

chat for hours on politics and history, literature, and music. He liked to take visitors into his study, an awesome place on its superabundance of books and manuscripts, and show them with pride and reference a photograph of his Heidelberg teacher, Max Weber. If the conversation turned to Thomas Mann, as it often did, Karl would take from the book-shelf a row of first editions of that author's works, each containing a personal dedication and the author's signature.

Karl Loewenstein came to America from Germany in 1933 and became a citizen of the United States in 1939. Before the advent of Hitler, he was well established as a lawyer in Bavaria and as a teacher of public law at the University of Munich. Upon his arrival to this country, he was appointed associate professor of political science at Yale. He joined the Amherst faculty of political science in 1936 and was made William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Political Science and Jurisprudence in 1949, a title he held until his retirement in 1961.

He was a Guggenheim Fellow and a Fulbright Scholar. His interests were wide and varied and he traveled extensively not only in Europe but in Brazil and Japan. He taught wherever he traveled and traveled wherever he taught. And his scholarship was informed and enriched by experience and observation. His book on *Hitler's Germany* in the 1930's was described as "a gem of compactness and lucidity." His book on *Brazil Under Vargas* in the 1940's was one of the relatively few works on South American politics by an English language scholar before the concept of the Third World was formed. During the Second World War Karl had an appointment as Special Assistant to the Attorney General in Washington. After the war he served in Germany as a legal adviser in the Office of Military Government. Retirement for Karl in 1916 was not surcease. A true scholar, he was forever at the joyous tasks of research and writing. Works of his abound in the fields of comparative government and public law, and he was forever pushing some fresh project. Even in this, his 82nd year, new books of his are being published in Holland and Germany where his reputation as a scholar is very great.

But an account of books written, fellowships held, schools attended, and lectures given is a calculation of things and not of character. We all know that a man is more than the sum of things that can be counted and that print is simply the mark left were the spirit touched. Karl's spirit was a strong one. His was an authoritative voice that often spoke in confident imperatives, sometimes with sharp humor, sometimes with a certain puckishness, always true to his conviction. Careful of the protocols of dignity and deference in personal relations, he was nevertheless a vigorous libertarian in public affairs. In 1940 he worked to arouse the Amherst campus to the dangers of Hitlerism, and to rally support for Britain. In a pamphlet published in collaboration with a colleague in the Department of History, he wrote:

It is an illusion to believe that, because we have enjoyed democracy for a hundred and fifty years, it will be ours forever, or that others will also strive for it. It is equally an illusion that we may preserve it with ease while others jubilantly abandon it.

His sympathies were with the progressive governments of the world and he spoke and wrote vigorously against those who would preserve freedom by forbidding its use, whether they were brown shirts in Berlin, black shirts in Rome, colonels in Athens, or bureaucrats in Washington. One small triumph that gave him much pleasure was his success in persuading the Post Office Department in Washington to stop a commercial mailer from using metered postage carrying the slogan, "Socialism is slavery." In 1940, Archibald MacLeish said of a certain kind of academic:

The scholar digs his ivory cellar in the ruins of the past and lets the present sicken as it will.

Karl Loewenstein knew the past well. One of his books this year is an account of the history and politics of ancient Rome. But he dug no ivory cellar in the ruins of the past. He lived his life in the political present and strove without let, to draw its most virulent poisons.

Henry Steele Commager
Earl Latham
Amherst College

Joseph A. Peters

It is not often that someone comes among us who genuinely touches those near him with a sense of decency and goodness. It is less frequent still the same individual can accurately be given the accolade—humanitarian. Such a man was Joseph A. Peters—stimulating teacher, dedicated professional, political activist, guiding force in professional associations, appealing and humane iconoclast, irrepressible raconteur, devoted family man. Professor Peters died December 29, 1973, at the age of 47.

A 1947 graduate of Pennsylvania State University (the A.B.) and subsequently the University of Pennsylvania (the Ph.D.), he was able to develop a wealth of teaching experiences during his early professional career. This was a period of great excitement and expectation for him. For a while in 1950 he was a legislative aide to United States Senator Francis A. Myers, followed rapidly by a three-year sojourn in the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs of the United States Department of State. While in the State Department, he was able to nurture a life-long interest in the Soviet Union—a commitment he soon felt could best be realized in the academic world. After teaching at Beaver and Hunter Colleges and at the University of Pennsylvania, he came to Kutztown State College, where he was the chief force in establishing a separate department of political science. Simultaneously, he rose rapidly within his chosen profession. A long-standing member of the American Association of University Profes-

sors (AAUP), he was elected president of the KSC Chapter in 1967-69, and later President of the AAUP's Pennsylvania State College and University Council. At the time of his death he was a candidate from the Middle-Atlantic Region of the National Board of the AAUP—an election that he fully expected to win in February, 1974.

The professional accomplishment of which he was perhaps most proud was his election in 1973 as President of the Pennsylvania Political Science Association. It was a job into which he threw himself with his customary vigor and enthusiasm.

Joseph Peters was a highly gregarious human being—he enjoyed life, deriving much pleasure

from simple things. He truly lived well in his lifetime. His humor and courage were evident to the end. He was an authentic citizen of his community, his profession and the world. He cared deeply and worked devotedly for human understanding. He never faltered in extolling as well as exemplifying the virtues of scholarly excellence, reasoned discourse, freedom of the spirit, and plain dedication. He is missed by many as a valued colleague, good-humored companion, counselor and trusted friend.

Albert Dixon
Kutztown State College

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