

The Verdict In Law School Is "Progress"



The value to students of this spacious library in the new Law School addition is "incalculable." The building is just one aspect of a revitalized program.

According to an old law school saying: "The first year they scare you to death; the second year they work you to death; and the third year they bore you to death."

Students in the University's School of Law still admit to being scared at times and especially *worked*, but boredom doesn't seem to plague them. As one senior student explains it:

"The students here feel that Dean Cowen is making this law school as good as any in the country. Our facilities are superior. The faculty is young, bright, and sharp. Entrance requirements have remained high while we are now able to admit a larger number. The atmosphere is just generally *active*."

The upsurge in activity began in 1964 when Lindsey Cowen became dean, accepting a challenge from the governor and the University adminis-

tration that "The people of Georgia want and deserve nothing short of the best. The University of Georgia School of Law is, therefore, to be one of such excellence that no citizen of Georgia need ever leave his state because a superior legal education is available elsewhere."

Among the numerous elements which are part of the School's progress the past three years are the spacious new and remodeled facilities which are being dedicated November 17-18. The most valuable space the building makes available is for the library — the law student's "laboratory."

Dean Cowen explains, "The varieties of cases are infinite. The best we can do is help a man learn to think like a lawyer, to let him know where to find and how to use the pertinent statutes and cases. The lawyer has to be able to proceed by analogy. The law

library contains all these precedents, these statutes, and the commentaries concerning them."

Cowen considers the \$1 million the State allotted for law books as one of the most significant things that has happened. In addition, a \$100,000 grant from the Callaway Foundation bought a British Commonwealth collection considered to be one of the finest in the U. S.

Other important aspects of the revitalization of the Law School have been remodeling the curriculum to "conform more nearly to the best law schools in the nation" and faculty and student recruiting. From a faculty of four professors and two librarians in 1964, the Law School has grown to a faculty of 23 and 15 on the library staff.

Wylie H. Davis, Harvard graduate and one of the University of Illinois' outstanding faculty members, reflects the thinking of many of the new Law faculty: "Dean Cowen is building a well-known and exciting legal program. Too, the students seem to be alert and responsive, and I'm quite impressed by the way they dress professionally in coat and tie; I have not seen this before. Fantastic facilities."

Students have also kept pace with the progress by organizing and putting out a Law Review (publication) to critical acclaim; working actively in the Legal Aid and Defender Office established in downtown Athens by the School; publishing a newspaper; and procuring special speakers.

The responsibilities and progress of the School are clearly defined, but less apparent is proof of goal-reached, for the goal is a continuing one. The end product, according to Cowen, is a strong reputation in the legal profession.

"I am satisfied that at this moment we offer a superior legal education, and no student makes a mistake coming to the University's School of Law," Cowen states. "But we'll *know* we're doing well when we are overwhelmed with law firms and corporations seeking to recruit our junior and senior students. That's what we're waiting for. That's what we're in the process of achieving." ■