

IN MEMORIAM

HAROLD JANTZ

(1907 -1987)

Those of us who remember Harold Jantz stimulating and elegantly formulated centennial address in April 1986 received with disbelief the sad news of his death on February 27, 1987, in Durham, North Carolina, where he had been Emeritus Professor of German since his retirement from the Johns Hopkins University in 1972.

Harold Jantz was a native of Ohio. From his hometown, Elyria, he went to nearby Oberlin College and received his B. A. degree in 1929. A year later he began graduate work at the University of Wisconsin and wrote his doctoral dissertation on problems in literary historiography under the direction of the celebrated Germanist, Alexander Hohlfeld.

Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, offered Harold Jantz his first teaching post in 1933. Not long after he had met his first classes he fell in love with one of his students, Eleanore Whitmore, and married her in 1935. Meanwhile, he had been appointed Assistant Professor of German at Clark University and wrote while there his first major book. In the New England historical societies in which he worked during his years at Clark he discovered numerous unknown poems by early New England poets. His anthology and critical survey of the work of these poets, *The First Century of New England Verse*, in 1944, revolutionized the field of American literary studies by offering copious evidence that poetry of high quality had been written in America long before the date given in standard histories of American literature.

Shortly before the appearance of *The First Century of New England Verse*, Harold Jantz had joined the faculty of Princeton University. At Princeton he was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of German. In 1947, Northwestern University called him to Evanston as Professor of German, and he taught there until appointed Professor of German and Chairman of the Department of German

at the Johns Hopkins University in 1956. Prior to the call to Hopkins he had served at both the University of Hamburg and the University of Vienna as guest professor of American Studies. Eleanore and he were particularly fond of Vienna, and their apartment in the Hörigasse often served as a home abroad for American colleagues on sabbatical.

The anthology of American verse was followed by a number of studies on aspects of German-American literary relations which gained for Harold Jantz widespread recognition as an authority. A frequently cited publication in this field is his comprehensive survey, *Amerika im deutschen Dichten und Denken*, in 1962.

Because of his publications on German Renaissance and Baroque literature and his Goethe-studies he had by then already been recognized as one of the foremost American Germanists of his day. His first major Goethe-book, *Goethe's Faust as a Renaissance Man: Parallels and Prototypes*, in 1951, presents a new reading based on the drama's Graeco-Roman and Renaissance backgrounds. Outstanding among his later Goethe-studies are his original translations and explication of Goethe's enigmatic *Soothsayings of Bakis* and his monograph on *The Form of Faust* which reflects a lifetime of thought about structures and patterns that operate in the drama and help to inform it.

For bibliophiles, the name of Harold Jantz is associated with one of the finest Baroque collections in the nation. For many years the collection, to which he gave his students free access, was housed in his study in the house on Highfield Road which so many of us remember. It is now part of the collections of Duke University Library.

Among the many honors that came to him over the years Harold Jantz was especially proud of his election to membership in the American Antiquarian Society and in the Massachusetts Historical Society in recognition of his American and American-German studies. He also treasured, of course, the

Goethe-medal in Gold awarded him by the Goethe Institute in 1969.

Those of us who had the privilege of knowing and of working with Harold Jantz as colleagues, fellow editors, students, and as members of the Executive Council while he was President of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland remember him not only as a nationally and internationally renowned scholar, but also as a good friend who was always willing to listen, and with whom it was always a delight to converse because he knew so much about so many things. He enjoyed nothing more than sharing information and ideas, and happily he was able to do so almost to the last, for only a few weeks before his death he delivered what no one at the time realized was to be his last public lecture. His work lives on, as he always hoped it would, in the publications of his students. The qualities that endeared him to us live on in our warm memories of our association with him.

William H. McClain

BERNARD G. PETER (1909 -1989)

Bernard G. Peter was a native of Omaha, Nebraska. He graduated from Creighton Preparatory School and, in 1932, from the Creighton University Law School. He moved to Baltimore upon graduation from law school to manage the publication of the *Baltimore Correspondent* and an associated printing business.

In 1939, Bernard was honored by being appointed Assistant State's Attorney for Baltimore City. He continued in that capacity until 1947, when he resigned to take a more active role in the family publishing business and engage in the private practice of law. During the late 1940's, he was a partner in an early FM radio station, WMCP-FM, which began broadcasting on March 17,1948.

Upon the resignation of his brother Theodore in November 1967, Bernard proceeded with the liquidation of the printing corporation which had been founded by his father.

He also assumed the management of the *Correspondent*, although the paper itself was printed in Omaha from 1967 to 1971, at which time the *Correspondent* was sold to the New York *Staatszeitung*, which continued to print it until December 28,1975, when the two papers were merged into one. In 1968, Bernard retired from the news business.

Bernard G. Peter was a member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Judges, and a member for 55 years of the Baltimore City Bar Association. He also belonged to the Maryland State Bar Association, the District of Columbia Bar Association and the American Bar Association. On June 21, 1971, he was appointed a Master in Chancery, Juvenile Court for Baltimore City. He retired under the Judiciary Mandatory Retirement Laws on August 28,1979, his 70th birthday.

Randall Donaldson

FREDERICK J. SINGLEY, JR. (1913-1988)

Frederick J. Singley, Jr. died on April 24, 1988, at the age of 75. Judge Singley served as a member of the Court of Appeals of Maryland from October 25, 1967, through October 31, 1977, the last several years as Senior Judge. He was author of 333 reported opinions of the Court of Appeals as well as five opinions while assigned to the Court of Special Appeals.

A1930 graduate of Baltimore City College, Frederick Singley, Jr. matriculated at The Johns Hopkins University where he majored in history. Due to his completion of City's renowned Advanced Academic Course, Hopkins conferred its degree upon him three years later. Young Mr. Singley continued on to the University of Maryland School of Law, where he was admitted to the Order of the Coif, a distinction which neatly complemented the Phi Beta Kappa key he had earned at Hopkins. Upon graduation from law school, he passed the bar examination and was admitted to practice by the Court of Appeals of Maryland, all in 1936.

That same year he began work as an asso-

date lawyer with a firm which, by the close of 1936, was known as Hinkley, Burger & Singley, later to become Hinkley & Singley. The firm traced its unbroken roots back to 1817, and the "Singley" in Hinkley & Singley was Frederick J. Singley, Sr., who admonished his son that a lawyer should always wear a hat, never have a drink before lunch, and never be seen at a racetrack. The junior Singley was to spend his entire career as a practitioner with that office until his appointment to the Court of Appeals.

He did take the time, however, to receive his commission from the United States Navy in 1939, from which he retired six years later with the rank of Commander. He also displayed his characteristic good sense by marrying Margaret G. Kaestner in 1942. Ever the scholar, Judge Singley was a long-standing member of different law clubs and a lifetime member of the American Law Institute, whose annual meetings he looked forward to as sessions of a super law school. His diverse interests encompassed art, music, travel and landscaping.

In his private life, as in his professional and public life, Judge Singley gave freely and selflessly without expectation of return and most often with complete anonymity. His was indeed a remarkable life and he is remembered by his family and friends with loving devotion and abiding affection.

Glenn E. Bushel, Esq.

(excerpted with permission from *Memorial Minute*, presented before the Court of Appeals of Maryland, Thursday, October 20, 1988)

GEORGE J. WITTSTADT, JR. (1906-1990)

Col. George J. Wittstadt, Jr., 83, of Cambridge died on February 21, 1990, in the Harrison House of the Delm'ar Nursing Home.

Born in Baltimore on October 18, 1906, George Wittstadt was a son of the late George John Wittstadt, Sr. and Hannah Bozman Wittstadt. Raised and educated in Baltimore, Mr. Wittstadt moved to Cambridge where he established Wittstadt and Son Inc. Auctions in 1946. He married Thelma Estelle Warfield on December 1, 1940.

Mr. Wittstadt was a member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church of Cambridge, Masonic Lodge 66 AF & AM, Chesapeake Forest 115 Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Hayward Chapter 29, Zabud Council 9, Cambridge Commandery 14 Knights Templar, York Rite and 32nd degree Scottish Rite, AAONMS Boumi Temple of Baltimore, the Eastern Shore Shrine Club, the Eastern Shore Scottish Rite, the Cambridge Moose Lodge 1211, A. Lee Poole Legion of the Moose, American Legion Post 91 of Cambridge, a life member of the Cambridge VFW Post 7460, a life member of the DeMolay, a life member of the National Auctioneers Association and a member of the Rescue Fire Company.

Mr. Wittstadt is survived by a son, Thelman G. Wittstadt of Cambridge, his sister, Helen Schultze, a brother, Glenn L. Wittstadt, both of Baltimore, a granddaughter and numerous nieces and nephews.

Randall Donaldson