

THE LAFF SOCIETY

For the men and women engaged in Life After the Ford Foundation

SPRING 2003

NO. 33

The LAFFing Parade

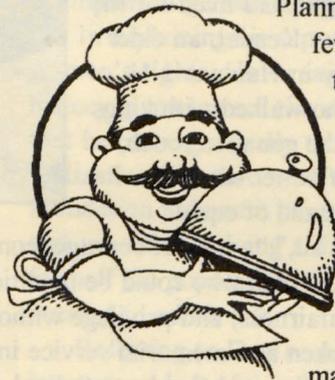
It runs in the family: **Davidson Gwatkin**, who worked overseas in the population field in the 1970s, has a daughter, Kathryn, who recently joined the Foundation. She is a program associate in the economic development unit, having graduated from the Woodrow Wilson School in June after working for three years in Bolivia for one of Latin America's leading microcredit institutions. As for her father, he's a health and poverty specialist with the World Bank's health group helping to assure that the "Bank's \$1-2 billion in health lending actually reaches the poor as it is supposed to do."

Ted Smith (Office of the President), executive director of the Henry P. Kendall Foundation in Boston, has shared with us his most recent annual report. It's a handsome brochure, with a drawing of a migrating bird on a soft blue cover and with full color art work on the inside pages. With \$80 million in assets, Kendall focuses on the challenges of securing the environment's physical, biological, and aesthetic wealth for future generations.

"Marine, coastal, mountain, forest, and fresh water systems lie at the heart of the program which seeks to protect and restore ecological integrity, emphasizing the stewardship of nature's extraordinary diversity," writes Smith.

Assessing foundation work in various areas, he assigns grades ranging from "promising," to "a slow start," to "vibrant and growing." The

Reunion Redux



Planning is under way for fourth LAFF Society gala. A few details remain, such as the date and time. But the time frame is in place—sometime next October. And the place is (undoubtedly) Manhattan. Lest this all appear to be vague, rest assured that the event will take place on a Friday evening, especially to accommodate those from outside New York.

Why the uncertainty? The site of previous reunions—the National Arts Club on Gramercy Park—has experienced management problems that make it impossible for the LAFF Society to obtain the special treatment that kept the cost within reason. But a couple of sites that would provide a festive setting are being explored, reports Patrick Corrigan, who is in charge of reunion planning. So mark your calendar tentatively for Friday evenings in October. More detailed information will be published in the next issue (cont. on p. 6)

more promising initiatives: Kendall's "steadfast commitment to the 2,000-mile Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative; support of "kitchen-table activists" across New England "fighting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;" and assigning MBA and public policy students to prepare business plans for nearly 50 national parks that address "worrisome funding deficits." (176 Federal St., Boston 02110 tsmith@kendall.org)

Linda Ocasio, formerly of the Foundation's communications office, is now managing editor of *Shelterforce* magazine, which is published by the National Housing Institute and is devoted to affordable housing and other community-building topics. Leaving Ford in 1989, she worked for newspapers in South Carolina and Michigan, returning to New York in 1993 where she was on the staff of the *New York Daily News* and *New York Newsday*. She next joined the executive

staff of Beverly Hall, the state appointed superintendent of the Newark Public Schools. She later freelanced for the *New York Times*, *City Limits*, *NJ Monthly Magazine*, and the *Ford Foundation Report*. (linda@nhi.org)

Roger Wilkins (National Affairs), professor of history at George Mason University, has been discussing on the tube and elsewhere his latest book, *Jefferson's Pillow: The Founding Fathers and the Dilemma of Black Patriotism*.

The book examines the lives and accomplishments of Jefferson, Madison, Washington, and Mason, all Virginians, who created a nation conceived in liberty despite the inconsistency of each of them owning slaves. Wilkins's reflections on the history of his own family "allow him to develop enormous sympathy for and insight into his subjects without losing balance or excusing the inexcusable," according to *Publishers Weekly*. A *New*

(cont. on p. 5)

The LAFF Society

c/o Mary Camper-Titsingh
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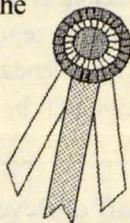
Editor, Robert Tolles

Graphic Designer, Ruth Neumann

Bresnan Honored

Jack Bresnan has received the Indonesian government's highest award given to a foreigner for his decade of work in that country as the Foundation's assistant representative and then representative during the 1960s and early '70s. The award, the Bintang Jasa Pratama, was presented by President Megawati Soekarnoputri in a ceremony at the presidential palace attended by Jack's wife, Barbara, the country's foreign and education ministers, Suzanne Siskel, the Foundation's representative, and others.

Bresnan is only one of a handful of recipients and only the third American, the others being George Kahin of Cornell and Clifford Geertz of Princeton. It recognizes him for outstanding teaching and research and, specifically, for helping to send Indonesian economists and other scholars for advanced training in the United States during a difficult period in Indonesia's history. An author who has written extensively on the country, Bresnan is currently an adjunct senior research scholar at Columbia's East Asian Institute.



In Memoriam

HAROLD HOWE II

"Doc" Howe, formally Harold Howe II, died on Nov. 29, exactly one year after the passing of his wife of 61 years, Priscilla Lamb Howe. The couple had lived for the last four years at Kendal, an elder care community in Hanover NH.

"A man who walked with kings but never lost the common touch," "a champion of better education for ordinary people and of equal

opportunity for all," "a man of courage, conviction, and calm under fire," "an inherently patient man who could be impatient with complacency, small-mindedness, unfairness, and privilege without obligation"—these were among the tributes spoken at a memorial service in early January in Cambridge MA arranged by the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where Doc spent his final years as a senior lecturer. Despite the previous day's snow storm, more than 100 people attended. The service was later repeated in Washington DC where Doc spent his most tumultuous years.

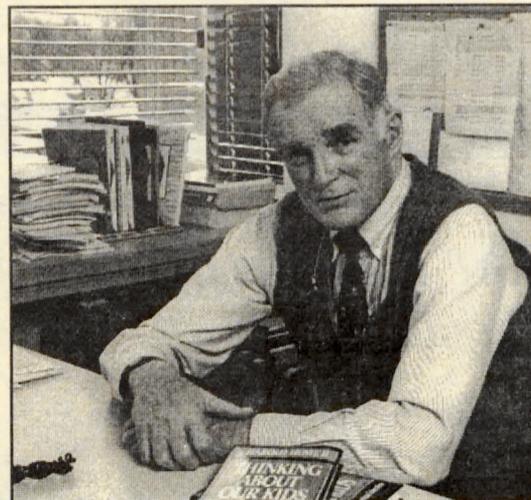
Howe arrived at Ford in 1968 after serving two years as U. S. Commissioner of Education where he had responsibility for implementing Title I, the centerpiece of the far-reaching Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. The act in effect made federal funds available to schools with large populations of poor children, but only if they did not practice discrimination. "In effect," Howe later told the *Boston Globe*, "we took on the job of desegregating southern schools so we could give them Title I money." It was a task sure to infuriate Southern congressmen unreconciled to the 1954 Supreme Court decision outlawing segregated schools.

Howe was recruited by President Johnson for the job after serving as education advisor to Governor (later Senator) Terry Sanford of North Carolina and as superintendent of schools in Scarsdale NY. He was soon accused by Southern congressmen of making Southern school desegregate faster than the law required. Some called him the "commissar of education" and introduced resolutions demanding his dismissal (a framed copy of one such missive hung in the bathroom of the Howe home.) Richard Nixon, campaigning for president in 1968, promised to fire him if elected. Howe saved him the trouble and joined **McGeorge Bundy**, an old friend from Yale, at the Ford Foundation. In the end, schools in the South did desegregate rather than lose the federal money.

Recalling those Washington years, Sam Halperin, a colleague in the Office of Education, described Howe as an inherently modest man "with very little in the way of ego or ambition—hard-working, steady under stress, a believer in the importance of public service.

"He gave a powerful voice to respecting and celebrating diversity," said Halperin. "He was an insistent reminder that poverty and ignorance diminished the body politic and made the nation a poorer and meaner place than our innate human potential would allow."

He disliked intensely policy makers' attempts to dictate from the



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top down both the content and the process of education. He also had great doubts about standards, testing, and the sanctions now embedded in the 'No Child Left Behind' initiative," the current panacea to improve the nation's schools.

"He was a passionate advocate for raising academic achievement, but once again he insisted that school change alone can't fix the kids if our society doesn't attend simultaneously to the conditions of America's poorest communities and most dysfunctional families."

Speaking of Howe's Ford years, **James Kelly**, a member of the public education staff during that era, described him as a "gentleman of the old school, moderate and progressive, born of distinguished lineage and raised in elite institutions, he championed better education for ordinary people and equal opportunity for all...His commitment to racial desegregation and social justice was rock solid and reflected generations of family commitment."

Howe's upbringing had a major influence on his thinking about race and equality. His father was a Presbyterian minister who for a time headed Hampton Institute, a black college in Virginia that was co-founded as a trade school for former slaves by Howe's grandfather, Samuel Chapman Armstrong, a Union general in the Civil War.

Kelly first met Howe when he was a young assistant professor at Teachers College, Columbia University, and Doc was commissioner of education. "From that first meeting I learned that our friend Doc Howe cared about people first and institutions second, a priority not evident in many leaders of his stature."

Kelly worked closely with Howe for 11 years at the Foundation where Doc "quickly showed his stuff" by

convincing the board to allocate \$100 million for the support of the nation's historically black colleges—"real money in those days." He also "strongly supported and defended a program at Ford to attack inequities in the financing of education and children's services and became a champion of gender equity."

In explaining his support for women's rights, Howe said in an oral history given toward the end of his life that he came gradually to the realization that "we were running a foundation to benefit the public interest and we weren't doing a damned thing for half the population. And we decided to admit it."

Referring to Doc's variety of interests and playful and inquisitive mind, Kelly recalled that one day he received a two and a half page letter from Howe poking fun at the overuse of acronyms by educational organizations and citing as a prime example the organization Kelly then headed—National Board of Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

He wrote about the faulty cultivation of lawns at Harvard and suggested that the world consider adopting a nine-day week to enable people to devote more time to the cultivation of the mind. At Christmas time at Ford, he would write, as the anonymous Bard of 43rd Street, a limerick that would celebrate the foibles and achievements of the institution and its denizens.

"When Dean Paul Ylvisaker invited Doc to come to Harvard, Doc was more than a little puzzled about what he would do in this new role," Kelly recalled. He had only a master's degree in history from Columbia and an undergraduate degree from Yale.. "So he asked Paul (also a Ford alumnus) what he could possibly contribute to Mother Harvard. Ylvisaker thought about it for a

moment and responded: 'Just go down to the student commons every afternoon about 4:30 or so, buy a bottle of beer, and talk to the students. Sound advice. Lucky students.'

Jerome T. Murphy, former dean of the Education School and now Harold Howe II Professor of Education, was a young aide in the Office of Education when Howe was commissioner. He remarked that Howe was a powerful force at Harvard, "instrumental in keeping the school committed to the practice of teaching and focused on the kids at the bottom.

"He was a champion of our students and he was always available. His total lack of pretense, his remarkably fresh thinking, and his wisdom captured the minds and hearts of faculty, students, and staff alike. When he retired, we thought of Doc as the oldest faculty member with the youngest ideas."

Murphy further recalled that Howe had a healthy disregard for Harvard's formality, coming to meetings in a disheveled raincoat and battered hat and often remarking, by way of summary, "I feel more like I do now than I did when I came."

Other speakers at the memorial included Doc's son, Gordon Armstrong Howe, his grandson, Shanta Armstrong Puchtler, and Meg Campbell, a lecturer at the ed school. LAFF members present included **Gail Spangenberg, Peter Geithner, Richard Magat, Ted Smith, and Robert Tolles**. Mary Bundy, widow of McGeorge Bundy, an honorary LAFF member, was also present.

Ms. Campbell, recalling a visit to Doc during his final illness: "Doc Was ageless, and he had the irreverent moral outrage and mischief of Huck Finn," a favorite book. "He didn't flinch about aging and he wasn't going to go soft in the face of death. He was ready if we were not."

A Pudgy Kid & Other Tales

Several LAFF members have offered personal remembrances of Doc Howe.

Gail Spangenberg, president of the Council for the Advancement of Adult Learning: I was deeply fortunate to have worked with this extraordinary educator during the time of Ford's pioneering work on behalf of women and minorities. With him there was never ego, never pretense, always straight talk, dedication, love of poetic impulse, humility, sense of humor, and determination to help those less fortunate than himself...In the end, no matter how deep the loss, what matters about Doc is his life. It was lived for everyone who fights bigotry and racism, sexism, restricted educational access, poverty, and other blights on our society and democracy.

F. Champion (Champ) Ward, who preceded Doc as vice president for education and research: My memories of Doc begin with the pleasures of colluding with him when he was commissioner of education. Those conspiracies included joint support for "Sesame Street" and for Tursten Husen's comparative (and not flattering) studies of the performance of a number of educational systems, abroad and our own. In Washington, the energy, imagination, and generosity of spirit that always marked his work were not at all muted by the bureaucratic setting or the political maelstrom in which he found himself...We have lost a warm and unflagging friend, and so has American education.

Will Hertz, formerly of the secretary's office: As assistant secretary of the Foundation, I had the task of responding to people with proposals that fell clearly outside FF

program interests. One day Doc asked me to meet a woman who knew him earlier in Cincinnati and had such a request.

In introducing herself, she pronounced her last name "Leveen." Her mission was to raise funds for the Cincinnati Jewish Home for the Blind. I gave her the usual spiel: Such a purpose is important and worthwhile, but outside the program interests approved by the trustees.

She thanked me for my time and asked me to give her regards to "Doctor Howe," who had been very good to her son Jimmy when he was a student at the Cincinnati junior high schools where Doc was principal. The youngster had a lot of musical talent, and Doc had okayed scheduling his school work in the morning so that he could concentrate on music in the afternoon.

I asked: "Did your son stay in music."

"Yes," she replied, "he became a professional musician."

"What's he doing now?"

"He's connected with the Metropolitan Opera."

"He's James Levine?" I asked, the light dawning.

"That's right. You've heard of him?"

When I told Doc about all this the next day, he commented, "Oh, I remember him. He was a pudgy little Jewish kid."

Peter Geithner, who served with Doc in India. Doc and Sibby Howe arrived in India in April 1969, coming directly from Washington. In some respects, he must of felt he had jumped from the proverbial frying pan into the fire. India in 1969 was in turmoil. Grain production had leveled off. Exports were down. Mrs Gandhi had just nationalized the commercial banks. The ruling Congress Party split. Suspicion of foreigners was rising. In summarizing the state of the India education system, Doc wrote: "In

India as in the USA, the past history and current status of institutions of education at all levels in terms of their funding, financing, and control gives them only cloudy resemblance to being systematic. It is not easy, therefore, to introduce change through the top of the system and produce results in schools and colleges." Yet, he went on to say with characteristic optimism, "it is not impossible to do so.:

No more daunted in India than in the U. S., Doc and his able stable of Foundation education program staff (**Fred Weaver, Ralph Retzlaff, Leonard Mead, Arthur Murphy, and Eugene Staples**) managed 18 or so active grants and projects. Doc brought to this assignment the same intellectual vigor, concern for social justice, and commitment to educational reform that had characterized his previous assignments. He had a genuine affection for people of all kinds, and empathy for the underprivileged. Doc and Sibby were simply nice people who quickly earned the affection as well as the respect of colleagues in and outside the Foundation.

No wonder that those of us who were in Delhi at the same time wished the Howes could have stayed longer. But we were proud when in early 1970, Doc was appointed by **Mac Bundy** to succeed **Champ Ward** as vice president for education and research. Doc returned to New York, as the announcement put it, "after two energetic and active years in India to carry on, in this new assignment, what is already one of the country's most remarkable education careers."

WOW!

On occasion we get some unusual mail. A recent missive enclosed a check for \$75—surely a record—and a note thanking LAFF for our patience. It covers 10 years of past and future dues. Sometimes our pleas to pay up do not go unheeded.

The LAFFing Parade

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York Times review said his “ringing affirmation of his dual loyalties offers an extraordinarily thoughtful and illuminating meditation on American history.” A resident of Washington, Wilkins is a member of the D. C. School Board.

Our piece in the last issue on cigar smoking at Board meetings struck a cord with Edith L. Greene, wife of **Robert P. Greene** (422 Foxhill Drive, DeBary FL 32713-4562), who worked in the Indonesia office in the early 1970s. She writes that she became allergic to cigarette smoking in the 1970s, so much so that she had to stop attending smoke-filled church meetings. She once shared an office with a man who returned from lunch every day with a lighted cigar. Not wanting to complain directly, she asked him to let her try a cigar “so I could appreciate what he was finding so pleasurable.” He got the message and stopped.

Mrs. Greene further reports that following his Ford service, Greene became MIT’s specialist in overseas contracts, and worked in Egypt for USAID establishing a research center at Cairo University. They have also spent time in Malaysia and India. He has since closed his consulting business and “declared he is fully retired. I’ve heard that before.”

William S. (Will) Reed, who worked with **Bill Gormbley** in the Personnel Office when it was known as Manpower Services (an anachronism, if ever), and before that with **Doug Ensminger** in India, retired last June as vice president for finance and administration at Wellesley College. Leaving Ford in 1973, he worked in higher education in a variety of capacities—director of personnel at Princeton, vice president for development at Kenyon, and vice president and treasurer at Williams.

He writes that he has been busy working on a new university in Asia for women. “The idea grew out of a World Bank study and has attracted quite a large following of academics throughout Asia. I led a planning team to Bangladesh in June to view various sites and to meet with government officials. In early November we hosted an international conference at Wellesley with over 100 in attendance, including a number of LAFFers—**Frank Sutton, Bob Edwards, David Fraser, and Carolyn Elliot**. The Asian University for Women is still in the vision stage and has to raise a bundle of money to become a reality.” (PO Box 826, Grantham NH 03753)

Gormbley, by the way, has sent in a big check to carry him through the end of the decade while congratulating us on keeping LAFF alive. He says that he and Dottie are both well, and while they have given up traveling overseas, they took a seven-day cruise in September on the Columbia and Snake rivers in Oregon. They are looking forward to another one on the Great Lakes or the Mississippi River.

Tom Seessel, formerly of the National Affairs staff, is the author of a report, commissioned by the Ford Foundation, that examines the philanthropic response to the September 11 attack on the World Trade Centers. Focusing on key aspects of the relief and recovery efforts, Seessel, with the help of his daughter, Jessica, interviewed 90 chiefs and other representatives of major independent and corporate foundations, relief charities, uniformed rescue workers’ funds, nonprofit service providers, government officials, and individuals and businesses affected by the disaster. The report, says Susan Berresford, Foundation president, in the most recent issue of the Foundation’s magazine, has helped to dispel many of the myths that grew up following the disaster of agencies dragging their feet, of special victims’ funds not

being distributed, and of grief-stricken families not being served. The report is available through the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy of the Thomas Edison State College in Trenton, NJ. Currently an independent consultant, Tom formerly headed Seedco, a New York-based community development intermediary.

Peter Hakim, a former member of the Foundation’s Latin American staff, was interviewed by the *New York Times* in January on his views of the Bush Administration’s plans to establish a free-trade agreement similar to NAFTA with five Central American countries. He argues that countries participating in free-trade regimes usually do better, although steps should be taken to establish a safety net for people whose livelihoods are damaged. Peter is president of the Inter-American Dialogue, a research group in Washington.

James A. (Jim) Kelly, a member of the public education staff in the 1970s, who spoke at **Doc Howe**’s memorial service (see page 2), brings us up to date on his activities. Jim, who was the founding president of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, is now enjoying his roles as advisor and consultant. He serves as senior advisor at the Asia Society for a national initiative to increase teaching and learning about Asia in American schools. He also is on the Board of Overseers of the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania; serves on the advisory boards of two educational technology firms; has been a board member for 20 years at the Institute for Educational Leadership; and has just joined the board of the Detroit Science Center. Jim’s wife, Mariam C. Noland, is in her 18th year as president of the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan. (Kelly Advisors LLC, 203 Cloverly Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236, jakmen@mindspring.com).

Reunion Redux

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of the newsletter and a reminder card will be mailed as the date approaches. In the meantime, volunteers are needed for decorations and other arrangements. Please get in touch with Pat about this--388 Piermont, Closter NJ 07624, 201 768-7902, patpeg@webtv.net.

FLASH! Stop presses. The date has been set—Oct 17. Mark Calendars.

The Passing Parade

One of this newsletter's chief functions is to note the passing and to celebrate the lives of departed colleagues. Sadly, the list is long this time.

Joseph Slater, an international affairs specialist active in the Foundation's early years, died at age 80 on Nov. 26 in Southampton NY; **Howard Dressner**, 83, vice president, secretary, and general counsel who served under three Foundation presidents, on Dec. 31 in New York; **Harold Howe II**, 84, vice president for education and research during the Bundy era, on Nov. 29 in Hanover NH (see p. 2); **John Doran**, 75, who headed the internal audit department in the comptroller's office, on Dec. 19, in Princeton NJ; two former India hands, **Alvin A. Johnson**, 92, an agricultural specialist, in Waterbury CT on October 26, and **Leonard C. Mead**, 88, an educational advisor, on Oct. 11, in Florida; and former Ambassador **Wilbert LeMelle**, 71, who served in North and East Africa for the Foundation, Jan. 23 in New Rochelle, NY.

Most of the interior space of this issue is given over to accounts of the lives and achievements of five of

these seven individuals. Because of its length, we have saved for the next issue a fascinating account of the life of Joe Slater written by **Frank Sutton**. Due to the late arrival of information, we will also include in the next issue a summary of the life of Ambassador LeMelle. Addresses of survivors are included where available.

HOWARD DRESSNER

Howard Roy Dressner started his career as an assistant professor of public speaking at NYU, a rather unlikely beginning for a man who later acquired a triple title at Ford—vice president, secretary, and general counsel. But Howard was a man of many parts—first and foremost a lawyer (and the caution that distinguishes that breed), a highly organized executive (the papers on his desk awaiting signature were arrayed with military precision), an author (he co-wrote a text on business writing), and, perhaps most surprising, a bemused observer of the passing scene (more on that later).

Howard spent all of his adult years in New York (and nearly all of those years at one address). But he was very much the product of a small town—in his case York PA. He thus tended to hold in awe the powerful men of vast experience on the board and whose needs Dressner tended to as board secretary. He regarded **John J. McCloy**, the chairman, the very pinnacle of the establishment. His heroes were **Alexander Heard**, who later succeeded McCloy as chairman, a Southern gentleman of eloquence and civility; and **McGeorge Bundy**, a Boston Brahman born to privilege who elevated Howard to his various positions and with whom Howard, an observant Jew of modest beginnings, formed a close bond.

Dressner came to New York to attend New York University. Graduating in 1940, he joined the Army, rising from private to major. In

1945-46, he directed an information-education program of the Ninth Air Defense Command in Europe. He was awarded a bronze star for furthering Anglo-American relations.

Returning home, he obtained a law degree at Columbia University, became a member of the New York Bar the same year (1948), and then, reversing direction, went back to NYU. By the time he left that university to join Ford in 1964, he had risen to assistant vice president for university development.

His first job at Ford was assistant to **Clarence Faust**, vice president of domestic programs. When Bundy arrived in 1966, he was assigned to assist him and television advisor **Fred Friendly** in preparing an application to the Federal Communications Commission that would use revenues from a global satellite to support public broadcasting.

He succeeded **Joseph McDaniel** as corporate secretary in 1967, a job that required the serving of two masters—president and board. In handling this dual responsibility, Dressner displayed uncommon skill. "His position has been unique," said the board in a resolution (drafted in major part by Heard) adopted at his retirement in 1984. "His presidents and chairmen have had differing virtues and he has coped admirably in the sporting exercise of earning their confidence and working effectively with them all."

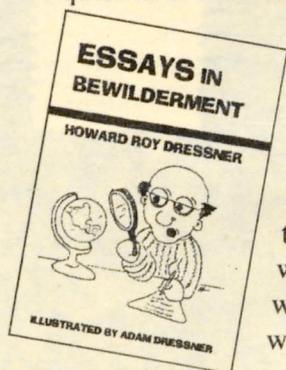
He later acquired, also to his surprise, the additional titles of vice president and general council (**Doc Howe** in one of his Christmas lyrics, suggested this latter job was to keep the vice presidents out of jail). Beyond his Foundation responsibilities, he was instrumental in founding the Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York, an umbrella group formed when New York City threatened to tax property owned by nonprofit organizations.

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It was suggested earlier that Dressner, despite his lawyerly caution, had a droll sense of humor. Soon after Bundy's arrival and reacting to the rumor that the new boss did not suffer fools gladly, he renamed the president's aerie on the 11th floor of the new building on 43rd street as "Withering Heights."

During his retirement, he would write droll little essays that poked fun at the absurdities of life. He bemoaned the taped messages followed by endless music while you wait when calling your bank and even the corner deli; unsolicited credit cards ("I must now have an aggregate borrowing limit of four billion dollars"); he admitted to being terrified by the computer, having only reluctantly mastered the electric toaster and vacuum cleaner.

The pieces were collected a few years ago in a little volume titled *Essays in Bewilderment*, and illustrated by his grandson Adam Dressner. In a prologue, he announced that after years of searching for an answer to the question of *What to be?*, he had



found his vocation. "It was only when I threw myself into writing essays that I realized I wanted to be a writer, wow, a writer!"

In its testimonial tribute to Dressner, the Trustees said: "Except for his wife and son, the Ford Foundation has been the center of Howard Dressner's life. He has been indefatigable in his devotion to duty and unvarying in his loyalty. He has understood instinctively the Foundation's purpose to advance human welfare. He has understood the Foundation's obligations as a citizen and its fiduciary responsibilities as the world's largest

private philanthropic undertaking. He has been the keeper of the covenant."

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Sonia Segoda Dressner (6 Peter Cooper Road, NYC 10010), a son, Robert, a sister, and two grandchildren. A memorial service took place in January at the Gramercy Park Chapel in Manhattan. Leading a delegation of Foundation colleagues was former president **Franklin A. Thomas**.

ALVIN JOHNSON

Alvin A. Johnson, a former professor of plant breeding at Cornell University who served both Rockefeller and Ford Foundations directing agricultural programs in India during the 1960s and 1970s, died at age 92 on Oct. 26, at Waterbury Hospital near his home in Newtown CT.

One of ten children who grew up on a farm in Warren, Minnesota, Mr. Johnson went to North Dakota State University in Fargo and earned an advanced degree in plant breeding from Michigan State University in 1938. From 1962 to 1967, he served as New York State director of its Cooperative Extension Service, supervising statewide programs in agriculture, home economics, and rural development.

His work in international agricultural development began in 1948 when he joined the American Aid Mission in Greece at a time when political unrest threatened the nation. For eight years, from 1967 to 1975, he worked for Ford in New Delhi, later serving as a consultant for the World Bank and other government and private sector organizations. This work involved crossing the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans at least 60 times.

Mr. Johnson is survived by his wife of 66 years, Olive M. Johnson (Lockwood Lodge 214-215, PO Box 5505, Newtown CT 064700); a son, Bruce of New Haven CT, a daughter, Karen of New York City, and two grandchildren.

JOHN DORAN

John P. Doran, who directed the Foundation's internal audit department for 10 years before retiring in 1989, died on Dec. 19 at the Medical Center in Princeton, NJ. He was 75.

A resident of West Windsor, Mr. Doran was born in Jersey City, graduated from St. Peter's Prep School in Jersey City and went on to receive a bachelor's degree from Fordham University and an MBA in finance and accounting from NYU. He was a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, a Navy veteran of World War II, a member of St. Paul Roman Catholic Church in Princeton, and a former trustee of the Center for Applied Linguistics.

At Ford, he led a small staff of accountants who advised staff and grantee organizations on fiscal matters, establishing procedures for overseas accounting and for domestic operations.

He joined Ford in 1969 as assistant comptroller, becoming director of financial advisory services in 1972. Previously he had worked for the General Foods Corp., in White Plains and for E. R. Squibb in New York.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen Kelly Doran, two sons, a daughter, and four grandchildren. (8 Rumford Way, Princeton Junction NJ 08550)

LEONARD MEAD

Leonard C. Mead, former provost and acting president of Tufts University who served as an education advisor in the Foundation's New Delhi office from 1968-71, died on Oct. 11. He was 88 and had homes in Thornton Oaks ME and in Florida.

Len Mead was born in Milford MA, earned a bachelor of arts degree from Dartmouth College and a master's and a doctorate from the University of Rochester. Joining the

faculty of Tufts in 1939, he served that institution for 40 years as a professor of psychology, dean of the graduate school of arts and sciences, senior vice president and provost, and acting president. As a specialist in the field of human engineering, he was in the forefront of exploring the interactions of men and machines, so important to industry and the military, especially during World War II.

While in India for Ford, Mead worked most closely on the \$10 million special appropriation the Foundation had approved to strengthen the University of Delhi. "His extensive teaching and administration experience combined with his basic decency and good humor made him a valued colleague for those of us who were also in the Delhi office at that time," commented **Peter Geithner**.

Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Janet Peck Mead, and three children, Leonard Jr., Philip, and Susan.

The Black Ink Report

Normally we border this one in red, but, much to our surprise, we ran a profit this year, all of \$25.31, according to secretary/treasurer **Mary Camper-Titsingh**. Our first thought was to celebrate by going out for a modest lunch (McDonalds, but no big Macs), but more penurious heads prevailed. So, mindful of McCawber's dictum,* we decided to add it to our rainy day fund.

Here's how the books balance. On the income side, LAFF took in \$1,860.50, and earned \$25.86 on the savings account. We spent \$1,861.05, consisting of \$853.89 for three newsletters and \$1,007.16 for mailing and maintenance of the mailing list. With our small profit, our saving account balance soared to \$1,633.78.

Such a comfortable (?) financial position is rare in LAFF's history. Like legislators in Washington, we have the bad habit of spending more than we take in, and must appeal on occasion to generous souls to make up the shortfall. With a gala planned for later this year (see p. 1), we likely will dig ourselves into a hole again. Unless, you keep the cash flowing. Dues are modest, only \$7.50 a year (you can tell if you are up to date by looking at the two digits, indicating the year, on the address label.) Sadly, less than a quarter of those on the mailing list are regular dues payers; the rest ride free. The best way to avoid that embarrassment is to pay up.

*"Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen, nineteen, and six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds, ought and six, result misery" —from *David Copperfield* by Charles Dickens

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