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Curtis Resigns as Dean

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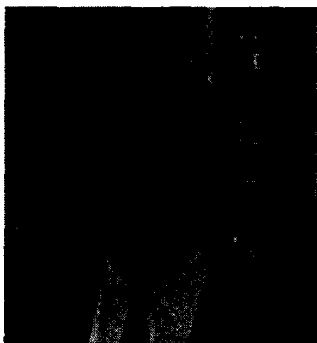
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Curtis Resigns as Dean

THE staff of *THE COLONIAL LAWYER* is saddened to learn that Joseph Curtis has resigned his deanship at the Law School, to be effective at the end of the present semester. He will be remembered by the students, faculty, and alumni not only for his practical wisdom in the classroom, but for his efforts in the betterment of the Law School proper.



Dean Curtis joined the law faculty in 1948 as an Associate Professor. He was promoted to full Professor in 1953, became the Acting Dean in 1962, and assumed the deanship in 1964. He received his LL.B. and LL.M. at *New York University* in 1937 and 1948 respectively, and prior to coming to *William and Mary*, served as the Administrative Assistant to the Dean at that law school.

A nationally recognized expert in taxation, Dean Curtis has lectured at such institutions as *Brookings*, *New York University*, and *Virginia* and has authored numerous articles on this subject. Since his arrival here, he has been an active lecturer in the Masters program in taxation, the first of its kind in the *United States*, and a Lecturer and Director of the *William and Mary Annual Tax Conference*.

The Dean has been an active public servant, serving on many advisory committees within the *Virginia State Bar Association* and also in the State. In 1968 Governor Godwin appointed him to the *Virginia Commission of Conflict of Interests in Public Office*.

Of paramount interest to the student body are the dramatic improvements made in the Law School under Dean Curtis's administration. Since he has assumed the deanship the size of the student body has more than doubled to the present enrollment of 200. During this period the faculty has also doubled.

Even more important to the students has been the Dean's successful efforts to obtain adequate facilities for the school. In 1964 the law school was an underground operation headquartered in the basement of *Bryan Hall*. In 1967 the school moved into the old library and today after modernization and expansion of the facility, the Law School is a self-contained unit.

No less important have been the programs initiated under Dean Curtis's supervision, which bring the Law School national recognition. In 1965 the *Sherwell Lecture series* began, featuring annual talks by the President of the *American Bar Association*. In 1967 a comparative studies program was established with *Exeter College in England* and in the same year the first *Marshall-Wythe Medallion* was presented to an outstanding figure in the field of law.

The Board of Visitors, at their special meeting on March 15, 1969, appointed Professor James P. Whyte, Jr., currently serving as Associate Dean, as Acting Dean of the Law School, effective July 1, 1969. As the previous years have been ones of great challenge to the Law School we are particularly looking forward to the leadership that Dean Whyte will give to us in the future.