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Laws Make 'Strategic' Move

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INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Maurer School of Law
Bloomington

Laws Make 'Strategic' Move

9/24/56

By BOB NORMAN and SHIRLEY PRINCE

Law students these days have to walk around piles of boxes containing chairs and desks, cans of paint and step ladders to get to their classrooms.

When they get there, they sit in plain straight-back chairs and listen to sawing and hammering as well as to lectures.

Workmen are busy everywhere in the building.

But these conditions are temporary, and the law student is attending class in one of the newest and finest buildings on the campus. The opening of the new Law Building on South Indiana avenue has enabled the school to move out of over-crowded Maxwell Hall.

Maxwell Hall Greats.

Maxwell Hall, which has seen such lawmaking greats as Justice Sherman Minton, Congressman Charles A. Halleck and State Supreme Court Justices Harold E. Achor and Frederick Landis study in its classrooms, will house the offices of the Dean of Students and Junior Division. Thus, a cycle will be completed, for 30 years ago the maze-like halls of Maxwell were used for just such administrative purposes.

Reocorators have moved into Maxwell to remodel the classrooms and library where long desks extended completely across the rooms and where each office had a fireplace — a carryover from the days when central heating systems were unknown.

Some Advantages.

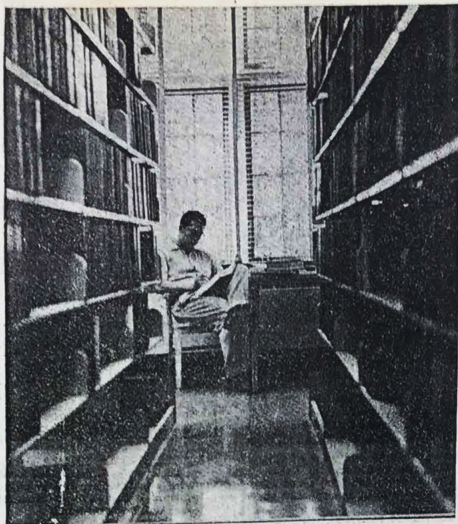
Here are some of the advantages the new building has for students. The furniture stacked in boxes in the halls will fit together in long, curved tables, not individual desks. While giving a law class something of the appearance of a United Nations conference, this arrangement will result in more working space.

The straight-back chairs will be turned in for more comfortable models, which not only swivel but bend backward.

The modern design of the building and the fluorescent lighting will take much of the eyestrain out of brainwork. Plenty of facilities for individual study are available in the spacious library. And, for those who hate steps, there is even an elevator.

Two large classrooms of amphitheater type holding 175 persons each, 2 classrooms for between 75 and 150 students and four seminar rooms holding from 10 to 12 persons, have replaced Maxwell's three classrooms which seated 150, 100 and 40 students respectively.

"Until now," said Leon H. Wallace, Dean of the School of Law, "we have had a little room down



—DAILY STUDENT PHOTO BY PETE CERP
THE NEW LOOK — Jim Fitzpatrick, law, studies in the modern library of the new Law Building.

in the basement of Maxwell which we called a seminar room."

Building Needed.

The new building was sorely needed, Dean Wallace said. The number of law students has increased from 217 in September 1926, to 275 today. The library, which contains about 75,000 books, was crowding out individual study facilities in Maxwell Hall.

"This situation was reaching the saturation point," the dean said.

Although a long, faculty library-penthouse atop the second floor of the East Wing, faculty and student lounges, and a moot court or mock trial room seating 280 persons are notable features, the pride of the new Law School is its air-conditioned library. It will provide almost three times as much space for



—DAILY STUDENT PHOTO BY PETE CERP
LAST CHANCE — Two students take advantage of their last opportunity to study in the old Law Library in Maxwell Hall.

the volumes formerly crammed into Maxwell Hall.

Because the School of Law plans to utilize every available inch of space, the Cathedral-type reading room was sacrificed as it would take up the space for another floor. Stacks and study spaces will be combined into one room, and bordering the windows will be over 150 individual study tables with book shelves for retaining books overnight.

Research Built Up.

Commenting on the library Dean Wallace explained, "Several times when we added stacks for books in Maxwell's library it was at the expense of study area. Maxwell's library was one of the smallest compared to other midwestern colleges. Now the research library for the school can be built up."

Although there will be two independent libraries at both the Indianapolis and Bloomington divisions of the School of Law, the main research library will be here. Now the number of students could increase without crowding, and there is plenty of room for growth of the library. The new building could accommodate about 450 students, Dean Wallace estimated.

Library Problem.

One of the big problems in getting started in the new building, he recalled, was moving the great volume of books from the Maxwell Hall library without upsetting the indexing system. The task was handled smoothly, however. With

the aid of eight student volunteers, the shelves were emptied in sequence and the books moved to the new library without confusion.

Dean Wallace said he expects the desks, chairs and other furnishings to be completely installed within a month.

The new Law Building was constructed by Huber, Hunt and Nichols of Indianapolis. The limestone structure in Gothic style will cost about \$1,600,000 when completed, not including \$200,000 for furniture and equipment as compared to the \$350,000 cost of building Maxwell Hall.