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anon

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DEAN JUDSON F. FALKNOR

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DEAN JUDSON F. FALKNOR

THE RESIGNATION of Judson F. Falknor as Dean of the University of Washington Law School became effective July 31, 1951. Immediately thereafter he joined the faculty of the University of California Law School at Berkeley, California, where he will teach courses in Evidence and Procedure.

Dean Falknor's departure, after fifteen years as head of the Law School, constitutes a real loss to both the school and the state of Washington. While we regret our loss, our regret is tempered by the fact that in leaving us Dean Falknor is following a carefully considered course of action. After so many years of labor in an administrative capacity, he has decided to round out his career by devoting his entire energies to teaching and research. While looking back on a decade and a half of happy association with our school, Dean Falknor looks forward to a less burdensome future in areas of legal education which he finds particularly congenial. We sincerely hope that his high expectations for personal satisfaction and happiness in his new work will be fully realized.

The facts of Dean Falknor's life, his career at the bar, and his record as Dean are well known to all of his former students and to his many friends among the bench and bar and in educational circles. Nevertheless, a brief review of these facts is appropriate.

Judson F. Falknor was born in Seattle. His father was the late A. J. Falknor, for many years one of the leading lawyers of the state. Judson F. Falknor was educated at the University of Washington where he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1917 and the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1919. Immediately following his graduation from the Law School he was admitted to the bar of the state of

Washington and entered his father's firm, Poe, Falknor, Falknor and Emory, in Seattle. This association continued until his appointment as Dean in 1936. During these seventeen years of active practice, he also served as Assistant United States Attorney for two years and as a member of the state legislature for four years. During this period he achieved a high reputation at the bar both as a counselor and advocate.

Dean Falknor thus brought to the Law School the invaluable experience of long and close association with the law in action. In addition, he possessed, in remarkable degree, the many other characteristics required of the successful law school administrator. Prominent among these essential attributes were a scholarly and inquiring mind; ardent enthusiasm for the law and the teaching of law; ethical, moral, and educational standards in the highest professional tradition and the patience, tact, fairness and winning personality which have earned him the sincere affection and profound respect of generations of students and of the community at large.

The foregoing is not a catalogue of the full list of Dean Falknor's talents, nor can any such general recital of virtues, no matter how complete, adequately portray the full worth of his services. In the last analysis, the true test of any dean's leadership is measured by the quality of the school he operates and the true test of the school is the quality of its alumni. We are confident that a survey of the record at the bar of the lawyers who received their education under Dean Falknor will demonstrate that he has provided the state with legal education of the highest order. In recognition of this fact Dean Falknor's reputation has grown steadily through the years, not only locally but in legal educational circles throughout the nation.

Viewed from a selfish standpoint, it appears that this growth of reputation has been our misfortune since our sister state and law school of California have been moved to lure Dean Falknor from us. Nevertheless, we congratulate California for its wisdom and good fortune and extend to Jud Falknor our most sincere expressions of gratitude and appreciation for a job well done.