

JEROME N. FRANK

EUGENE V. ROSTOW†

WE have come together today to mourn a friend; to praise one who greatly served; and to pay our meed of tribute to a man of goodness, a man without malice—to one who understood, appreciated, and indeed loved, the human kind.

Jerome Frank's person and his work were of a secure and harmonious unity. He had brains, insight and integrity, in a measure which bespeaks the occasionally bountiful generosity of the Lord. Beyond these qualities, which he shared with few others of his generation, he was unique in the warmth of his spirit. He was an optimist and an enthusiast. Knowing sin, he believed in virtue. He found the good in all men, and cheered it with conviction. No one of us will ever forget the sincerity of his faith that we all possessed at least a peppercorn of man's transitory potential for the divine.

His belief in the good was not specifically religious in form. But few lived more serenely in the way of the Psalmist, who wrote:

“Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.

Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart—

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea,

Thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be

The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth.

The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming. . . .”

Jerome Frank rejoiced in his life, in his family, in his work, in his friends and his causes. He wasted no strength in hatred, although he fought

†Dean and Professor of Law, Yale Law School. These comments were given by way of introduction at a memorial service for Judge Frank on April 12, 1957, at the Yale Law School.

hard for what he thought decent and right. He gave himself cheerfully to the tasks that fell to his hand, with a fullness of heart that bespoke his own inner peace.

Today we give thanks particularly for one aspect of his life—his service to this school, and to the law we study—to his writing about law, to his teaching, to his creative help as our companion in this abiding fellowship.