1952

Foreword and Appreciation

Vanneman, Harry W.

http://hdl.handle.net/1811/67699

Downloaded from the Knowledge Bank, The Ohio State University's institutional repository
Foreword and Appreciation

This issue of The Journal is respectfully dedicated to the memory of Professor William Horace Rose, who died on May 24, 1951. This untimely death ended a distinguished career of an able, inspiring and beloved teacher, a legal scholar and lawyer, a respected member of the University community and a loyal citizen at the very peak of his powers and achievement.

He was born at Johnstown, Pennsylvania in 1892. After a college preparatory course at Phillips Exeter Academy he attended the University of Virginia and Ohio State University. From the latter university he received the degrees of LL.B. in 1924 and A.M. in 1929. In the summer of 1929 he did graduate work at Columbia University Law School and in 1931, under a Sterling Research Fellowship at Yale Law School, he received the S.J.D. degree. He was admitted to the practice of law in Ohio in 1924 and in the Federal Court Southern district of Ohio in 1943. He practiced with the firm of Eagleson and Laylin of Columbus in 1924 and 1925. In 1926 he joined the faculty of the College of Law of Ohio State University as an assistant professor. He was promoted to an associate professorship in 1933 and to a professorship in 1937 in which capacity he was serving at the time of his death.

Although Professor Rose had taught several subjects of law his chief interest was in conflict of laws, legal philosophy and jurisprudence. He edited a book, Readings on Legal Method, in 1949 which he used in connection with his course in personal property to introduce the first-year students to legal philosophy. Articles from his pen appeared in Pennsylvania, Minnesota and Michigan Law Reviews and in the Ohio State Law Journal.

Professor Rose had done considerable work in preparation of a book in jurisprudence. Examination of this manuscript disclosed the fortunate fact that the first chapter was complete and it is being published in this issue in the form in which he left it as the first article in a symposium on jurisprudence. It is an historical expository objective development of the theory of Natural Law and affords a setting for the other article in the symposium both critical and favorable to that theory.

It is, however, his work as a teacher for which Professor Rose will be best remembered. The hundreds of students who were privileged to sit in his classes will not forget the thoroughness of his preparation, the penetrating analysis of his active and alert mind, his gentle kindliness, gentlemanly courteousness and his deep interest in them and their problems. They were always welcome to call on him in his office and he gave them generously of his time.

As a colleague on the faculty he left little to be desired. The same
fine qualities which made him a successful teacher were abundantly manifest in his relations with his closest associates on the faculty. He was helpful, cooperative, resourceful and always willing to do his full share of the work of the College. There was in him a fine reserve and urgent cautiousness that made his opinion very frequently the more valuable. He held a prominent place in University affairs.

Twice Mr. Rose responded to his country's need in time of war. In the First World War he served in the field artillery. When the Second World War broke he offered his services in the area of his trained capacity, first as referee in the National Labor Board in 1942 and from 1943 to 1945 as attorney in the office of the Solicitor General, Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Professor Rose believed deeply in the importance and responsibility of the individual and in the democratic process. Freedom is predicated upon these concepts. All of his thinking and teaching manifested great intellectual honesty, independence and forthrightness. The example of his life will long influence his students, his colleagues and his friends who respected and loved him.

Harry W. Vanneman