The John A. Sibley Lecture
The University of Georgia School of Law

"The Affirmative Side of the First Amendment"

by Thomas I. Emerson
Saturday, April 11, 1981
11:15 a.m.
Law Auditorium

Thomas Emerson is professor emeritus of law at Yale University. He is the author of The System of Freedom of Expression, a classical work in First Amendment theory. He has been described as "the dean of the First Amendment scholars of this era."

His other books have received wide acclaim. They include Toward a General Theory of the First Amendment and a two-volume casebook entitled Political and Civil Rights in the United States (with David Haber and Norman Dorsen).

Emerson joined the Yale faculty in 1946 after serving in several government posts, including general counsel to the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, general counsel to the Office of Economic Stabilization, special assistant to the Attorney General, principal attorney for the Social Security Board, and associate general counsel for the NLRB. In his 35 years of law teaching, his visiting lectureships have included the London School of Economics Political Science Professorship; The Brookings Institution Professorship; a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Fulbright Fellowship in Japan. Emerson is a past president of the National Lawyers Guild, and is an active litigator in First Amendment issues.