

# Prof. Hall asset to law students

Prof. Jerome Hall, law, is a credit to the faculty and an asset to law students of Indiana University.

Beginning his career in a stuffy basement at the Gary Extension Center in 1924, he advanced to positions in several universities throughout the country. But he returned 25 years ago to quench a never-ending teaching thirst. He is regarded internationally as one of the world's leading legal scholars and is locally considered an outstanding example of faculty excellence.

Prof. Hall has a warm but academic manner. He speaks articulately and wastes no words. In explaining his decision to enter law, he pointed to an interest in public speaking and debate at the University of Chicago where he was graduated in 1923. With law degree in hand, Prof. Hall began working for a Chicago corporate law firm. He related that shortly after he took this position, a teaching offer was extended. Lecturing on business law whetted his appetite for instructing. Pleased with the enthusiasm

impressive array of letters, book reviews, and awards attest his scholarship and burning desire to show the world that law and ethics are the only hopes for society. It seemed at first that he was overly optimistic about his goal. But further discussion showed him not to be naive.

## Won Lieber Award.

When asked what award has given him the most personal satisfaction, he cited the Lieber Award, given by I.U. law alumni. Although one of his lesser awards in public significance, it justified all his teaching efforts.

He is very demanding of his students and requires the same self discipline of himself. It is that reason the award pleased him.

Prof. Hall is also an author. With seven books and 70 articles to his credit, he is at present working on a comparative law volume to be printed soon. The book is a result of study in co-operation with Louisiana University.

When asked to list his outside interests, Prof. Hall replied: "You

don't have to go out looking for other interests in law. Jurisprudence touches all human aspects." For a change from the academic rigors, he prefers a brisk walk in the open air.

Prof. Hall pointed to the emergence of public law as the major change in law today. Constitutional, criminal, and tax law have expanded, he said. He feels, however, that students of law have not improved. He cited a great decline in articulateness, and self confidence in today's students. He said he is dubious about the theory that "a taste of everything in the universe" is desirable. A narrower undergrad-

uate curriculum with more intensive study and thought would be better, he said.

## Prime requisites.

He singled out clear thinking and industriousness as prime requisites for a good lawyer. Trustworthiness, he said, is also important. Most important, he stated, a student or lawyer "must not accept an average view of himself."

Prof. Hall left quite an impression. It was obvious his work is his life. He spoke of his goals as a scholar and teacher as unattainable. But, if anyone can come close to the ultimate, Prof. Hall is the man to do it.