

PROFESSOR SIGMUND A. COHN

Professor Emeritus of Law
University of Georgia

Professor Cohn was born in 1898 in Breslau, Germany. He studied Law and Economics at the University of Breslau and was awarded the degree of Juris Utriusque Doctor, Magna Cum Laude in 1921. In 1923, after a prescribed period of legal apprenticeship, he was appointed to the Department of Justice in Berlin. In this position, he handled criminal matters, many of which were of a political nature.

In 1930, he was elevated to the bench in Berlin. Professor Cohn was removed from his judicial position by operation of Germany's racial laws.

In 1933, he emigrated to Genoa, Italy where he enrolled in the University of Genoa. In 1934, he received the degree of Dattore in Giruisprudenza with highest honors. He was then active in the law office of the counsel to the American and English Consulates in Genoa. In 1938, due to the political climate in Italy, Professor Cohn was again forced to emigrate to the United States.

Professor Cohn began teaching on the Georgia law faculty in 1939. He was appointed a full professor in 1947 and retired in 1964.

Since 1925, Professor Cohn has been married to Susanne Lewy. They have two daughters, six grandchildren and one great granddaughter.



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School of Law

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SIGMUND ALBERT COHN

Of the recipients of Distinguished Service Scrolls over the years perhaps none has had a more unusual background, and certainly few have made greater contributions to the University of Georgia School of Law itself, than Professor Sigmund A. Cohn. For a period of twenty-five years he taught in the Law School and counted among his students individuals who later became governors, judges, legislators and some of the finest private practitioners in the Law School's history. How he got to the Law School is the stuff of which great novels are written.

Professor Cohn was born in 1898 in Breslau, Germany (now Wroclaw, Poland). He was an only child and the son of the head of a lithographic printing firm. He spent his youth in Breslau, which at that time was the capital of the German province of Silesia. He studied law and economics at the University of Breslau and was awarded, in 1921, the degree of Utriusque Juris Doctor, magna cum laude. This degree was awarded to those who studied and mastered both Germanic and Roman law. In 1923, on the basis of the results of state examinations, he was called to serve in the Department of Justice in Berlin. There he worked on criminal cases, especially those of a political nature. In 1930 he was appointed as Landgerichtsrat which was roughly the equivalent of a Georgia superior court judge sitting as

