

From:
News Bureau
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Prof. HURT

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BLOOMINGTON, Ind.--Material important in the history of the Hoosier State and in other areas will be preserved for teaching purposes in a centralized museum being developed in the old law library of Indiana University. The museum will be open to the public, exhibiting items for which up to now there have been no display facilities.

Initially, the museum will bring together the University's currently held materials related to Indiana history, anthropology, and folklore. It is hoped that these collections will be expanded as individuals and organizations entrust precious relics to the museum to ensure their care and preservation.

Director of the museum will be Wesley R. Hurt, new professor of anthropology at I.U., formerly director of the W. H. Over Museum and professor of anthropology at the University of South Dakota. He is a native of New Mexico and graduate of the University of New Mexico, with a doctoral degree from the University of Michigan.

Objectives of the museum, Hurt said, are:

1. To enrich the University's social science courses by providing visual teaching aids, which also will be available to visiting classes of younger students.

2. To provide a productive source of research material for scholars in history, anthropology, and folklore.

3. To present courses in museum techniques, such as display

and exhibition of materials, care and preservation of specimens, collecting, and museum administration. Many scientists find themselves in need of such training, Hurt pointed out.

4. To gather together private collections of Indiana historic material which is rapidly disappearing and which would otherwise be lost.

5. To make these materials available to the public.

The I.U. departments of history and anthropology and the committee on folklore are sponsoring the museum, and organization has been under the direction of John W. Ashton, vice-president and dean of the Graduate School, and Chancellor Herman B Wells.

The museum will be located in the old law library area of Maxwell Hall. Assembly in this one spot of materials now widely scattered on the campus will free valuable space in many buildings, Hurt point out. These materials include:

Articles related to Indiana history collected by the late Logan Esarey, I.U. authority on pioneer life. Among these are household furniture and utensils and agricultural equipment.

Much antique furniture received by the University as gifts.

Items from the archaeological and anthropological museum, now in the I.U. Main Library building. Among these are displays depicting the evolution of man, considerable American Indian material, and handcrafts of various races.

The museum will have constantly changing exhibits of its own holdings, Hurt said, and will show traveling displays, both national and international, from other museums and educational institutions.