

Section Chairman's Tribute

It has happened more times than I can count. There is a meeting with some dignitary: a Finance Minister in Africa, a small town mayor in Arizona, or the partner of a large law firm in London. As we walk across a room, a courtyard, or an open field our conversation is interrupted by my host saying, "Oh, my gosh [or words to that effect]. Is that Professor Sohn over there? I must run over and say hello."

Almost no one in legal education, in legal practice, or in legal "anything" inspires more respect, admiration, and affection than Louis Sohn. And there is almost no one who does not know him and feel eager to seek his counsel.

Working with Louis is full of both large and small joys. First, there is the meticulous care with which he analyzes legal issues. The notion of challenging him on a factual or analytical point just does not occur to anyone I know. If Louis says it is so, then it is so. Second, there is the patience and good humor that accompanies any explanation by Louis to those of us who are about to make a horrible mistake, but are saved by his advice. Last, and maybe most lasting, is the obvious empathy, respect, and caring attitude that Louis has for those with whom he works and for those who need his help.

As reflected in the pages that follow, Professor Sohn's impact on the substance and scholarship of international law is profound. Even more profound is his continuing impact on the colleagues and students who get to share some time with him. We all love you, Louis, and I hope you understand how much you mean to all of us.

* Chairman, American Bar Association Section of International Law and Practice, 1989–1990. Morrison & Foerster, New York, New York.

