Summer 1975

Dedication-Jerome Hall

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The Board of Editors dedicates this, the Fiftieth Anniversary volume of the Indiana Law Journal to the Emeritus Faculty of the Indiana University School of Law.

We dedicate this issue to Distinguished Professor Emeritus Jerome Hall and Professor Emeritus James J. Robinson.

Dedication—Jerome Hall

I first met Jerome Hall at Louisiana State University Law School in Baton Rouge as the Fall Semester opened for the academic year 1935–36. We were part of a group of “carpetbaggers” under the guidance of Dean Frederick Beutel who had been invited to reorganize the law school on the basis of an experiment to wed the two great systems of law, the Civil Law and the Common Law, in a modern synthesis of social science, philosophy, legal history and comparative law. I soon found out why Beutel had selected Jerome.

I myself had been a refugee from the teaching of philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania. The bottom had dropped out of philosophy with the crash of the stock market in 1929, and the philosophy department’s membership fell from over thirty to a mere seven
Artist: George Sheppard

Law School Collection

Jerome Hall
persons on the major professorial staff. Jerome, on the other hand, had as I thought come in out of the practice of law in Chicago. In our first meeting, I casually asked him who his favorite author was and he said, "Plato!" I felt at home immediately and thus began our long collaboration in the field of philosophy of law.

When I discovered that Jerome had ready for publication a fat volume of *Readings in Jurisprudence*, I found out that his years in the practice had been merely a foundation. Subsequently he had gained a broad training in the intellectual aspects of the law, so that by the time I met him in 1935, he had taken the doctorate in law from both Harvard and Columbia, had been a teaching Fellow at Columbia, a Research Fellow at Harvard, and had taught law at the University of North Dakota. Properly impressed, I decided to learn philosophy of law from him and have never stopped.

Jerome was extremely helpful to me in my first law teaching post. His influence in bringing Louisiana State University Law School to its refurbished career as a center of learning in all phases of comparative law had been critical. His moving on to Indiana University Law School was a severe loss to us, but once again the power and breadth of his intellect helped shape the destiny of another critically important institution of legal learning.

I need not tell the readers of this journal about Jerome's long and distinguished career at Indiana University School of Law at Bloomington. Instead, I shall content myself with brief references to his activities and influence outside Indiana.

For many years, Jerome's fame in international legal circles rested on his brilliant contributions to the criminal law. Slowly, however, it came to be perceived that that specialty rested on something much broader, his work in legal philosophy.

First brought to the attention of the international community of legal philosophy by his writings in *Integrative Jurisprudence*, Jerome was quickly recognized by the leaders of the International Association for the Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy and of the American Society for Legal and Political Philosophy. His penchant for "integration" culminated in his holding the presidency of both the American Section of the International Association (AMINTAPHIL) and the American Society *at the same time*. This must be some kind of a record in the history of attempts at the higher synthesis of academic parochialism.

Upon his retirement, Jerome and Marianne Hall and their daughter
Heather took a trip around the world. It came as no surprise to his friends to learn that his itinerary included the leading law schools of the various countries concerned with the philosophy of law. The tour was a triumphal procession from one law school to another, and the name of Indiana University Law School was mispronounced in a greater variety of tongues than perhaps ever happened to it before or since.

Jerome's work grows rather than diminishes with age. He is in the midst of a new career of teaching at Hastings College of Law. He is an active organizer of the approaching World Congress of Legal Philosophy, to be held at Washington University Law School in St. Louis in August 1975 as part of the Bicentennial Celebration. And it is significant of Jerome that he will be the center of attention of legal philosophers from all over the world. They not only respect him, they like him. More than this cannot be said for anyone else delivered over to the tender mercies of a bunch of legal philosophers.

My closing words, directed especially to the young, on the happy occasion of the dedication of this issue of the Indiana Law Journal's "Year of the Emeriti" to Jerome Hall might well be these: "Despite the fact that it seems to rise and fall with the stock market, don't sell philosophy short."

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