

A. Whitney Griswold 1906-1963

The relation of a modern Yale President to one of the University's constituent schools can hardly be what it was in the bucolic times of Plancus. But President Griswold's tie to the Law School was warm and active nonetheless. When he became President, he had to give up his lively, pioneering Law School seminar on the Public Control of Agriculture. Inevitably, the period of his frequent leisurely visits to the Law School ended as well. He had been wont for years to linger in our corridors, and to enjoy gossipy, argumentative, probing and enthusiastic lunches with members of the faculty. He remained on terms of friendship with many members of the Faculty, new and old, and with the Faculty as a whole. His interest in law and in the Law School continued to be intense—indeed, it became more intense than ever, for several of the great problems of his Presidency were legal or nearly legal in character. And by some mysterious process of institutional chemistry, the strength of his feeling for the School was somehow sensed not only by the Faculty but by the students as well.

Many aspects of the law interested President Griswold. But his basic interest in law was the basic tenet of his philosophy of education—a Jeffersonian zeal for the freedom of civilized and cultivated men—and men who knew their duties, too. He cared about the law which assures freedom because he cared about freedom—cared about it passionately, as the good from which all other goods spring. Thus he dealt with the Law School solicitously, and followed its affairs with zest.

Whitney Griswold was a creative President of Yale, and a man of heart and feeling—a joyous friend, a powerful force for good in all our lives. The echo of his being will remain in our memory as strongly as his deeds.

EUGENE V. ROSTOW



THIS ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF
A. WHITNEY GRISWOLD
President of Yale University
1950-1963