

On Elijah Jordan as a Teacher:

Doris Holt, Student of Jordan at Butler (Correspondence, June 3, 1994)

“A couple of anecdotes that I remember from his classes.

The rule is to wait five minutes for an assistant professor and ten minutes for a full professor. We never left Dr. Jordan’s class, even if he were twenty or twenty-five minutes late. One day he came in to class about twenty-five minutes late. He was a small man, and his hat was pulled down on his head, and he looked at the class and said, “Someone was unkind enough to tell me I had a class at this period.”

Another day he built up a hypothetical case of logic, and he finally said, “What do you think of this? Can you defend it?” One young man from the south spoke up and said, “It is plumb crazy.” Dr. Jordan said, “You are plumb right. You saw the error of the logic.”