

IN MEMORIAM PROFESSOR H.F. VAN PANHUYS

On 12 April 1976, *Jonkheer* Haro Frederik van Panhuys, Professor of International Law in the University of Leyden, passed away. Ill for some years already, he died suddenly and peacefully.

Professor Van Panhuys was born at The Hague on 22 July 1916. He studied theology at Leyden University from 1935 to 1937, then, having changed the main field of his interest, read law, and in 1941 earned his degree of master of laws. His doctor's degree in law he obtained *cum laude* in 1959 with a dissertation on *The Rôle of Nationality in International Law*.

Before succeeding in 1959 to the chair of international law left by Van Asbeck, Professor Van Panhuys was a Deputy Registrar at the Arnhem Court of First Instance (1942-1945) and a staff member of the Netherlands Foreign Ministry (1945-1959) where, in 1950, he was promoted to the rank of Deputy Legal Adviser. In the latter capacity, he attended the usual number of international conferences, *inter alia*, the Conference on the Law of the Sea held in Geneva in 1958. In the course of his tenure of office at Leyden, Professor Van Panhuys was appointed a member of the International Law Consultative Committee of the Netherlands Foreign Ministry, presided over that Ministry's *ad hoc* Committee on Disarmament and Security, lectured at the Hague Institute of Social Studies, at the War College, and at the Hague Academy of International Law, held a number of appointments on the boards of scientific institutions, such as the Asser-Institute, and wrote extensively.

In 1967, Professor Van Panhuys was elected a *Membre associé* of the *Institut de Droit International*.

When in 1959 Professor Van Panhuys came to Leyden University, he inherited a rich tradition to which he added his own experience both in national and in international law. His predecessors on the chair were Van Eysinga, Telders, and Van Asbeck, all of them men of great distinction. The former, following in the footsteps of Van Vollenhoven, became a first rate authority on Grotius. Telders, of a very differing temper, deeply conscious as a student of Hegel of the link between international law and the phenomenon of history, left an important work of legal thought unfinished when, in 1945, he died in a German concentration camp. Van Asbeck, with a colonial background in constitutional law and a record on the League of Nations' Mandates Commission, again differed from his predecessors in his emphasis on human rights. To these masters, Professor Van Panhuys proved to be a most worthy successor.

There is no doubt in this writer's mind that, though having studied with Telders, Professor Van Panhuys rather felt at home with Van Eysinga and Van Asbeck. Having young lost his father, he as a student was very much guided by that exquisitely courteous and paternal figure Van Eysinga was. He always recognized his debt to him and, certainly, owed to him his respect for Van Vollenhoven. In Professor Van Panhuys' time, a Van Vollenhoven Foundation

was established at Leyden. He was elected its first President. No outspoken theoretician of international law himself, he nonetheless was deeply influenced by Van Vollenhovens's conception of international law and international relations. Especially, his last work, *Het Recht in de Wereldgemeenschap* (Law in the World Community), published in 1974, testifies to his belief in the paramount significance to be attributed to the institutional aspect of law. Another strain in Professor Van Panhuys' thought may readily be linked to Van Asbeck's noble personality. Van Asbeck acted as *promotor* when, in 1959, Professor Van Panhuys received his doctoral degree. Van Asbeck may, in part, be responsible for the latter's treatment of the subject of his doctoral thesis and for his interest in subjects like extradition.

The Leyden Law Faculty suffered a grievous loss through Professor Van Panhuys' death at an age when, speaking in human terms, so much still was to be expected from him. But the loss is a serious one also to his friends who were many, and some of whom, like the present writer, felt privileged to know him for well over forty years. It brings an end to countless discussions, spirited, friendly, gay, on the one subject that interested him most: international law; an end to so much aid to, and stimulation of, colleagues and students alike.

Greatest of all is the loss to Professor Van Panhuys' family, and it is to his wife and daughters that, on behalf of the Board of Editors, the assurance is extended of the place which in the science of international law, and in the hearts of all who knew him, he will continue to take.

M. Bos