

Editor's Tribute

There is no one from the Academy who has been a more loyal, steadfast, and contributing friend to the Section than Professor Louis B. Sohn. As a small expression of its gratitude, the Section is pleased to dedicate this issue of *The International Lawyer* as a "tribute" to Professor Sohn.

Born and initially educated in Poland, Professor Sohn received his LL.M. and S.J.D. degrees, as well as the Adison Brown Prize, from Harvard Law School. He became one of those rare few who had the opportunity to help influence the creation of the post World War II political and economic order. Having served as an assistant to Judge Manley O. Hudson, who was then a member of the Permanent Court of International Justice at the Hague before returning to Harvard to teach, Professor Sohn participated in the preparatory work for the Charter of the United Nations, and with Hudson became involved in the San Francisco Conference in 1945.

While politics in recent years has brought the United Nations under the microscope, the great significance the United Nations was intended, and most probably will continue, to play in the post World War II order is clear to all objective observers. The Section is particularly supportive of the United States meeting and continuing its financial commitments to the U.N. Professor Sohn, the leading expert on the U.N., has kept all of us honest and informed as to the role of the U.N. and the role the United States should be playing in this organization.

Professor Sohn, through his numerous works on the United Nations and related topics of world peace and human rights (see Professor Sohn's bibliography in this issue), continually has helped address the tough international legal issues for establishing a peaceful world order—topics that many of us in the private realm sometimes put aside. In this sense, Professor Sohn has been the intellectual conscience for the Section in keeping it and its members cognizant of the fact that international business law and practice can only survive in a broader public

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international legal structure for the peaceful settlement of disputes, for the protection of human rights, and for the organization of the world's natural resources.

Professor Sohn is one of the last active public international law scholars who came from that great tradition of scholars at the end of the postwar period. Having taught for thirty-five years at Harvard Law School, where he became Bemis Professor of International Law, Professor Sohn remains active as the Ernest Woodruff Professor of International Law at the University of Georgia. Most recent evidence of his continued academic keenness and vigor is represented in his work as assistant reporter for the Restatement of Foreign Relations of the American Law Institute, wherein he drafted the sections dealing with the law of the sea, the environment, and remedies for violations of international law.

In addition to his contributions to the Academy and to the practicing bar, Professor Sohn has been a devoted public servant. He has consulted with the Department of State on disarmament; has served as Counselor on International Law at the Legal Adviser's Office for the Department of State; has participated in negotiations on the law of the sea; and has been involved with devising methods of settling disputes with reference to the Helsinki Final Act on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Professor Sohn has also served as chairman of the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace and is a recent past president of the American Society of International Law. He is also vice-chairman of the Council of this Section.

At least from this editor's Texas perspective, one of Professor Sohn's high achievements was the appointment as an "Honorary Admiral of the Texas Navy," which was awarded to him for assistance in helping Texas win the case against the United States concerning its ocean boundary.

After a brief tribute to Professor Sohn by the Section's immediate past Chairman, James R. Silkenat, Dean Rusk provides a most thoughtful introduction. Mr. Rusk was highly influential in bringing Professor Sohn to the University of Georgia.

The articles comprising this tribute are from various colleagues in the Section (including Sir Joseph Gold, Ewell E. Murphy, Jr., Dean Jeswald W. Salacuse, Philip R. Stansbury, Dr. Rita Falk and Professor Howard J. Taubenfeld, and Professor Peter Winship). Also of note is the contribution of a "Perspective" piece by Professor Michael Zander of the London School of Economics' Law Faculty, who was a former student of Professor Sohn at the Harvard Law School. Further, the "Perspective" piece by Peter C. Hayward of the Basle Supervisors' Committee touches upon the area of international law, as it addresses the question of evolving international rule-making with respect to bank supervision. Moreover, as witness to Professor Sohn's influence on the focus of the Section is a series of Section recommendations and reports (including one by Chief Judge Edward Re's education committee) pertaining to public international law.

In conclusion, the Section and this journal wish, once again, to express our sincerest thanks to Professor Sohn and to extend to him our very best wishes for a continuing happy and productive life.