

TRIBUTE TO JAMES HYDE

by Eric Stein

James Nevin Hyde died in his home in Connecticut on December 9 of last year at the age of eighty-seven.

I speak with a heavy heart because Jim was a close friend. We met in the late nineteen forties when Jim was senior adviser at the United States Mission to the United Nations in New York and I was in the United Nations Bureau of the Department of State in Washington.

I mention this because the interaction between New York and Washington at the early time of the United Nations was a true proving ground not only for the diplomatic skill of the participants but also for integrity and character. And all these were qualities that all of us who worked with Jim, including many foreign diplomats, admired so much in him.

But at this occasion I want to recall James Nevins Hyde's contribution to the American Society of International Law. He joined the Society more than half a century ago in 1946. He served on the Executive Council from 1953 to 1956 and from 1959 to 1962, and as president of the Society in 1963–1964. With a small group of innovators he helped to bring the Society out of decades of slumber by reaching beyond academia and government to the entire legal community and expanding the Society's research, information and other activities. It was he, as I recall, who proposed the establishment of the Board of Review and Development which proved an enormously effective instrument for bringing in new faces and widening the horizon of the Society.

Hyde exerted a similar influence for innovation as an active and conscientious member of the Board of the American Journal of International Law, on which he served from 1958–1972. He published a number of pieces in the Journal and elsewhere and made numerous presentations at the annual meetings of the Society on international law subjects of the day, including the much discussed permanent sovereignty over natural wealth and resources, the act of state doctrine (suggesting a change in the State Department's method of applying the doctrine), on settlement of international disputes by judicial process and arbitration, on voting in the UN Security Council, on practical problems of transnational law practice, and others. Of particular interest were his lectures on International Economic Agreements, which he delivered at the Hague Academy of International Law in 1962, and the Report of the Committee on the Study of Legal Problems of the UN which he chaired and which recommended the withdrawal of the notorious Connally Amendment to the United States' acceptance of the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice. He retired as honorary Vice-President of the Society in 1989.

After leaving the U.S. Mission to the UN, Hyde practiced international law, lectured and taught, and was a leading figure in the administration of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

A diplomat, scholar, teacher, administrator, leader of his profession and devoted friend, James Nevins Hyde left a rich and lasting legacy.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES MCNEILL

by Elizabeth Rindskopf and Elizabeth Verville

John H. McNeill, "Jack" to his many friends, died on October 26, 1996, at the age of fifty-five. He left his wife Helen, a daughter and two sons, and countless friends and