

and his eagerness to share his learning with others will not be forgotten.

On February 7, 1969, Dr. Emery E. Olson, Founder and Dean Emeritus of the School of Public Administration memorialized Professor Piffner at the Annual Meeting of the California chapters of the American Society for Public Administration. Dean Olson had invited Piffner to Southern California in 1929 and their careers had been interwoven for almost forty years. Olson and Piffner were, in fact, the faculty of the School of Public Administration during its earliest years.

David Mars
University of Southern California

ROBERT EUGENE CUSHMAN, 80 one of the nation's leading authorities on constitutional law, died in Fairfax Hospital, Fairfax, Virginia, on June 10, 1969 after a brief illness.

He was born in Akron, Ohio, the son of Sylvanus D. and Estelle Hodgman Cushman. He was graduated from Oberlin College in 1911 and received his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1917 and a Litt.D. from Oberlin in 1946.

He was a professor of Government at Cornell University from 1922 to 1957. He held the chair of Goldwin Smith professor from 1928, was head of the department for eighteen years, and was Director of Cornell Research and Civil Liberties from 1943 to 1957. He was well known as the author of *Leading Constitutional Decisions*, a volume of edited Supreme Court cases first published in 1925; *The Independent Regulatory Commissions* in 1941, and *Civil Liberties in the United States* in 1956. He was a member of the staff of the President's Commission on Administrative Management in 1936.

He was a Trustee of Cornell University, Oberlin College and Wells College, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was a Member of the American Philosophical Society and the American Political Science Association of which he was president in 1943. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, and Phi Delta Phi.

In 1958 he became Editor-in-Chief of the *Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights*, an eighteen-volume compilation of historical material published under the auspices of the National Historical Publications Commission of the National Archives. At the time of his death the first volume, containing Dr. Cushman's lengthy headnote and the official records of Delaware and Pennsylvania, had been readied for publication.

He is survived by his wife, Clarissa Fairchild Cushman, author; two sons, Robert F. Cushman, Professor of Government at New York University, and John F. Cushman, Executive Director of the Administrative Conference of the United States; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held in Ithaca, New York in the autumn.

Robert F. Cushman
New York University

John F. Cushman
Administrative Conference of the U.S.

JOHN MERRIMAN GAUS died suddenly of heart failure at his home in Prospect, N.Y., Wednesday, May 28, 1969. He was seventy-four and had been in good health until his collapse.

Professor Gaus retired in 1961 as Professor of Government at Harvard, where he had gone in 1947. Before going to Harvard he had been a most influential member of the faculty in political science at the University of Wisconsin for twenty years.

The distinctions he earned were many and impressive, among others: President of the American Political Science Association, 1945; President of the American Society for Public Administration, 1951; honorary degrees from Columbia University, Amherst College, and St. Lawrence University. To all of us who knew him as teacher, colleague, friend, there are no ways to express adequately the honorific awards that Professor Gaus deserved.

He was one of the first of the modern political scientists who combine practice in government with teaching and research. While a graduate student at Harvard he was also a fellow of South End House and worked in this early example of what grew into professional social work. During World War I he was a member of the staff of the War Industries Board headed by Bernard Baruch. During the early years of the Depression he was executive secretary of the Wisconsin Executive Council which the late Governor Philip LaFollette, a close friend, had established for the emergencies that faced state and local governments. Professor Gaus was also a member of the Wisconsin Planning Board and the Wisconsin Committee on Land use. These agencies together set the pattern for modern public and private conservation in Wisconsin, and to

some extent in the nation. Tax delinquent lands became state and county parks. The paper industry began the systematic farming of forests, including the planting of new trees, and repairs began on the damage from the heedless and wasteful cutting over of Wisconsin's forests.

At other times he was a consultant to the National Resources Planning Board, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the National Housing Administration, and what became the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. He was in demand until the day of his death because of his varied experience and his wisdom that came from keen critical observation blended with understanding. He was original in what he pulled out of any observation, whether it was in planning, conservation, urbanism, American political theory, theory of organization, or political socialization, to use a modern term for a subject on which Professor Gaus wrote a book in 1929, *Great Britain: A Study of Civic Loyalty*. His *Reflections on Public Administration*, the first of "The Alabama Lectures" delivered in 1945 and published in 1947, opens with a chapter on "The Ecology of Government" and closes with a chapter on "A Theory of the Processes of Government: Diagnosis, Policy, and Revision."

A course, or conversation, with John Gaus was a unique affair. He might take a mundane subject, say public personnel, and never once touch any of the platitudes taken for granted by other men. His listener might be in the King's bedchamber at one moment, in the monastic orders the next, in Henry Adams' America, which fascinated Professor Gaus as did the man himself, in the inner city and the suburbs, and finally in the future of world technology. All the way the subject would have been public personnel, but the approach and handling would have been pure Gaus.

The more versatile and more creative students loved it. They flocked to his classes and seminars. Many of them were influenced to become scholars and teachers. Many of them went into public office. "He was," as one of his former students put it, "a man of the world who was also a man of great learning. His learning came out not in dry one, two, three point lectures but in a great whirl of facts that made learning exciting. He made government and the teaching of government attractive simply by the model he offered of himself at work. He is why I became a political scientist."

Professor Gaus was born in Stittville, a rural village in upstate New York, September 3,

1894. He received a B.A. from Amherst College in 1915 and the Ph.D. from Harvard in 1924. He began teaching as an instructor at Amherst College in 1920 and by 1922 had been promoted to Associate Professor. In 1923 he went to the University of Minnesota as an Assistant Professor. By 1926 he was a Professor. From 1927 until 1947 he was a Professor at the University of Wisconsin. During the Wisconsin years Harvard had made several appeals for him to join its faculty. Each time he said he preferred the atmosphere and the purpose of the state university. Then after twenty years he told his friends that he "needed to plough new ground," and he accepted a standing invitation from Harvard.

When he retired in 1961, he moved to Prospect, N.Y., population 348, to live in a house that his parents had owned. It was the same kind of environment that he had known as a child in Stittville. There he remained happily until his death. He got as much interest from serving as a member of the village water board as he had from any other experience. There Mrs. Gaus will continue to live. And for those who knew them, Jane Gaus was such an essential part of John Gaus that the two were never thought of separately.

Neither of the Gauses was idle in retirement. They remodelled their house. Stacks of books, as many and better magazines than a small town library would have, were all over the house and they read some of all of them. They travelled when they felt like it, and in the latter years they drove to Tucson for the winters, each time choosing a different route so that they could see a new part of the country. Professor Gaus, always a student of regionalism (he had been chairman of the Technical Committee on Regional Planning of the National Resources Committee and had been one of the authors of *Regional Factors in National Planning* published in 1935), absorbed environment from an automobile trip the way other men became authorities on routes and motels. He found, to him, a brand new and fascinating region in the Southwestern desert.

In a sense John Gaus in all of his life was a combination of the best of rural America and the Ivy League. His style, his manner, his personality were urbane, assured, individualistic, and interesting, hence the best of Ivy League. His hardheaded, pragmatic approach to the study of government was the best rural America. So was his sense of the importance of soil and terrain to the development of society. One of life's most impressive rides was to have John Gaus as driver and guide, in a Mercedes Benz at maximum feasible speed,

through the backroads of upstate New York. He knew books of local history—he talked of Baron Steuben as though he knew him—and he took his guests to the tops of hills to show the meaning of the Mohawk Valley. From one hill he could point to the west and show where the terrain flattened and the Middle West began.

His acute perception of facts over theories was rural America. He saw in the 1930's what the American city of the 1960's would be. His biggest piece of published research (with Leon Wolcott) was *Public Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture* (1940).

But his great concern for teaching, for the educated person, was from Amherst and Harvard. All his life he was involved with innovation in education. He was a member of the faculty of the experimental college headed by Alexander Meiklejohn at Amherst and later in Wisconsin. He was the leader in getting a major in American Institutions established at Wisconsin and he taught in the American Institutions program at Harvard as well as in the Department of Government. He was for several years a trustee of Bennington College,

one of the most successful "experimental colleges." He contributed "Practical Experience: A Memoir" to *Teaching Political Science* (1965).

Professor Gaus was a new breed of political scientist. He had grown up when the subject stressed law and history. He saw the process of government with modern eyes. One of his Wisconsin colleagues said of him in 1963, "Professor Gaus is to political science what Frederick Jackson Turner was to history. He took the subject out of the law books and put it into life, among the people and in the communities in which they live. He said government is not just statutes and constitutions but people dealing with other people." He was one of the greats of our profession, and he cannot be replaced. All who ever knew him will remember him and be sad at his leaving.

Leon D. Epstein
Henry C. Hart
James McCamy
Llewellyn Pfankuchen
William H. Young

University of Wisconsin