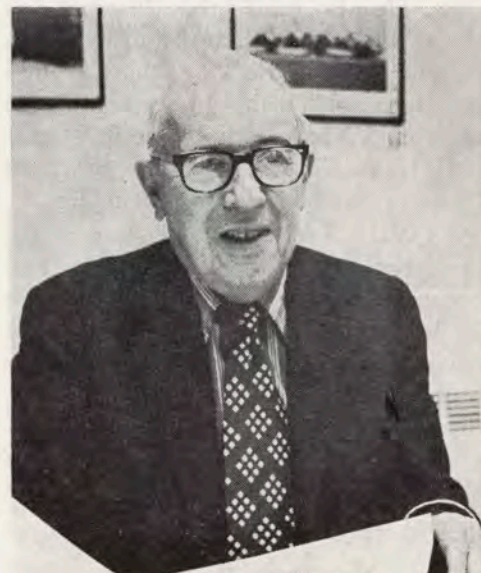
Secondly, we would like to start a "Letters to the Editor" feature.

Send us your thoughts about the legal education in general or about current issues of crucial concern to the legal profession. We will try to print them.

Finally, we welcome short articles from graduates on subjects which are believed to be of interest to the readers of this publication. If they are good, we will print them.

We can't make the Bill of Particulars as good as it should be without your help.

Douglass G. Boshkoff
Dean



Leon Wallace

lawyers now cannot get into law schools. "Thirty years ago they were given a chance to try," but, he goes on to explain, "That is no longer possible."

The most noticeable change in student behavior, in Wallace's view, has been the increased tendency for students not to go to classes. He cannot help but compare today's class cutting with the practice of earlier years when law teachers established a maximum number of class cuts they would allow each semester.

As he thinks about changes in legal education, Wallace talks about the rises and falls of popularity in specific areas. He thinks clinical courses may now be on the wane as students realize that they allow them fewer chances to take "substantive work" that students will need when they get out. Wallace says, "More students realize now they need to take the tough courses."

Wallace points out that one of the "tough" courses, Property Law, is technically optional, but it is still taken by about 95 percent of IU's law students.

Wallace supports the need for law students to have interdisciplinary interest: "A good lawyer should be more than just a technician. He needs to work with people in other disciplines."

In surveying the increased number of courses in law schools, Wallace points out that more courses have had to be added because of the increase in federal regulation.

The former dean also sees that the deanship has changed in the past 30 years. He observes the trend currently is to hire administrators to carry on some of the details previously handled by the dean. He also recalls that 30 years ago the myth existed that the dean was a dictator "who carried the school around in his pocket." In his 15 years (1951-66) as dean, Wallace found that was never true. He recalls that he always wanted to find out what his faculty wanted.

As Wallace reflects on his years at the law school, which included building and occupation of the Law Building, he feels he has gained his greatest satisfaction from watching what has happened to his former students. Within recent months, for example, he has celebrated the elevation of two former students—Allan Sharpe and William I. Girard—to the federal bench.

Wallace is less certain about what the future years will be for him. He hopes to continue consultantships on such cases as the Indiana/Kentucky boundary dispute that he has worked on since 1966, but he doesn't have definite plans for any major projects.

His life with his wife will probably focus less on law and more on the activities of his children—a son who practices law in Milwaukee, a daughter in Bloomington, and another daughter in California—and his grandchildren.

Phase Four, OSHA start Institutes

A day-long institute to discuss two new federal programs that have wide implications for practicing attorneys initiated the IU-Bloomington Law School's new series of continuing education programs for Indiana attorneys.

Representatives of the Washington law firm Arent, Fox, Kintner, Plotkin and Kahn, talked with institute participants about phase Four Economic Controls and the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) of 1970.

This inaugural program in the continuing education series was made pos-

sible by Earl Kintner, JD'38, current chairman of the School's Board of Visitors. Its planning was done by the School of Law in cooperation with the Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum.

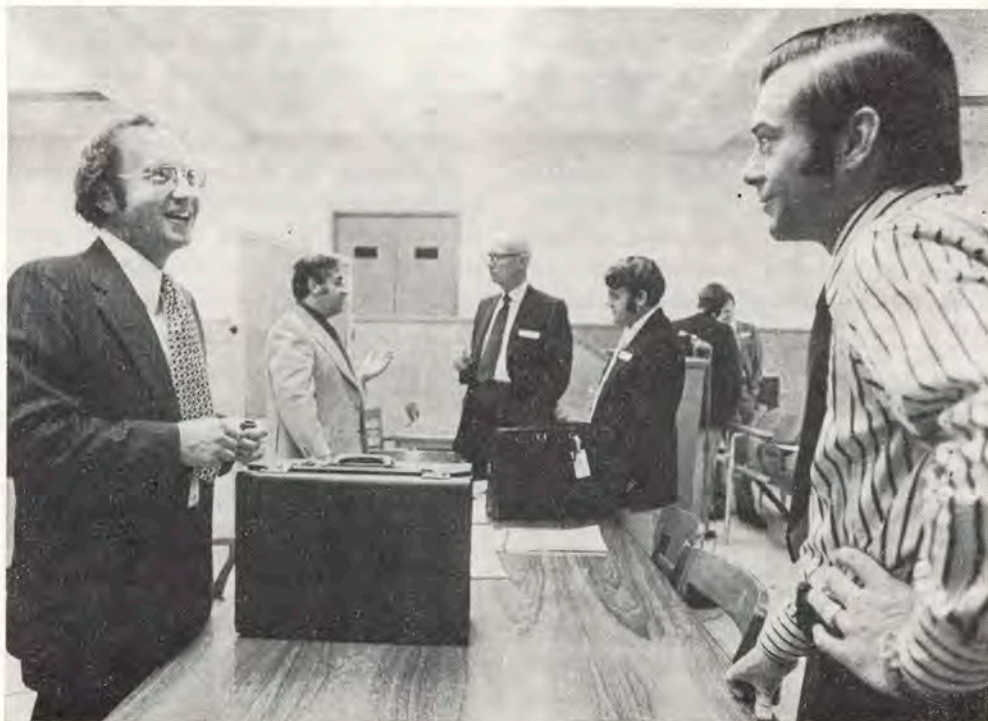
The speaker for the morning program on Phase Four was Joseph E. Casson.

He explained the evolution of Phase Four as a collection of or modification of regulations still in effect from Phases One, Two and Three.

In discussing pay controls, Casson pointed out that voluntary controls of Phase Three have been recodified for Phase Four. With the exception of health occupations, pay controls from Phase Three have been readopted for Phase Four. The one area that has the tightest controls is over top executive officers' salaries and bonuses.

Casson warned the institute participants to be careful about exemptions in effect on small firms. Exemptions have been off and on enough that they must be checked regularly.

Casson also pointed out the administrative flaws in the federal regulations, such as those that require that if a firm's profit margin is attributable to exempt products no violation exists. In practice, Casson explained, "nobody



At the end of the day-long institute on Economic Controls and OSHA, members of the Washington law firm Arent, Fox, Kintner, Plotkin and Kahn, talked with Institute participants, Gordon Henderson (center) of Bedford; Ray Robison, of Mitchell, and Ronald Buth, of Indianapolis.