WHO WAS MYRON TAYLOR?
And, Who Was Charles Evan Hughes?

By HOWARD JERCHIMOWITZ

Cornell law students study and faculty teach within the confines of Myron Taylor Hall. Law students reside in Charles Evan Hughes Hall. Yet, few people know who these Cornell giants were and the history behind the buildings.

Professor Emeritus W. David Curtius spent an afternoon discussing with The Tower these two men and their importance to the law school.

Myron C. Taylor

Taylor once walked the halls of Cornell Law School and graduated in 1894. Students now walk the hall named after him and funded by this alumni.

On Oct. 15, 1952, the dedication of Myron Taylor Hall took place in its Main Court Room. A buffet luncheon in the Reading Room followed the dedication. (Yes, people ate food in the Reading Room)

Taylor and his wife Anabel Taylor presented the keys to the hall to Cornell President Livingstone Farrand. Taylor had a prominent career, but he never forgot his alma mater. Taylor had a private practice in New York. Due to the recruiting efforts of J. B. Morgan, Taylor served as Chairman of the Board and President of the United States Bond Corporation. He also served as editor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman and as their personal representative to the Vatican.

At the dedication, Taylor ushered in a new era for Cornell Law School.

For me to be present at the dedication of the new home of the Cornell Law School...It is a far cry from the time when I met a group of students in the oldest buildings on the campus and when a little later we first enjoyed the advantages of Roundtop Hall to this day when Myron Taylor Hall opens its doors...I have no doubt that the new home of the School will be a palace house for the generation and distribution of the most powerful influence and I send you my hearty congratulations upon this happy occasion.

Taylor gave Cornell the funds to build Myron Taylor Hall and Anabel Taylor Hall, the inter-dominational religious center named in honor of his wife. Taylor also provided the law school with funds for the Myron Taylor Lectures on Foreign Affairs, and funds for the Charles Evan Hughes residence center.

Among other donations, Taylor gave Pope Pius XII his residence in Florence, Italy for the establishment of the Graduate School of Law for American Women. He also donated his personal residence at Lyons, NY for the establishment of a community center. He gave a portion of his estate to the Episcopal Diocesan of New York for a diocesan center.

Taylor died on May 5, 1959 at his home in New York. He was 62 years old. President Harry S. Truman paid tribute to Taylor. "The Honorable Myron C. Taylor performed great services for both me and my predecessors in the White House as our special representative to the Vatican at a time.

Hughes.

In the fall of 1991, Hughes came to Cornell Law School from private practice in New York City. At 29 years old, Hughes was the youngest full professor at the institution. Hughes remained at Cornell until June 1989, and then stayed on as an occasional lecturer from 1989 to 1993.

Not everyone understood Hughes move from private practice to a teaching position. His father-in-law, Walter S. Carter, wrote to Hughes on Dec. 21, 1982, stating, "I felt, when you spoke of going to Cornell, that you were making a very great mistake, and that once has only served to strengthen that conviction." (Quoted in M. Pettit, CHARLES EVAN HUGHES 101 (1951)).

However, Hughes looked forward to his time at Cornell. "While my association with the School was for a brief period, and long, the memory of it is very vivid and I count that experience as one of the happiest of my life," he reminisced.

Following his departure from Cornell, Hughes resumed his private practice in New York. He then followed a career in public service including: Governor of New York, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, President candidate; Secretary of State, Judge of the Permanent Court of International Justice and Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

Taylor dedicated the residence center to his favorite professor. However, Taylor never had the opportunity to see the completion of the building. When Taylor died, the construction of the building was still in the architectural planning stage.

Hughes Hall opened in the fall of 1963. Cornell held the dedication ceremonies on Dec. 4, 1964. Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren spoke to deliver the principal speech. However, due to weather problems, Warren did not attend the ceremony and transcribed his address by telephone.

In his address, Chief Justice Warren said, "Charles Evans Hughes was a man of many parts and of manifold accomplishments. When I think of the number of important offices in which he served his country, his State, and the community in which he lived, competition is compelled with the full and versatile King of men of his standing. Farrand added, "(Hughes) rich career has been likened to that of John Jay, who was our first Chief Justice. Like Jay, it has been noted, Hughes occupied an outstanding variety of both legal and political positions."

The Chief Justice was not at a loss for words for Hughes Hall itself. He said: "I am honored to participate in the dedication of this splendid new building of the Cornell Law School. Its spacious accommodations for residence as well as dining will add appropriately to the already outstanding facilities of this Institution." He added: "And, parenthetically, I do not underestimate the educational importance of dining. At the Law School, England's time-honored legal training bodies, the traditions and standards of common law, which occur in the dinner table have over a centuries been a very significant part of a young barrister's education." (I wonder what Chief Justice Warren would think of Hughes Hall lunch conversations nowadays)

Curtius is working on a book about Myron Taylor. "I came on the law faculty in 1947, and have been professor emeritus since 1986. But, I have been involved in the life of the

Please see Taylor, page 6

Community Photographer/ERIC HAESECH

Community Photographer/ERIC HAESECH

The Tower December 5, 1996 3

COMMUNITY POLICE

The Power Of Experience

Do Source.
Suit

Continued from page 1

far as the $20,000 award, Kochan explained that he "stipulated in the beginning of the suit that any monetary award from litigation or settlement would go to pay (CIR's) expenses." None of the plaintiffs kept any money.

CIR plans to follow-up with the parties who have chosen not to settle the lawsuit.

The Mysterious Flex

An article from the Delaware Legal Journal appeared in student and faculty pendaflexes. At the time, some students claimed the Plaintiffs stuffed the flexes with the articles to "glut their victory."

Kochan said the immediate reaction by some was that it was self-promotional.

Both Kochan and Jewell clarified that the did not place the articles in any mailboxes or pendaflexes. Both stated that they were "not upset about the disclosure."

Jewell said he spoke to the people who placed the articles in the pendaflexes. Even though they wanted to inform Cornell Law members about the lawsuit, Jewell said he disagreed with their method. "One has to be accountable for putting something in the spotlight," he said.

Student Reaction

Jefferson and Kochan received mixed reactions from students.

Kochan said some students agreed with the ends the Plaintiffs were seeking and were glad of the results.

Jewell said most responses have been positive even though they disagree with the lawsuit. "Overall, the responses have not been hate mail. People respected my perspective which opposes racism, and does not favor oppression."

Several people thought it was an inappropriate action. "To that extent, they were not pleased with my actions," Kochan said.

Kochan said he heard from another group of people. "Some thought the goal of ending all discrimination is an important goal, but continue to see affirmative action as an important goal to continue," he said.

Constitutional Programs?

Both plaintiffs stated that programs that provide opportunities for minorities can still exist under the auspices of private organizations.

"There is no problem with a private employer choosing to self impose a race-based criteria in its work force," Kochan said. "What sociological effect these programs would have on race relations is a separate question."

"I think the biggest distinction is public/private," Jewell said. "When you take government funding, you cannot make preferences."

As a member of the Delaware bar's diversity committee, Balotti stated the State and bar association are still looking into establishing some program.

"The original goal of the program is to introduce Delaware to potential minority members of our bar is a desirable end and I hope any program that Delaware has will have the effect of promoting Delaware as a place to practice law in a legal community," Balotti said.

Currently, there is no program in place for next summer.

Taylor

Continued from page 3

school ever since," Curtiss said. "Having studied law and taught law in Myron Taylor Hall and having students living in Hughes living center, I became interested in who (Myron Taylor) was and what he had done."


Alumni

Continued from page 5

Cable News Network (CNN). CNN President W. Thomas Johnson named Steven W. Korn '78 to this position on October 14, 1996. Korn previously served as general counsel for Turner Broadcasting System (TBS) and vice president for TBS as well.

He played a role in the Turner merger with Time Warner. He also assisted in the earlier Turner acquisitions of New Line Cinema, Castle Rock Entertainment and Hanna- Barbera Cartoons.

Korn joined Turner Broadcasting in 1983 as a deputy general counsel. He previously practiced law with the Atlanta law firm of Troutman, Sanders, Lockerman & Ashmore.

While at Cornell Law School, Korn served as chancellor of the Cornell Moot Court Board. In his new job at CNN, Korn will oversee the strategic development of new global networks and businesses to reinforce the CNN brand name.

The CNN News Group currently consists of CNN, Headline News, CNN International, CNNfn, CNN/Sports Illustrated, CNN Radio, CNN en espanol, CNN airport network, and CNN Interactive. The CNN News Group, the world's largest news service, provides service to more than 170 million households worldwide.

In Memoriam

The Tower acknowledges the recent passing of Judge Elbert Parr Tuttle '23, one of Cornell Law School's most distinguished graduates.

As a U.S. Court of Appeals Judge for the Fifth Circuit, he enforced the U.S. Supreme Court decision of Brown v. Board of Education in the southern states in the 1950s and 1960s. Therefore, Judge Tuttle played a large role in the battle to expand civil rights to black southerners.

Judge Tuttle ordered the University of Georgia to desegregate. Judge Tuttle also struck down barriers erected against African-Americans in employment, jury selection and voting. In 1996, the Atlanta Constitution referred to Judge Tuttle as "perhaps the most influential civil rights judge in Southern History." Eleventh Circuit Chief Judge Gerald B. Tjoflat stated that "he was one of the giants of the federal judiciary and I mean from the beginning of the Republic." President Carter, who awarded Judge Tuttle the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1980, said the judge was "a true judicial hero."

While at Cornell Law School, Tuttle served as Editor-in-Chief of the Cornell Law Quarterly in the early 1920s. After law school, he established a law firm known today as Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan, one of the most prestigious law firms in the nation with major offices in Atlanta and Washington D.C.

As a lawyer, he won a major U.S. Supreme Court case where the Court determined that no one should be prosecuted in federal court without the assistance of legal counsel. As a soldier, he fought both in World War I and World War II, receiving wounds in the head, neck, back, hand and leg from Japanese soldiers. When Judge Tuttle fought in World War II, he served as a 44-year old Lieutenant Colonel who turned down a desk job in order to command a field artillery battalion.

As a Republican, Judge Tuttle helped lead the national effort to elect General Dwight D. Eisenhower to the Presidency. President Eisenhower rewarded him for his efforts by appointing him to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals at age 57.

As a judge, he wrote over 1,400 opinions. He still sat on the Eleventh Circuit as a Senior Judge, until he died in June of 1996 at the age of 98.

- The information for this article was obtained by the author through his research on Lexis.