



1-1-1963

Edwin A. Heafey Law Library Dedication

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Recommended Citation

Leo A. Huard, *Edwin A. Heafey Law Library Dedication*, 4 SANTA CLARA LAWYER 1 (1963).

Available at: <http://digitalcommons.law.scu.edu/lawreview/vol4/iss1/1>

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DEDICATION

EDWIN A. HEAFEY LAW LIBRARY

October 12, 1963

The University of Santa Clara Law School opened its doors as an evening school in 1911. It continued evening instruction until 1929 when the shift was made to a full-time day program. This change of educational emphasis was followed in 1933 by the coming of Edwin J. Owens as Dean, the man, who more than any other, established legal education on a firm footing at this University and gave direction to this Law School.

Dean Owens guided the destinies of our Law School for some twenty years—until 1953—when he resigned upon his elevation to the Bench of the Superior Court of Santa Clara County. He continues to serve as one of the ablest members of that distinguished Bench to this day. He made the University of Santa Clara Law School into one of the finest small law schools in this country. He concurred in the desire of the University administration to keep the school small and thus retain a cherished emphasis on personal contact between faculty and students. Within that framework, he insisted upon excellence of teaching above all else and enforced this standard by example and gentle guidance.

During his tenure, in 1939, the school acquired quarters of its own in Bergin Hall, named after the first graduate of the University. Bergin Hall contained three commodious classrooms, a student lounge, student and faculty offices and library quarters suitable for a collection of 20,000-25,000 volumes. It was thought that this airy, agreeable building would more than adequately serve the needs of 100-125 students—then regarded as the absolute upper limit of growth for the Law School. The Law School was accredited by the State Bar of California in 1937 and approved by the American Bar Association in 1939. In 1940 we were admitted to membership in the Association of American Law Schools.

The Law School enjoyed a serene existence until December 1941, admitting small classes and graduating smaller ones—averaging twenty-eight students in the entire student body. World War II brought about dramatic change. All classes were suspended for the duration. After resumption of classes in 1945, things were never the same. It became clear that the school must expand in order to

accommodate the influx of students soon to come. There was no doubt that the classes even then swollen with veterans whose education had been delayed would never drop back to the sparse pre-war enrollments.

The years after the war witnessed sudden ups and downs in student population, but with an over-all growth. In common with much of legal education, there was vacillation in policy and some uncertainty about future development within University administration. This was a logical, predictable reflection of a similar uncertainty in business and government. One factor soon became apparent and remained constant: The Law School would soon need additional space! Book requirements would soon make the Law Library quarters inadequate. Student body increase would call for utilization of the old Law Library for classroom or office use.

We needed a new Law Library! Soon! Desperately!

In 1959 the Law Library collection numbered about 25,000 volumes, in 1962, 33,000 volumes and in 1963, about 45,000 volumes. By 1960 (27,000 volumes) the old Library was bulging at the seams. In 1961 some of the overflow was channelled into all Faculty offices by installing new and often cumbersome shelving into these offices. This was obviously a makeshift solution satisfactory only for the short term.

It would serve no useful purpose to outline here the steps taken by the University and Law School administration in seeking funds for the construction of a Law Library adequate for the present needs and future development of the Law School. It should suffice to say that a generous donor presented himself in 1961 in the person of Edwin A. Heafey.

Mr. Heafey is an alumnus of the University of Santa Clara, a prominent Oakland attorney and a past-president (1958) of the State Bar of California. He is a fine man, a public spirited citizen with a highly developed sense of responsibility to his God, his country and his profession. He is also a very generous man. His generosity made possible the Edwin A. Heafey Law Library at the University of Santa Clara.

The Heafey Law Library more than doubles the usable floor space of our Law School. It contains stack space for about 100,000 volumes, offices for the Law Librarian, appropriate staff, and the Dean of the Law School. There is a student lounge, a faculty lounge and six closed research carrels. In the short time it has been in use it has contributed to a substantial improvement in student morale and student study habits.

Students, faculty and administrators, we are all very grateful to Mr. Heafey.

On October 12, 1963, the Heafey Law Library was dedicated. Professor William L. Prosser was the speaker at the dedication ceremony in the main reading room of the Library. His remarks on that occasion are reported later in this volume. Guests and faculty then adjourned to a luncheon in the Benson Memorial Center where the Honorable Richard H. Chambers, Chief Judge, U. S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, was principal speaker. Regrettably Judge Chambers spoke extemporaneously and we have been unable to reproduce his remarks. The President of the University, the President of the State Bar of California and Mr. Heafey also addressed the group present at the luncheon. All of these remarks were brief and extemporaneous.

At occasions of this kind, Deans are ubiquitous. In keeping with this principle, the Dean of the Law School served as "master of ceremonies" at the dedication and the luncheon.

We hope the readers of our law review will agree with us that the Heafey Law Library and its dedication are milestones in legal education at this University. In that conviction we offer these photographs and the succeeding several pages of text.

LEO A. HUARD
Dean
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