

for the forthcoming Puerto Rican constitutional convention and to teach at the University of Puerto Rico.

Howard White of Miami University (Ohio) has been named chairman of the Board of Directors of the Citizens Committee on the Ohio Constitution, an organization which has been created to promote the study of the Ohio Constitution in preparation for an election to be held in November, 1952, on the question whether a constitutional convention shall be held.

R. G. Whitesel, associate professor of political science at the State University of Iowa, reported for active duty in the United States Army on June 20, 1951. He has been assigned to the policy section of the general staff at Fifth Army Headquarters in Chicago with the rank of major.

James R. Woodworth, recently a graduate student at Harvard University, has returned to Miami University (Ohio) as visiting assistant professor for the academic year 1951-52.

Chitoshi Yanga, who has been participating in the foreign area studies program at Yale University, taught at the University of Nebraska during the Summer session of 1951.

IN MEMORIAM

Joseph Perkins Chamberlain. Joseph Perkins Chamberlain, professor of public law at Columbia University since 1923 and in active service until last year, died on May 21, 1951, in New York City at his Sutton Square home, which had always been open to his friends, to generations of students, and to the members of public bodies on which he served.

Before he joined the faculty of Columbia University, Mr. Chamberlain was prominent as a man of affairs and as a lawyer, and had established his reputation as a successful pioneer in the improvement of legislative drafting. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, on October 1, 1873, he studied abroad, at Harvard, and at the University of California. He was graduated from the Hastings Law School, practiced law in San Francisco, and held a lectureship in law in the School of Jurisprudence at the University of California.

In 1909 he endowed a Legislative Drafting Research Fund at Columbia University and was one of the Fund's trustees, serving with John Bassett Moore and Harlan Fiske Stone. In those days universities had institutes, centers, and schools, but were not proliferating them as is now the case. It was characteristic of Chamberlain's modesty that he called his legal laboratory a "Research Fund," but its achievements were far from modest. It did important work in drafting bills on many subjects, the bills being introduced in the Congress and state legislatures and enacted into law. Even more significant, it trained the draftsmen who, in 1919, were to furnish expert assistance to the United States Senate and House of Representatives. For many years, the chief legislative counsel to the Senate and House were men whom Chamberlain had trained.

In 1923 Thomas Reed Powell, then Ruggles Professor of Constitutional Law

at Columbia, proposed that Chamberlain be offered a professorship in the department of public law with a seat on the Law School faculty. Future colleagues greeted the idea with enthusiasm, but each berated himself because he had not been the one to make the proposal. In this case the trade union card—the Ph.D.—was not necessary, but it appeared that one would be readily available. Some years before, Chamberlain had passed his oral examination on subjects—not with any intention of taking a degree, but simply to demonstrate to those who knew about the work of his Research Fund that he was no dilettante. A dissertation was at hand—*The Regime of International Rivers: Danube and Rhine*. This was a monograph which had been prepared for the United States Department of State in 1917 when it was engaged in its preparatory work for the forthcoming Peace Conference, and at Paris Chamberlain had been the oracle who was always cited and consulted on the law and practice of international waterways. The State Department removed the nominal injunction of secrecy which still covered the monograph and it was reprinted in the *Columbia Studies in History, Economics, and Public Law*.

Under the University regulations, a formal “defense” of dissertation was necessary. No candidate at Columbia had had before, or has had since, a larger examination committee. Friends flocked into the room to express their pleasure and to offer congratulations on two counts: to the University as well as to the candidate. The dissertation was never mentioned but the report was that the “defense” had been successful.

From then until he retired in 1950, students were Chamberlain’s primary concern. He did not want to take a salary, but the University had a rule which compelled him to take one. So there was a compromise on the basis of half salary, on the theory that he would be on half time. This meant in his case that he gave more time to the University than many of the rest of us. He was indifferent to sabbatical leave.

Hundreds of students had a unique opportunity in working with Chamberlain in the field of international organization. He had been much in Europe. He was a leading authority on international rivers and he became one on the control of narcotics. Following Aristide Briand’s proposal in April, 1927, that the United States and France renounce war as an instrument of national policy, Chamberlain and James T. Shotwell prepared a draft treaty which was widely discussed and which was an important step in the transformation of Briand’s proposal into the Kellogg Pact. From 1933 on, Chamberlain was interested in the refugee problem. In that year he was made a member of the High Commission for Refugees coming from Germany, and in 1943 he became chairman of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service. His successes in this field were notable. As one who knew his work intimately wrote after his death, “Some 300,000 homeless displaced persons have now emigrated to the United States and are living here, to a great extent the result of Dr. Chamberlain’s brilliant faculties and remarkable capacity for finding a proper middle course.”

Meanwhile he continued his interest in his Legislative Drafting Research

Fund. Because of this and his sense of responsibility as a resident of New York, he consented in 1935 to serve as counsel to the New York City Charter Commission. In 1941, as special assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, he dealt with a highly complicated problem of the blocked funds of the nationals of enemy countries. In 1940 he was George Eastman professor at Oxford, which gave him an honorary degree. Columbia and Western Reserve Universities had already conferred honorary degrees on him, and the University of California was to do likewise in 1948. But students were always his primary concern—the younger men who could carry the torch—and it was with them in mind that he prepared and published his *Legislative Processes: National and State*, from which thousands of them have profited.

Joe Chamberlain never had the grim experience of straitened circumstances which is so common in the academic world. Yet he labored far harder than colleagues who found it necessary to undertake the hackwork of textbooks, lecturing and journalism. He was so modest that his great achievements and shining qualities were not as widely known as they should have been to the general public. They were, however, cherished in the several circles of his intimates, who included many in the highest posts of our own and other governments. He had read long, widely and well; his interests were far ranging and his mind was stimulating. He was gracious, considerate, and tender of heart. No colleague was ever more genuinely loved, and this was because, in addition to being a tolerant scholar, a sympathetic teacher, and an able public servant, he was also a great gentleman.—LINDSAY ROGERS.