

INDIANA LAW JOURNAL

VOLUME 24

SUMMER 1949

NUMBER 4

ALFRED EVENS

In Memoriam

In the death of Professor Alfred Evens on August 30, 1949, the Indiana University School of Law lost an able and well-loved member of its faculty. Professor Evens' career was almost equally divided between the practice and the teaching of law. To his twenty-one years as a teacher, he brought the insight born of twenty-one years of active and varied practice.

His work as a teacher, chiefly in the fields of Evidence and Property, has left a deep impression on the bar throughout the State of Indiana. His appearance at any meeting of the State Bar Association was the occasion for many of his former students to seek his counsel in regard to their personal and professional problems. In his preparation for classes, he was conscientious and thorough. In the classroom, he was the acme of patience and consideration in discussions with students.

In meetings of the faculty, "Bob" Evens' counsel, backed by the weight of his experience, and his high ideals of teaching and life itself, was often decisive of difficult questions.

Professor Evens was born at Greencastle, Indiana in 1881 and was the son of John W. and Margaret (Calahan) Evens. He received his Ph.B. degree from DePauw University in 1902. For two years he was Superintendent of Schools at Monrovia, Indiana and did graduate work at the University of Chicago. He then decided to study law, received his LL.B. degree from Indiana Law School in 1907, and was immediately admitted to the bar. He was in general practice in Indianapolis for three years and then was associated with the Frankfort General Insurance Company of Frankfort, Indiana in its legal department for four years. From 1914 to 1920 he was engaged in general practice at Lafayette, Indiana in partnership with Congressman Will R. Wood. In 1920 he became general attorney for the Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville Railway Company and spent the next eight years in the city of Chicago. In 1928 he was appointed professor of law at Indiana University, and he taught there until the time of his death. From 1935 to 1940 he was the faculty editor of the Indiana Law Journal. In addition to his teaching, Professor Evens entered into a partnership with Leroy G. Baker on June 1, 1935, and engaged

in general practice in Bloomington until his death. On the second day of October, 1912, he married Miss Kathleen Lindley, who survives him.

In the lives of the hundreds of students who attended his classes, the memories of his generous and kindly wisdom and high ideals will never cease to be one of the strongest influences for good. This, after all, is the ultimate criterion of distinguished success as a teacher.