

## Herbert C. Cook

Herbert C. Cook died June 21, 1979, at Ames, Iowa. A veteran of World War I, he received his bachelor's degree at Iowa State Teachers College (now the University of Northern Iowa) and taught high school for a few years. Restless and eager to further pursue the complexities of government and administration, he decided to enter a graduate program in political science at the State University of Iowa, from where he received his Ph.D. degree in 1926. He returned for two years to teach at his first alma mater and in 1928 accepted a position at Iowa State College (now University) in the Department of History, Government, and Philosophy (now Political Science and Public Administration). He was promoted to the rank of professor in 1959, partially retired in 1968, and entered into full retirement in 1970.

Professor Cook was a splendid example of the World War I teaching generation, a renaissance man, untiring, well-disciplined, and committed to his institution. He was a thoughtful and careful scholar, with a thorough understanding of American political institutions and of our Constitutional system of government—national and state. For over three decades he was involved in state and county research in Iowa. His willing and constructive service on many university and college committees is a matter of historical record. Moreover, he was also actively involved in furthering the professional standards and status of his profession and was always a very active participant in our national and regional associations. Professor Cook was one of the founders of the Iowa Conference of Political Scientists. He was a charter member of the American Society for Public Administration. Professor Cook was a good political scientist, a responsible citizen, a confidant of students, a part-time farmer, and an enjoyable colleague. He shall be missed by his friends, associates, and former students.

Ross B. Talbot  
Iowa State University

## Louis Douglas

Louis Hartwell Douglas was born September 5, 1907 at Bloomington, Nebraska. He earned his A.B. from Hastings and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska. He taught at McCook Junior College, Hastings College, Tottori University in Japan, and was a Fulbright Lecturer at the University of the Philippines. He taught at Kansas State University from 1949 to 1977. Lou Douglas passed away on October 22, leaving his beloved wife Mary, his three children—Kay, Stephen, Merrie Lou—and seven grandchildren. It was my privilege to know him as a beloved friend, and colleague.

Lou Douglas was a many-sided man. In his professional life he was first an inspiring and committed teacher. He was also a scholar who edited, wrote and contributed to over 21 publications. He was active in professional associations. He believed that the mission of the

academy is the pursuit of both knowledge and understanding. Lou had certain tenets of faith—one was that the political scientist should be both scholar and activist. That is not to say that he confused the two—in his research he was a true social scientist. But he believed the responsibilities of the profession demanded more than that.

Many have commented on the fact that Kansas State remained relatively unscathed during the campus unrest of the late 'sixties and early 'seventies. I don't mean to offer a simplistic explanation for the complex forces at work during that very troubled time, but I think it was the presence of Lou Douglas and other faculty members like him, that made the critical difference. I recall reading an interview with a student at a major university who had been arrested after taking over an office. He spoke bitterly about the political scientists who had been buried at their desks doing a roll call analysis while the campus became polarized over the great issues of that decade. That didn't happen at Kansas State because there were professors like Lou Douglas who shared the same doubts about the direction our nation was taking. They provided a mature outlet for student frustration and they worked with students in finding constructive and effective ways to protest the Vietnam War. Another tenet of faith held by Lou was his belief in the ability of the common man to govern himself. It was no coincidence that in his political science research, he focused not on elites (presidency, Congress), but on the rural community. His most recent research was a case study of a small community in Kansas named Dunlap City. He had little patience with political scientists who advocate that democracy is best preserved by placing its security in the hands of the elites who theoretically more fully appreciate its values.

Lou Douglas had a tenet of faith in the wisdom and righteousness of the Democratic Party. It never occurred to anyone to ask Lou after an election if he had voted the straight party ticket. It wasn't that he was intolerant of Republicans, it was just that he didn't understand them. Lou Douglas and Riley County Democrats became almost synonymous terms.

Lou Douglas was a man who never grew old. He lived a full three score and ten, but he was never old. I remember sitting in his office once while he tested an iconoclastic idea on me—his more traditional colleague. Then I heard myself say in exasperation, "The trouble Lou is that you are too young for me."

His inspiration to the young was great, but perhaps it was even greater to the middle aged. He reminded us that youth is not tied to the calendar nor to the body—but to the spirit. Lou spent some of his happiest days after his retirement working with the wonderful staff at the University for Man. Perhaps Lou Douglas drew his strength from these young people. I suspect that he gave more than he received.

A line in a Shakespearean play reads, "Cowards die many deaths, the valiant never taste of

death, but once." Lou was a valiant man. His spirit during his long and lingering illness witnesses to his braveness. In his march through the parade we call life, Lou never minded being the only one out of step. He helped build the Democratic Party in Riley County when it wasn't considered quite respectable to be a Democrat. He supported the labor movement and took a strong stand against right to work—he was burned in effigy. Because of his position on human rights a cross was burned on his lawn here in Manhattan, Kansas. He was never even in the mainstream of his beloved Democratic Party. You could always find him caucusing with the mavericks who shared his Populist views. He never backed off from a cause because it was unpopular. His tremendous integrity affected everyone with whom he came in contact. I remember Bill Roy saying at a banquet in Lou's honor that he never cast a controversial vote when he was in Congress without wondering whether Lou would approve.

Lou always reminded me in spirit of one of my literary heroes, Cyrano de Bergerac. Today I think of the final passage when Cyrano is wounded and dying. Cyrano says:

A man doesn't right thinking that  
he'll succeed,  
The hopeless battle is the best indeed.  
—who are these with you?  
—a hundred against one,  
I recognize some old enemies of mine,  
Falsehood?  
Compromise.  
Prejudice, corruption.  
Capitulate? Never,—and you, stupidity.  
—I know in the end you'll get the  
better of me:  
Yes, the last of the laurel is cut  
all right,  
And the rose is withered.  
Nevertheless, tonight  
When I make my sweeping bow at  
heaven's gate,  
One thing I shall still possess,  
at any rate,  
Unscathed, something outlasting  
mortal flesh,  
And that . . . my panache.

Lou Douglas' memory, his voice, and his twinkling eye remain in our thoughts and in our hearts, telling us to go on with the task of making this a kinder and more gentle world.

Naomi B. Lynn  
Kansas State University

## Harold D. Lasswell

Death came to Harold D. Lasswell on December 18, 1978 in New York City, nearly a year after he suffered a severe stroke. He was 76. As an American political scientist, he had no peer. His influence on the vernacular of political discussion by laymen was pervasive and indelible; his mapping sentences became the common curren-

cy of specialists in political studies. Throughout the half century of his career, he had much to do with shaping the intellectual agenda and sharpening the disciplinary perspectives of those who made major contributions to the upgrading of political inquiry. Always too he continued to remind us of how much was still neglected and how much needed to be done.

With four other American academics, Lasswell had much in common: like John Dewey, he had a pragmatic view of how concepts should be used; like Alfred Whitehead, he was alive to the unsolved dynamics of systemic change; like George Herbert Mead, he was sensitive to multiple levels of meaning; like Thorstein Veblen, he had an arresting and distinctive style. But it was the European lineage of Lasswell's thought that Edward Shils emphasized when, in a *festschrift* volume, he paid tribute to his friend and former teacher:

From Marx, Max Weber, and Pareto he elaborated a tough-minded, worldly view of the harsh and constricting life of man in society. From Freud, he drew the basic conception of the personality system. To each of these he added what was unequalled in its time and what is still very rare, namely, the alertness and wealth of imagination which permitted him to see the functions of the personality operating in the macro-social environment.<sup>1</sup>

Lasswell's career is conveniently divided into three phases. First came his Chicago-based years, which lasted until 1938. During this time Lasswell's provocative books made him well known to many educated laymen as well as to academics interested in the subjects of his concern: the license to manipulate opinion given to modern propagandists,<sup>2</sup> the irrational impulses of ordinary humans faced with perplexing events seemingly beyond their control,<sup>3</sup> the ineluctable technological forces transforming the composition of modern elites,<sup>4</sup> the mechanisms by which nations deal with revolutionary ferment, and the methodological difficulties of making disciplined inferences in political inquiry.<sup>5</sup>

An interim decade of Washington-based years followed, years of war-related research and of proliferating opportunities to play consultative roles. Lasswell mounted a complicated world attention survey monitoring news stories in various countries; he conducted field surveys of new communities launched by the Department of Agriculture; he helped formulate detailed standards for a free press; he produced imagina-

<sup>1</sup>"Reflections on Deference," in Arnold A. Rogow, ed., *Politics, Personality, and Social Science in the Twentieth Century: Essays in Honor of Harold D. Lasswell* (1969), p. 297.

<sup>2</sup>*Propaganda Technique in the World War* (1927)

<sup>3</sup>*Psychopathology and Politics* (1930).

<sup>4</sup>*Politics: Who Gets What, When, How* (1936).

<sup>5</sup>*World Politics and Personal Insecurity* (1935).