

TESTIMONIAL FOR ORRIN B. EVANS ('35)

On September 17, 1980 the University of Southern California Law Center honored Professor and Dean Emeritus Orrin B. Evans. Dean Evans graduated from our Law School in 1935 and was a visiting professor here in 1960. His accomplishments are numerous, and we join with USC in congratulating him. The remarks below are reprinted from the program of the testimonial:

Orrin B. Evans has been at USC since 1947, and was at the time of his retirement on June 30, 1980, the most senior member of the law faculty. His long and brilliant career at USC included eleven years' service as Associate Dean (1952-63) and four years as Dean (1963-67).

A special honor was bestowed on Orrin Evans when he was named the prestigious Henry W. Bruce Professor of Law in 1952, at the time the only named professorship at the Law Center. He retained that title for 27 years until he was chosen as the George T. Pflieger Professor of Law in 1979.

His contributions to the USC Law Center have been innumerable, constant and enduring. It was during his deanship that the evening degree program was discontinued. This bold and courageous decision, although misunderstood in many sectors, was necessary both fiscally and to preserve the high quality of education. Integrity, more than any other characteristic, exemplified his decision-making while dean.

Interdisciplinary approaches to legal studies began during Orrin Evans' tenure as dean and included the beginning use of social science materials now widely embraced nationally among law schools.

Perhaps the most lasting contribution he made was in directing the largest fund raising effort ever attempted at the Law Center up to that time. During Orrin



Dean Orrin Evans

Evans' deanship, the plans were formulated to raise \$3.2 million to build a modern building which would become a permanent addition to the USC campus. He also guided the physical planning of this building as chairman of the faculty building committee.

Orrin Evans has taught hundreds of students such courses as Personal Property, Real Property, Equity, Restitution, Gifts, Wills and Trusts, Community Property and Bankruptcy. The future of many law students has seen his guiding hand on the Law Center's Admissions Committee. Likewise, students petitioning for special consideration during the course of law school needed to pass his scrutiny on the Administrative Board (and sometimes didn't). In testimony to the esteem in which

he is held by his faculty colleagues, he often has been elected by them to the three-member Administration and Finance Committee, the only elected faculty committee.

Professor Evans' career at the Law Center is only part of his history as a scholar. A native of Wisconsin, he attended the University of Wisconsin, graduating in 1931 with a B.A. degree and in 1935 with the LL.B. (with honors).

Admitted to practice in 1935 in Wisconsin, Professor Evans practiced law in Madison for one year, and then entered Yale University to pursue advanced legal studies as a Sterling Fellow in Law. He received the J.S.D. from Yale in 1940. For the following six years he served as attorney for the

University of Missouri while also a professor at its law school.

Service to his community and profession has been very much a part of Professor Evans' career. From 1961-65, he was the Vice President of the Los Angeles Civil Service Commission. He has served the Association of American Law Schools as its Assistant Secretary and member of its Executive Committee, and has been a member and President of the Law School Admission Test Council. He has served as an Inheritance Tax Appraiser, as public trustee of the Food and Drug Law

Institute, and on the Arbitration Panel of the American Arbitration Association.

An active fisherman and hunter, Orrin Evan is married to the former Margaret Searle, and is the father of three children — Margaret, Evan and David. He is the proud grandfather of two.

Orrin B. Evans has been our colleague, our dean and our law professor at the USC Law Center for 33 years. He has been a legal educator for 43 years and has taught at many of the major law schools across the nation including the universities of Missouri,

Yale, Northwestern, Wisconsin and the University of California at Berkeley and Los Angeles. His more than 30 publications have been published in the Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri and Southern California Law Reviews. But his career is more than a tally of years and schools. It is a description of a man who has dedicated his talents to improving legal education, and moreover, a description of a man who more than any other has shaped the course of legal education at the University of Southern California Law Center.

LAW SCHOOL RANKS AMONG LEADERS

There are many ways to measure the success of a law school in educating its students. Periodically rankings of schools appear based on any variety of "statistical" measures. These rankings often lead to claims that this law school or that is one of the 165 law schools in the "top ten." Nevertheless we were pleased to see our Law School favorable mentioned in two recent articles, articles placing the University of Wisconsin Law School among the "top fifteen" in at least two areas.

The American Bar Foundation recently examined the law school training of law teachers in the U.S. They discovered that 20 law schools generate almost 60% of all law teachers, with our Law School ranking 12th on the list with 63 alumni teaching law. The study went on to disclose that five schools (Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Michigan and Chicago) together produce one-third of all law teachers. The study suggests a fear of inbreeding, particularly within the faculties of the major "producer" schools themselves.

Only about one-fourth of the UW Law faculty are our own graduates.

The second study was reported in the Harvard Business Review (September-October 1980). After a 10-year survey of more than 11,000 persons recently promoted to vice president or president of a major American company, the survey found that 11% were attorneys. These lawyers followed persons trained in business administration (33%) and engineers (18%) as the most numerous among top executives. Again the UW Law School was among the leaders. Fifteen schools together produced almost 60% of all lawyer-executives, with UW ranking fourteenth. Harvard, Michigan, Columbia, Yale and New York ranked at the top.

These two reports indicate not only a healthy respect for our graduates, but also the diverse career paths available to lawyers. With only about 45% of our graduates entering private practice we are pleased to see that the others are successful in their chosen fields.