

tenance: There was something in the Air of his Face that manifested the true Greatness of his Mind. . . . His Aspect is sweetened with Humanity and Benevolence, and at the same Time emboldened with Resolution, equally free from a diffident Bashfulness and an unbecoming Assurance. The Consciousness of his own innate Worth and unshaken Integrity renders him calm and undaunted in the Presence of the most Great and Powerful, and upon the most extraordinary Occasions. . . . He always speaks the Thing he means, which he is never afraid or ashamed to do, because he knows he always means well; and therefore is never obliged to blush and feel the Confusion of finding himself detected in the Meanness of a Falshood." The language of DuBois that Storing once adapted to characterize some noteworthy black political thinkers fits him no less: he was a teacher of all who aspire to wed with Truth and dwell above the Veil.

Ralph Lerner
The College
The University of Chicago

H. H. Wilson

H. Hubert Wilson, Professor of Politics at Princeton University until his retirement last Spring, died suddenly at his home this past August.

Professor Wilson was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1909. During his years at Springfield College he was an active athlete, and for several years after his graduation (in 1933) he coached several sports at preparatory schools in New England. He then enrolled at Clark University where he took a Master's degree in 1939. While at Clark two of his professors made a profound impression on him that changed his life. He remained fond of athletics, but he now became concerned with social issues. After a stint in the Washington wartime bureaucracy and three years as a naval officer, he enrolled in the political science department at the University of Wisconsin and got his doctorate there in 1947. That same year he came to Princeton where he taught the next 30 years, becoming Professor Emeritus in June of 1977.

Professor Wilson carved an extraordinary niche for himself—as teacher, scholar, critic, skeptic, and caring friend to hundreds of students, colleagues, and political activists. A man of integrity, he had scant tolerance for pretense, and he could be abrupt in dealing with anyone he suspected of hypocrisy. A person with deep concerns about inequality, arbitrary power, and injustice, he nevertheless was no ideologue. He wore no organizational collar—he was too independent and too suspicious of power to follow any party line. Indeed he was delighted when he won a substantial sum in an out-of-court settlement of his libel suit against a conservative columnist who alleged that Wilson was a Communist fellow traveler.

For many years Wilson taught two undergraduate courses that always drew large enroll-

ments. One of the courses, called "Political Power in the United States," was a penetrating critique of the use and abuse of governmental and corporate power. The other course, "The Politics of Civil Liberties," dealt with one of the passions of his life—the right to dissent. Inevitably anyone pursuing genuine freedom of expression will get into trouble because proposing civil liberties for unpopular people arouses animosity. Thus when he spoke up himself and brought controversial speakers to his courses, Wilson became a target for attacks. Among his antagonists was the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the redoubtable J. Edgar Hoover. Hoover did his best to punish Wilson for his temerity and used many of the tricks we recognize now as having the FBI trademark on them. Hoover never succeeded in getting Wilson banished from Princeton. Ironically, however, Wilson may have done more to the reputation of Hoover than the reverse. Wilson wrote an influential article about the FBI in 1970, asking for serious analysis of the FBI's role. As an outgrowth of that article, a two-day scholarly conference on the agency was held in Princeton in 1971. From that Conference came a book that foretold what later became public knowledge about the activities of the Bureau. In fact instead of being an exaggerated picture of the FBI, as many claimed, subsequent evidence showed the conference's version of the role of the Bureau was an understatement.

Quite apart from J. Edgar Hoover, however, Wilson took positions that were bound to lead to his estrangement from prevailing opinion. He was an outspoken critic of all the manifestations of McCarthyism, and he became a founder of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee whose original purpose was the defense of the victims of McCarthyism. He also said blunt things about racism *before* that cause won an intermittent popularity. He researched the role of the military-corporate complex, and he opposed the Vietnam War in his characteristic way—by digging up and presenting evidence of what was going on. To him, these problems were paramount, and although he was assiduous in his research and never made charges he could not back up with evidence, he was nonetheless unconventional in his research and writing.

Wilson wrote two books, collaborated on two others and wrote a large number of articles, among them many signed editorials in *The Nation*. His books reflected his concern with the uses of political authority. His *Congress: Corruption and Compromise*, published in 1950 was, like so many things he did, decades ahead of others in identifying a problem. He saw and illustrated nearly 30 years ago things that only in the last few years have become increasingly obvious about the corruption in Congress. His second major study was titled *Pressure Group: The Campaign for Commercial Television in Britain*. Characteristically he revealed more than the secrecy-mad British politicians could tolerate, and he was accordingly denounced in the House of Lords. None of his critics denied the truth of what Wilson wrote; rather they

were annoyed because Wilson published facts they wanted kept secret.

His steadfast refusal to do more or less conventional research increasingly set him apart from his profession. And the more he was ostracized the more he turned his attention to his own concerns and to those of his students. Unquestionably he was injured by the rejection and he did not share equally the rewards and recognition that came to other scholars and teachers. But his life had been full of personal tragedies and he covered the scars he got from ostracism as he did the wounds he got at fortune's hands.

Wilson tended to be self-deprecating about his teaching, often referring to himself as "just a school marm." And in fact he was not a rousing lecturer; his approach was low-key. He was at his best in dealing with individual students, and he made lasting impressions on a legion of them. He continued to teach them after they left Princeton in the course of a vast correspondence he carried on with numerous former students. One of those students, now a college president, has said that Wilson had "made us think. . . . He taught us by example. His stubborn intellectual integrity, his insistence on discussing essential and critical issues, his moral courage, his steadfast and unwavering adherence to some basic (even conservative) values of human rights and civil liberties had an impact on his students and friends, at Princeton and elsewhere, that is profound and enduring."

Duane Lockard
Princeton University

Robert Renbert Wilson

Robert Renbert Wilson, James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of Political Science, died on April 29, 1975, at the age of 76. He was born in Hillsboro, Texas in 1898. He received his undergraduate degree from Austin College, which later awarded him an honorary degree, an M.A. degree from Princeton University and, in 1927, the Ph.D. degree from Harvard University. He felt that each of these institutions had made significant contributions to his academic development. Edward S. Corwin at Princeton and George Grafton Wilson at Harvard had a particularly deep influence on his subsequent career.

Robert Wilson came to the newly founded Duke University in 1925 and became the first chairman of the Department of Political Science when it was separated from the Department of Economics in 1934. He served from 1934 to 1948 as Chairman of the department and subsequently for some years as the Director of Graduate Studies in Political Science. In 1948 he also began teaching in the Duke University Law School. During this long time span, he functioned in many administrative and advisory capacities in the University. He was a visiting professor in a number of leading American universities, including Texas, Stanford and North Carolina. In 1951-52, he was a lecturer at the University of Istanbul Law School in

Turkey, an experience which he always fondly recalled.

Beginning in 1931-32, Professor Wilson served in a number of capacities in the U.S. Department of State. He later became a full-time advisor on commercial treaties in 1944-46, and a consultant from 1946-1953. During these years he was a member of a number of U.S. delegations to negotiate commercial treaties. He was, as one competent observer recalled, "the architect of the precedent-making China treaty" of 1946. He was a meticulous worker and his role as a negotiator and treaty drafter bore the imprint of these qualities.

Robert Wilson took an active interest from the beginning in the affairs of the Southern Political Science Association and the American Political Science Association and attended the various meetings with regularity. In 1940, not long after it had been organized, he was elected President of the Southern Political Science Association. In 1938-41, he was selected as a member of the Executive Council of the American Political Science Association. He was frequently requested to read and approve articles, submitted for publication by the *Journal of Politics* and the *American Political Science Review*, on which he served as a member of the Editorial Board in 1943-45. His appraisals always served to provide authors of rejected articles, particularly young authors, with detailed criticisms and suggestions which could only be viewed as constructive. But Robert Wilson's primary professional loyalties were to the associations and publications in his special field of international law. He was a member of the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law for terms in 1929-32 and 1936-39 and of the Board of Editors of the *American Journal of International Law* for many years after 1937. In this capacity, he joined in that year such scholars as Edwin M. Borchard, Clyde Eagleton, Charles G. Fenwick, Charles Cheyney Hyde and Quincy Wright. In 1954-55 he was elected Vice President and in 1957-58 President of the American Society of International Law. His professional colleagues in the international law field always viewed him with admiration and respect.

Professor Wilson's numerous writings evidence the variety of his interests during the period prior to World War II; during the World War II years, topics dealing with the law of war received primary attention. During the two decades after the war, he paid special attention to the law of commercial treaties (*International Law in Treaties* in 1949, *The United States Commercial Treaties and International Law* in 1960), "a new branch of international law" to which Professor Wilson's analysis "made an indispensable contribution" according to Professor Wolfgang Friedmann. In the late 1950s, Professor Wilson concentrated his research on legal problems involving the Commonwealth of Nations and its individual members. Under his editorship and the auspices of the Committee of the Center for Commonwealth Studies, of which he served as Chairman from 1960 to