



School of Law  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Digital Commons @ University of  
Georgia School of Law

---

[Other Law School Publications](#)

[Archives](#)

---

6-30-1939

## Dean' Report 1939

J. Alton Hosch

*University of Georgia School of Law*

---

### Repository Citation

Hosch, J. Alton, "Dean' Report 1939" (1939). *Other Law School Publications*. 61.  
[https://digitalcommons.law.uga.edu/lectures\\_pre\\_arch\\_archives\\_other/61](https://digitalcommons.law.uga.edu/lectures_pre_arch_archives_other/61)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives at Digital Commons @ University of Georgia School of Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in Other Law School Publications by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ University of Georgia School of Law. [Please share how you have benefited from this access](#)  
For more information, please contact [tstriepe@uga.edu](mailto:tstriepe@uga.edu).

SCHOOL OF LAW

REPORT OF THE DEAN FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 1938-1939

To the President of the University

Sir:

As Dean of the School of Law of The University of Georgia, I have the honor to submit the report of the School for the academic year 1938-1939.

An adequate library is absolutely necessary for the operation of a modern Law School. Fortunately the present quarters and physical equipment are satisfactory due to the generosity of alumni and friends of the Law School. Progress has been made during the past few years in providing essential books, but I wish to point out again certain deficiencies that should be taken care of as soon as possible.

We should add a few complete sets of the better law reviews not now in the library.

Several sets of periodicals and law reviews already in the library should be completed as soon as possible.

We have no recent statutory compilations for the following states:

Arizona; Arkansas; Colorado; Florida; Idaho; Indiana; Kansas; Louisiana; Massachusetts; Maryland; Michigan; Minnesota; New Hampshire; New Jersey; New Mexico; Nevada; Oklahoma; Ohio; Oregon; Pennsylvania; Rhode Island; South Dakota; Utah; Vermont; Washington; West Virginia.

There are no state reports in the library prior to the

National Reporter System for the following states: Delaware; Maryland; New Hampshire; West Virginia.

The state reports are incomplete for the following states: Illinois; Indiana; Kansas; Kentucky; Massachusetts; Michigan; Missouri; New York; Tennessee and Texas.

Last fall a survey of The University of Georgia Library was made by a committee on behalf of the American Library Association. The report on page twenty-two contains the following statement concerning the School of Law Library:

"The Survey Committee was greatly impressed by the beauty and efficiency of the Law Library. Wisely administered, reasonably well supported, and housed in comfortable and spacious quarters, it is offering to law students and faculty the quality of service which the University should expect from its General Library..."

The librarian has been fortunate in having the assistance of eight student assistants during the year who received their compensation from the National Youth Administration. These students were diligent in the discharge of their duties, and I take this opportunity of expressing the appreciation of the Law School for the cooperation and help of the National Youth Administration.

For the past three years the faculty of the School of Law of The University of Georgia has been studying the curriculum of this School as well as the curricula of the other leading law schools in the country for the purpose of effecting such revision as seemed desirable to better serve the needs of the students. The bulletin of the Law School, which

has been issued recently, gives the details of the new curriculum which has been prepared by the law faculty and approved by the President of the University. Some of the changes were made last year, but the complete re-organization became effective during the current school year. The members of the faculty believe that the changes which have been made will better fit the law graduates to meet present day conditions at the bar and to discharge their social responsibilities.

The courses of instruction are as follows:

First Year

Business Organizations I; Contracts I and Contracts II;  
Criminal Law and Procedure; Family Relations; Introduction to the Study of Law and the Legal Profession; Pleading and Practice; Property I; Torts I and Torts II.

Second Year

Administrative Law; Business Organizations II; Constitutional Law; Equity I and Equity II; Evidence; Georgia Practice; Insurance; Legal Accounting; Negotiable Instruments; Property II; Public Corporations; Sales.

Third Year

Bankruptcy; Conflict of Laws; Damages; Federal Procedure; Government Regulation of Business; Labor Law; Practice Court; Preparation and Examination of Abstracts of Title; Public Utilities; Quasi Contracts and Equitable Relief Against Mistake; Security Transactions; Taxation; Trusts and Estates I and II.

The activities of the Law Clubs this year have received the enthusiastic support of the students. There was a decided increase in the interest of the students this year over the three preceding years. Much of the credit for this is due to Mr. Harry Baxter, who acted as student adviser to the Law Clubs. The members of the faculty acted as judges. The fact that the members of the faculty gave of their time so freely and showed such a genuine interest in this extra-curricula activity had a fine reaction from the students.

This year for the second time a final competition was held with a prize of \$25.00 for the winners. The case was argued before Honorable Charles S. Reid, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. Excellent briefs were prepared and the case was on the whole a success. It served to stimulate the interest in Law Club work and gave a goal toward which the students might work.

In 1937 the School of Law, in conjunction with the Law Schools of Emory and Mercer, organized the Association of Georgia Law Schools for the purpose of improving legal education. The revised constitution of the Georgia Bar Association adopted in 1938 recognized this Association and its aims by giving it representation on the Board of Governors of the Bar Association; and, at the present time, Dean Hoach is serving as such representative.

Perhaps the most noteworthy accomplishment of the Association of Georgia Law Schools is the cooperative summer school. Each of the participating schools has a summer session once in three years and attendance at a cooperative session counts as residence at any one of

the member schools. This eliminates a needless expense and duplication of work which existed when each of the three schools had a summer session every year. This summer the session is being held in Athens and thirty-six students are enrolled.

Harold Hirsch Hall has continued to be adequate for the needs of the Law School. The building has been in use seven years and the interior shows the careful treatment that has been given the building and equipment by the law students.

The south wing of Milledge Hall has been designated by the President for the use of law students. This arrangement affords an escape from the distractions of undergraduate life, which is highly desirable since the law student must carry a heavier scholastic burden than that required of undergraduate students. The rooms are large and comfortable. The living room and library will, however, be the most attractive features of the new quarters. Mr. Harrison Jones of Atlanta, who served as chairman of the building committee at the time when Harold Hirsch Hall was constructed, has generously assumed the task of furnishing this room. A smaller room, next to the living room and facing the Quadrangle, will contain the library. This library is intended to supplement the main library and to enable the law students to have readily at hand and available at all times the Georgia and Court of Appeals Reports, some selected texts and a few encyclopedias and digests.

It is the belief of some educators that by bringing students to live as well as to work together in groups sufficiently small to permit personal acquaintance within each group and yet large enough to assure

a diversified, representative community, the disintegrating tendencies which the size of the American university has set in motion will be arrested. The purpose of Milledge Hall is to enable the law students to live together, to encourage them to talk law and to live law, and to make of them a professional community.

Dr. Ashley Sellers has been on leave of absence since September 1, 1938 serving as head attorney to the Solicitor of the Department of Agriculture. He is making a comprehensive study of the administrative procedure in this department.

Professor David Meade Field of the Mercer Law School has been visiting professor of law during the current year and he has discharged his duties with credit to himself and the School.

Dr. Sellers' leave has been continued another year and Mr. Arno Becht has accepted an invitation to come to the Law School as visiting professor for the year 1939-1940. Mr. Becht is a graduate of Colgate University with the A.B. degree, and he was graduated from the University of Chicago Law School with the degree of Doctor of Laws. He was a graduate fellow at Columbia Law School during the year 1937-1938 and in June 1938 received the degree of Master of Laws.

This spring the Law School has had the services of Dr. Sigmund Cohn, assistant professor in the College of Arts and Sciences, as special lecturer in Comparative Law. Dr. Cohn holds doctors degrees in law from the University of Breslau and the University of Genoa. For ten years he was judge and member of the Department of Justice in Berlin.

Several members of the faculty have had articles published in

legal periodicals during the year. A group of students, selected as editors on the basis of grades, have contributed case notes to the Georgia Bar Journal. These notes have uniformly been of high standard.

Miss Pauline Keelyn has continued to render faithful and efficient services to the Law School. The students especially appreciate her courteous treatment.

During the current year the local chapter of Phi Beta Kappa has amended its by-laws so as to permit the election to membership, on the basis of their law school record, of seniors who held a bachelor of arts degree.

The Law School cooperated in the Institute on Labor Law that was held at the Atlanta Athletic Club in April. We cooperated with the Georgia Bar Association in the Institute on Administrative Law that was held on May 25 at the Biltmore Hotel in Atlanta. Professor Ashley Sellers was one of the speakers on this occasion.

Recently Judge Edgar Watkins of Atlanta presented to the Law School sixty-nine general volumes of briefs and several volumes of briefs in the Southeastern Class Rate case. These volumes cover a period of almost half a century and are a valuable addition to our library.

The following portraits were presented to the Law School during the past year: Samuel Barnard Adams (1853-1938) Class of 1872, A.B., LL.D. Presented by A. Pratt Adams in 1939. Nathaniel Job Hammond (1833-1899) Class of 1852, A.B., LL.D. Presented by Mrs. Jane Hammond Gilbert.

Through the cooperation of the President "The School of Law



Supplement to the Alumni Record" was published in May. A copy of this Supplement is submitted as a part of this report.

The registration during 1938-1939 was as follows:

Class of 1939	34
Class of 1940	32
Class of 1941	39
Special	<u>1</u>
Total	106

During the year the degree of LL.B. was awarded to thirty candidates.

As I review the activities of the School during the year 1938-1939 I am encouraged by its accomplishments, and the fine spirit of both students and faculty. We at the Law School still feel that first class education is one of the best investments which a state can make.

The School has had the thorough cooperation of the administrative authorities of the University, the Board of Regents, and of Chancellor S. V. Sanford. I am deeply grateful, Mr. President, for your constant help and advice that has been invaluable to me as Dean.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean.

June 30, 1939.