# HISTORICAL SKETCH CURTIS, MALLET-PREVOST, COLT & MOSLE

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# HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE FIRM OF CURTIS, MALLET-PREVOST, COLT & MOSLE and its predecessors from 1830-1945

With roots in Connecticut
extending back to the early part of the
Eighteenth Century

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# PREFACE

The early part of this sketch, and the references to William E. Curtis, Ir. are based upon memoranda left by James S. Stearns and F. Kingsbury Curtis, and on records in the possession of Miss Elizabeth Curtis. These have been edited by S. Mallet-Prevost who, with the assistance of other partners, has written the balance.

This must be hardly more than a sketch of the firm, its predecessors and their work during the 115 years that have passed. Much more might be said but, it is hoped, that what has here been recorded may be an inspiration to future partners, in carrying on the work. We have a tradition that merits a long and brilliant future.

## ON MAY 1, 1945 THE FIRM WAS CONSTITUTED AS FOLLOWS:

#### Severo Mallet-Prevost

Harris D. Colt A. Henry Mosle

Hugo Kohlmann Henry A. Stickney

Otto Schoenrich Jesse Knight

David A. Embury Creswell M. Micou Hamilton Hicks John H. Willenbrok

Fraser M. Horn George A. Reiss

Dudley B. Bonsal Eugene W. Goodwillie

Milo A. Borges Vernon R. Y. Lynn

Wendell W. Forbes Clarence U. Carruth

#### EARLY FIRMS

In the Year 1830 two brothers, John L. and James L. Graham, were practicing law at 143 Fulton Street in the City of New York. They were the first of a long line of lawyers and law firms extending in an unbroken chain up to the present time.

The Graham family came from Woodbury, Connecticut. The first of the name was a Dr. Graham, Minister of the Congregational Church at that place, who had left Scotland because of religious wars. His origin was revealed by an inscription on the tombstone of his son who was described as a "Grandson of the Marquis of Dundee." This grandson was a Yale graduate, an officer in the Revolutionary War and a friend of General Washington. He died as a result of imprisonment in the British prison in New York. The two Grahams who established themselves in New York in 1830 were his sons or grandsons.

During those early years in Connecticut there were intermarriages between members of the Graham and Curtis families; and it is therefore not strange that their descendants should have formed a connection when they came to New York. A line of lawyers led to the first William E. Curtis, who will be referred to hereafter as "William E. Curtis, Sr."

The first one in the Curtis line was Robert Edmond, a graduate of Dublin University, and a Justice of the Peace at Woodbury, Connecticut. He had a law library and acted as a legal adviser in the . early part of the 18th Century. His son, Judge William Edmond, graduated at Yale College in 1777. He afterwards came to the Bar and was an eminent practitioner in Fairfield County for many years. In 1798 he was elected a representative to Congress from Connecticut. He was often a representative of his town in the General Assembly. He was chosen by the people in the year 1805 to the House of "Assistants," a body of talented men, being the Upper House of the legislative body and then constituting the Supreme Court of Connecticut. He was continued in that office until transferred to the bench in 1807 as a judge of the Supreme Court; to this he was annually appointed, for a period of 12 years in succession, until the reorganization of the court under the present constitution of that State. He was a soldier of the Revolution and was in the Battle of Fairfield, where he was severely wounded.

Judge Edmond's son-in-law was Holbrook Curtis who was born in Newtown in 1787 and graduated from Yale in 1807. He was asked to settle in Watertown and practice law. He was a member of the State Legislature and Judge of the Connecticut

Supreme Court until 1816. The son of Holbrook Curtis was William Edmond Curtis, Sr. who came to New York some time prior to 1847 and studied law in the office of William Curtis Noyes, at that time a partner of the Graham brothers.

In 1836 the Graham brothers took in as partner a Mr. Sanford; and the firm then became Graham & Sanford. They continued at 143 Fulton Street. From 1830 to 1836 William P. Powers, a future partner, was a clerk in the office.

In 1838 Sanford apparently withdrew and a Mr. Wood, together with Powers, continued the firm, which then became Graham, Wood & Powers. The office continued for a time at the Fulton Street address but later moved to 49 Wall Street.

In 1840 there was again a change. Powers withdrew as a partner, although he continued his association with the firm, which then became Graham, Noyes & Wood. It was under Noyes that William E. Curtis, Sr. studied law. The office was then at 34 Wall Street. On January 9, 1852 Curtis formed a partnership with Samuel A. Foot, a retired Judge of the Court of Appeals, also Chief Justice of the Superior Court of New York, and President of the Board of Education. Judge Foot's family came from Watertown, Connecticut.

The firm, known as Foot & Curtis, lasted until

Judge Foot retired, when Curtis formed a partnership with William P. Powers (former partner of the Graham brothers) under the name of Curtis & Powers.

It was about this time that the older firm of Graham, Noyes & Wood came to an end and was succeeded by the new firm of Curtis & Powers, with offices at 106 Broadway.

In April of 1852 James S. Stearns entered the office as a clerk. Benjamin Rankin was Managing Clerk and Cephas Brainerd was there as a student. When Rankin retired, because of illness, Stearns succeeded him as Managing Clerk. Stearns was admitted to the Bar in 1856; and, when Powers retired some time prior to 1866, Stearns became associated with William E. Curtis, Sr. In 1866 or 1867 they moved to 74 Broadway.

On January 1, 1872 William E. Curtis, Sr. took office as a judge of the Superior Court of the City of New York (now the Supreme Court) and Stearns continued the practice alone until 1877 when William E. Curtis, Jr., a son of William E. Curtis, Sr., having been admitted to the Bar, joined Mr. Stearns and formed the partnership of Stearns & Curtis. In 1882 they moved to 45 William Street, and seven years later, in 1889, moved to 58 William Street.

On January 1, 1889 F. Kingsbury Curtis became a

member of the firm which continued under the name of Stearns & Curtis.

With the exception of four years, from 1893 to 1897, during Mr. Cleveland's second term, when William E. Curtis, Jr. was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, he was a member of the firm until his retirement in 1920, retaining a nominal connection until his death on August 20, 1923.

Shortly after Curtis went to Washington, Harris D. Colt moved into the office of Stearns & Curtis and there occupied a room as a tenant, without any firm connection. Within a year or two he became a partner with Mr. Stearns and E Kingsbury Curtis; and, in January 1896, the firm name became Stearns, Curtis & Colt.

ON FEBRUARY 1, 1897 Mr. Stearns retired, and A. Henry Mosle and I became partners, under the firm name of Curtis, Mallet-Prevost & Colt.

Soon after this Augustus N. Hand, now a member of the Circuit Court of Appeals, became a partner; and John G. Carlisla became associated with the firm as counsel. At that time the office moved to 30 Broad Street, and soon after that John Henry Hammond came into the office and remained with us about two years. He withdrew to join Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft and later left them to become a partner in the Banking House of Brown Brothers & Co.

In 1901 Walter L. Worrall came into the office as a clerk. He became a partner on April 29, 1908 and continued as such until his death on June 28, 1928.

Hugo Kohlmann entered the office in September 1901-and became a partner in 1910.

Frederic K. Seward came into the office in June 1903, became a partner in May 1908, and remained with us until his death on December 7, 1943.

Henry A. Stickney came into the office in June 1903. From 1910 to 1912 he was in the District Attorney's office. On April 30, 1917, he was made a partner. During the first World War he, was an officer in the Information Service of the Army. At the termination of the war he returned to the office.

Otto Schoenrich came into the office in 1916 and became a partner on May 1, 1920.

Jesse Knight came into the office in July 1910 and became a partner on January 1, 1921.

In 1925 the firm name was changed from Curtis, Mallet-Prevost & Colt to Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle.

David A. Embury entered the office in 1917 and was taken in as a partner on October 1, 1927.

Creswell M. Micou, after serving as Captain in the U. S. Marine Corps, came into the office on July 19, 1920 and became a partner on October 1, 1927.

On May 1, 1929 the firm moved from 30 Broad Street to 63 Wall Street.

John H. Willenbrok came into the office in 1922 and was made a partner on May 15, 1934.

Fraser M. Horn came into the office in September 1926 and was made a partner on May 15, 1934.

George A. Reiss came into the office in February 1922 and was made a partner on December 16, 1940.

Dudley B. Bonsal came into the office in September, 1930 and was made a partner on December 16, 1940. On February 24, 1942, he left the firm to assist Nelson Rockefeller, Coordinator of Inter-American

Affairs. After serving under Mr. Stettinius and Mr. Rockefeller at the Latin American Conference in Mexico City during February and March 1945, he returned to the firm and renewed his membership as a partner.

Eugene W. Goodwillie came into the office in 1931 and was made a partner on December 16, 1940.

Milo A. Borges came to the office in April 1915. In September 1917 he went into the Army as a private in the first World War. He was later selected as a candidate for officer training; and on the completion of that course was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. He was engaged in training troops in Puerto Rico at the time of the Armistice; and, after his discharge from the Army as a First Lieutenant, in March 1919, returned to the office. He continued as a law clerk until August 25, 1941, when he was made a partner.

Vernon R. Y. Lynn came into the office in January 1929 and was made a partner on August 25, 1941. In November 1942 he joined the Navy as a Lieutenant, was later promoted to Lieutenant Commander and is now on duty in the Navy.

Wendell W. Forbes came into the office in June 1928 and was made a partner on August 25, 1942.

On May 1, 1945 Hamilton Hicks and Clarence U. Carruth, Jr. joined the firm as partners.

#### FORMER PARTNERS and Associates

THE ABOVE IS A MERE RECITAL of past firm memberships. Something more should be added regarding a few of those who are no longer here, but who have left a lasting impression upon the firm.

#### John L. Graham

Unfortunately, beyond what has been stated above, there are no records available as to the personalities of the Graham brothers or of many others who were partners in the earlier firms. As to the Grahams, we know only that John L. Graham was at one time Postmaster in New York; it would appear from this that he was a prominent citizen at that time.

## WILLIAM CURTIS NOYES

It is possible to speak more at length regarding others. It will be recalled that William E. Curtis, Sr. studied law under William Curtis Noyes. In Curtis' Journal, under December 28, 1864, he says:

"Thursday last I met him (William Curtis Noyes) at a meeting of the New England Society. He was elected President and was present at the dinner in that evening. I thought I never saw him appear in better health. The next morning he was prostrated by apoplexy upon arising and remained insensible until his death Sunday next. He was only 59 years of

age, but his brain gave way under the pressure of unremitting labor for many years. He knew nothing of rest or recreation; his cases, his library, his family and immediate friends engrossed every thought and every moment. Learned, clear-headed, calm, amiable, courteous, persevering, conscientious, he stood in the foremost ranks of the profession, without genius and without advantages but endowed with admirable fortitude and sound judgment."

#### SAMUEL A. FOOT

Reference has already been made to Samuel A. Foot who became a partner of William E. Curtis, Sr. in 1852. It has not been possible to secure further information about him. He was evidently an eminent jurist, as evidenced by the high judicial positions which he occupied.

## WILLIAM EDMOND CURTIS, SR.

William Edmond Curtis, Sr. was born in Watertown on September 29, 1823, the year of the founding of Washington College (now Trinity). He was brought up in an atmosphere of study, of admiration for the classics, and an interest in law and government. He was sent to school at Cheshire Academy, and graduated from Trinity College in 1843. Trinity gave him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws in 1862, and he was a life member of her Board of Trustees. In politics he was active in putting down the Tweed Ring and in reforming the New York

democratic municipal government. Like his son, he was a vestryman of St. George's Church and an early member of the Century Club, finding his most congenial friends among the literary and professional men of his time. He had a number of French and Spanish clients through his gift as a linguist, and his large foreign practice was handed down to the present law firm.

On October 27, 1880 a meeting of the Bar was held in memory of Judge Curtis. On that occasion Judge Van Vorst delivered a lengthy eulogy, of which the following is an extract:

"One cannot speak too warmly of his character as a counsellor in his profession, and as an advocate. His practice was large, not only in the State but in the Federal Courts. All who had business relations with him, lawyers and clients, individuals and corporations, bear uniform testimony to the fairness of his dealings, and to his intelligent and upright conduct on all occasions. He seemed to have an intuitive idea of right and justice, from which he never swerved. He was a safe guardian of every interest committed to his management, and allowed no selfish purpose to swerve him from entire justice to others. This sentiment was carried in instances to self-sacrifice. He was a large minded man, and the current of his thoughts and action was limited by no narrow balance; it deepened and widened according to the subject he was called upon to consider."

WILLIAM EDMOND CURTIS, JR.

William E. Curtis, Jr. left an outstanding record. He deserves the entire credit for saving the country from going off the gold standard in 1895. The silverites in Congress had deadlocked every effort of Mr. Cleveland to get authority to sustain the credit of the country and to buy gold in order to meet the pressure upon the reserve in the Sub-Treasury.

The repeal of the Sherman Act had put an end to the dangerous issue of silver notes, but the constant re-issuing of greenbacks was working as an endless chain to draw gold out of the Treasury. Several times the gold reserve had fallen below the safety margin of \$100,000,000, and the inexorable demands of foreign exchange were taking more and more gold out of the country. How imminent disaster was may be learned from some of Mr. Curtis' letters written during the month of January when he was making plans to have bars of gold ready to be weighed out at the Sub-Treasury in New York in case the meager reserve of gold coin should give out.

President Cleveland put the problem squarely before Congress, asking not only that bonds issued to maintain the gold reserve be made payable in gold, but also that the greenbacks should be withdrawn when redeemed. Congress refused to act. Secretary Carlisle, coming as he did from Kentucky,

did not have personal contacts with financiers of national reputation in New York City and so was not able to enlist the aid which must be forthcoming. He turned to his Assistant Secretary, William Edmond Curtis, and sent him to New York to see what could be done.

After numerous conferences with Mr. Morgan and Mr. Belmont they were persuaded that Section 3700 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, already passed, was sufficient authority for the issue of 30-year bonds to protect the gold reserve.

No history yet published gives Mr. Curtis credit for what he did in this emergency, but it is clear from the evidence that his contribution to the situation was great. So modest was he at all times that his achievements are known only in the traditions of his immediate family. In the first place, it was he who brought the Administration and the bankers together at this time of great need; and, in the second place, the final suggestion of using Section 3700 of the Revised Statutes to give the Administration authority to exchange bonds for foreign gold seems to have come from his brain. He was the one who saw that this measure, passed during the Civil War to protect the credit of the country, gave the Administration the authority it needed in this crisis.

Horace White, Editor of the Evening Post, July 6,

1908, gives full credit for the solution of the difficulties to Mr. Curtis, and for "the discovery of the law which authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase coin with any bonds or notes of the United States."

The rest of the history of the bond issue was a matter of administration. The bankers who signed the contract for the bonds not only agreed to buy this gold abroad but also undertook not to draw gold from the Treasury. The agreement between the bankers and the Government was drawn by Mr. Curtis, as Secretary Carlisle has testified. His was the brain that had suggested the idea, and he was the agent by whom it was carried out.

Mr. Curtis started for London in May 1895 and stayed until the middle of June, meeting Lord Rothschild, the London representative of the Syndicate. When the bonds were sent over he signed them on behalf of the United States. In June he went to Paris for similar work there, returning to New York in July.

In 1896 Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Curtis both sacrificed their political futures by supporting William McKinley, the sound money candidate of the Republicans. Mr. Curtis' written explanation of his reasons for refusing to support Mr. Bryan, although he, Curtis, had been a Democrat all his life, are as per-

tinent today as they were in 1896. He said:

"I am mainly impressed by the fact that he (Bryan) is either engaged in wilfully misrepresenting certain present financial and monetary conditions and the causes which produce them, or else he does not understand those natural and fundamental laws which govern money and its employment. In either case he is, in my opinion, wholly unfit to be entrusted with the execution of the laws governing the commercial and financial interests of the country. \*\*\* The commercial prosperity of this country is what has placed it where it stands today, and unless we adhere to honest business principles and pay our debts by the same standard under which they were contracted, we cannot expect to retain it, or the respect of our neighbors. A nation should be as careful of its credit as an individual, for otherwise it demoralizes its people. No candidate, who under these circumstances, tells the people that the operations of natural financial laws are really the machinations of individuals, and who causes such distrust in all business circles as to arrest the natural progress of enterprise by his mere candidacy, will get any assistance from me to place him in a stronger position for evil than he now occupies.

After the Trinity Centennial Mr. Curtis went to York Harbor, Maine, where among his friends he enjoyed an outdoor life until a few days before his death on August 20, 1923. He was buried in Watertown on August 23.

Dr. Remsen B. Ogleby, President of Trinity College, said this of Mr. Curtis:

"He was a gallant gentleman. The qualities from his ancestors which converged in him produced a man whose first characteristic was loyalty. He was devoted in his service to his country, his church and his college and was always a true

friend. To these personal qualities was added a clarity of vision which went to the heart of things and combined with his legal training to fit him for the important services which he rendered. Those who believe in the future of America may well pray that in every crisis of our national life there may be found a man to meet every situation as squarely and successfully as William Edmond Curtis met the crisis of 1895, when he saved the credit and fair name of America."

#### JOHN G. CARLISLE

John G. Carlisle who became associated with the firm as counsel upon the expiration of his term of office as Secretary of the Treasury was a member of Congress and Speaker of the House. From the House he went to the Senate as Senator from Kentucky and later became a member of President Cleveland's Cabinet. Originally he was an advocate of silver but later, as Secretary of the Treasury, he became a strong gold Democrat. This change terminated his political future as, at that time, Kentucky was a strong silver state. Kentucky went for Bryan and free silver, and thereupon Mr. Carlisle retired from public life and came to New York where he became associated with the firm. He was a man of extraordinary ability and clarity of judgment. He was regarded by the United States Supreme Court as one of the ablest advocates to appear before it. He won many important litigations, and after the death of his wife, he retired to Washington where he died.

#### FREDERICK KINGSBURY CURTIS

The following memorial to Frederick Kingsbury Curtis has been prepared by A. Henry Mosle:

"Mr. Curtis was born in New York City, in 1863, the son of the late Judge William Edmond Curtis, Chief Justice of the Superior Court of New York, and of the late Mary Ann (Scovill) Curtis. He was descended from four generations of dis-

tinguished Connecticut lawyers and judges.

"With so strong a professional ancestral trend, it was but natural that Kingsbury Curtis should turn to law for his life work. He was educated at St. Paul's School, Concord, New Hampshire; was graduated from Yale College, in 1884, the youngest man in his Class, and from Columbia Law School, in 1886. He was admitted to the Bar of New York, in 1886. He received the honorary degree of LL.D. from Lincoln Memorial University, in 1930, and from Rollins College, Florida, in 1934.

"Mr. Curtis first entered the office of Davies, Cole & Rapallo, of which his cousin Julian T. Davies was senior member, and got his first training in the active litigation arising out of the construction of the Elevated Railroads. In 1889, he became a

member of the firm of Stearns & Curtis.

"Mr. Curtis conducted an extremely active and varied practice, chiefly in corporation law. His clients represented a wide range of industrial activity and in many cases he took an active part in the management of his clients' enterprises as well as the conduct of their legal affairs. He was instrumental in overcoming the legal difficulties which hindered a consolidation of the electric light and power properties of the City of St. Louis. He was the legal adviser in the organization of the Scranton Light & Power Company. He was general counsel for many years for the New York & Porto Rico Steamship Company, the Bull-Insular Line, the Ocean Freight Line, the Anthony & Scovill Company, Library Bureau, Regal Shoe Company, the Crofut & Knapp Company, the Providence Engineering Works and the San Juan (Porto Rico) Power, Light and Tramway

Companies. His advice was largely responsible for carrying through the reorganization of the Consolidated Steamship Lines, which resulted in the formation of the Atlantic Gulf & West Indies Steamship Lines. In connection with the business of his steamship clients, he became a pioneer in the building of vessels on the Great Lakes and bringing them down for service on the Atlantic Seaboard.

"Mr. Curtis was also counsel in a number of important litigated matters, notably the case of the United States Trust Company against Heye, which has become a leading case on the question of the allocation of stock dividends; the litigation in connection with the Detroit, Toledo & Ironton Railroad Company receivership, which resulted in his clients purchasing the Ann Arbor Railroad Company, of which he became general counsel. He was also counsel in the litigation affecting the title to pier properties in Porto Rico. He represented the Pennsylvania Steel Company in its litigations with the City of New York, arising out of the construction of the Queensborough Bridge. He was counsel for the West Side Electric Company in its litigation with the Consolidated Telegraph & Electrical Subway Company, which decided the rule finally as to franchises granted by the Board of Electrical Control for the placing of wires under the City streets.

"Mr. Curtis when interested was a tireless worker. He had a genius for leadership. He demanded of his associates in any enterprise the highest spirit of effort and devotion, but he never demanded of anyone more than he demanded of himself. So intense was his concentration on his clients' interests that he drew without limit upon his time, strength, and resources. He had little patience with anyone not animated with the same spirit. He was uncompromising in his insistence on the highest standard of accomplishment. Quick and frank to criticize shortcomings, he was equally quick and generous in recognizing competent effort. He took an especial interest in the younger men who came under his guidance and he always

directed his efforts towards benefiting their condition and en-

larging their opportunities.

"As a result of his strenuous devotion to his work and the tireless energy expended in his work, his health suffered, and after 1926 he gradually relinquished the active interest in his clients' enterprises and thereafter devoted a substantial part of his time to real estate developments, being largely occupied in the development of residential properties in Tuxedo Park, New York, Watch Hill, Rhode Island, and Venice, Florida, at each of which places he maintained residences and spent part of each year.

"During his entire life Mr. Curtis maintained an active interest in charitable and educational affairs. He held St. Paul's School in affectionate regard and made frequent gifts to it for special purposes and supported its interests whenever called upon. He was Trustee for twenty years of the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, and was its first Treasurer. He was President of the Board of Trustees of the Society for the Relief of Half Orphan and Destitute Children; a member of the Board of Managers of the Seamen's Church Institute.

He was formerly a Trustee of Vassar College.

"During the first World War he served on the Mayor's Defense Committee, on the Waterfront Committee and as Chairman of the Serbian Aid Committee, for which latter service he was decorated by the King of Serbia with the Order of St. Sava,

one of the highest within the gift of the King."

Another of Mr. Curtis' partners has this to say:

"Mr. Curtis was a dynamic force in the firm during the years of his activity. Even to the close of his life, and during the long years of the illness that preceded his death, while he was no longer able to take active participation in the firm's affairs, he continued to give it his unselfish support; he took immense pride in the firm, which had something of the nature of a family heritage, and lost no opportunity to maintain its prestige and extend its influence.

"As a lawyer, Mr. Curtis was resourceful and able. He had a brilliant mind, much imagination and a capacity for appraising men and foreseeing the outcome of events. Those who worked under him were not only disciplined but also inspired. The efficiency of the office staff was largely his work. He controlled extensive businesses in some of which, especially in shipping, he often invested his own funds. During the entire period of his activity he contributed largely toward the firm's income and, even today, the office continues to benefit by the contacts he made and the clients he brought.

"As a man, Mr. Curtis was a combination of sternness and general kindness. He was impatient of incompetence, and those who worked with him were fearful of his displeasure; but under this severity he had a warm heart full of affection, of loyalty and of generosity. This phase of his character was too often hidden. He preferred to be kind incognito. He avoided praise and did good without allowing his left hand to know what his right hand did. Those of us who were associated with him during the long years of his activity have nothing but affection for his memory and admiration for his many fine qualities."

#### WALTER L. WORRALL

Walter L. Worrall has left a lasting memory with all who were privileged to come in contact with him. No partner was more beloved or has been more deeply mourned. His modesty and gentleness endeared him to one and all. He served a clerkship under F. Kingsbury Curtis which was of the greatest use to him when he became a member of the firm. He had many friends. He knew how to win their confidence; and the ability that he showed in dealing with their affairs brought important clients.

#### FREDERIC K. SEWARD

Frederic K. Seward took over most of Worrall's work, when the latter died, and contributed not a little of his own. His activities in the Museum of the American Indian enlarged his contacts and opened new avenues for his legal activities. He was of assistance to the Foreign Department of the office in connection with its work in Greece, and went to Athens to represent it. As a result of his work there he received from the Government of Greece the Order of the Redeemer. He also made an extended tour of the South American countries to establish contacts for the firm. His death was a great loss, and we hold him in affectionate remembrance.

There are others who have passed away who have rendered signal services to the firm although they were never partners.

#### SAMUEL P. SAVAGE

Samuel P. Savage came to us in 1901 and, until his death on December 7, 1933, was, under Mr. Colt and Mr. Mosle, the head of our Real Estate Department. He was instrumental in increasing that Department from a small business into one of the largest and most successful branches of the office. To the upbuilding of that Department both Mr. Colt and Mr. Mosle contributed largely. Among the more

important of this class of clients is the Central Savings Bank which came to us through Mr. Mosle.

#### WILLIAM H. THITCHENER

William H. Thitchener is certainly entitled to an affectionate and respectful memory. He came to the office as a stenographer in 1882, and for many years was Senior Law Clerk. He held the power of attorney of the firm and joined in all active practice until his ill health compelled him to limit his work. He died on October 20, 1942. Thitchener was invaluable on questions of code practice, and was of great assistance to the firm during his many years of connection with it. He was consulted on almost every important litigation that we had.

#### EDWARD H. WESTERFIELD

Edward H. Westerfield has only recently died and we have lost in him a faithful and trusted associate. For 34 years he worked silently and diligently to do the work assigned to him. His loyalty to the firm never flagged. He was one of those men who prefer working alone. He had his own way of dealing with the problems that faced him, and, to their solution, he brought patience and untiring dedication. Conscientious and painstaking, he gave to the firm the best that was in him. We hold his memory in affectionate respect.

# CURTIS, MALLET-PREVOST, COLT & MOSLE

I have endeavored to record something about those who have gone. It must be left to the future to speak of those who still remain. For the present I limit myself to the following brief statements regarding the present partners:

Severo Mallet-Prevost, the compiler of this historical sketch.

HARRIS D. COLT brought to the firm a profound knowledge of real estate law, of trusts and of estates. He brought an important clientele which in the course of years has grown. The confidence reposed in him has made him the recipient of many trusts, and he has in many ways contributed to the enlarged activities of the firm.

A. Henry Mosle brought to the firm, not only a large share of corporation and real estate business, but much trust work and important litigation. Through his extensive social and financial connections he has contributed greatly to the upbuilding of the office. For all practical purposes, he is today the head of the firm, and upon him and the younger members of the firm rests a large share of responsibility for its future.

Hugo Kohlmann has long been, what might be called, "a court of final appeal" in the office. Whenever an especially knotty problem has called for solution, his advice has been sought. He has a thorough knowledge of the law, and a mind that grasps and analyzes the complexities of any legal problem. There is no member of the firm who has not looked to him for assistance.

HENRY A. STICKNEY has been eminently successful in corporation and litigated matters. His preparation of cases is always thorough. He brings to his work a precision not often met with, and deals with all matters that come to him with a care and a conscientiousness that never wearies.

OTTO SCHOENRICH has had a brilliant record. Graduated from the University of Maryland in 1894 he first practiced law in Maryland, and later in New Mexico. He was assistant to the "Commission to Revise and Compile the Laws of Puerto Rico." Between 1900 and 1909 he occupied various judicial positions; first, as District Judge of Arecibo; later as Municipal Judge, and after that as District Judge, of Mayaguez, all of Puerto Rico. From 1904 to 1906 he was Secretary of an American Special Commission headed by Dr. Leo Rowe (now Director of the Pan American

Union) to investigate the finances of Santo Domingo. From 1905 to 1906 he was Secretary to the Minister of Finance of the Dominican Republic. In 1906 he was appointed Secretary to the Provisional Government of Cuba under the second American intervention. Later he was a member of the Advisory Law Commission which drafted the new Cuban laws. In 1911 the State Department designated him as President of the Nicaraguan Mixed Claims Commission which sat at Managua, Nicaragua. The Commission completed its work in 1915, whereupon he again went to Puerto Rico to practice law. While there he was a member of the Board of Examiners of applicants for admission to the Bar, and for some time was District Judge of Humacao. While in charge of our Havana Office he was examined for admission to the Cuban Bar, and obtained the degree of Doctor in Civil Law, magna cum laude. In 1943 the University of the Dominican Republic made him an honorary professor of law and a member of its faculty.

Jesse Knight's experience has been unusually broad. He has dealt much with constitutional problems and is known in the office as the champion of law versus the policy-made view that today controls so many of our courts. His experience in Brazil, when in charge

of our office at Rio de Janeiro, has given him a broad outlook along the lines of the Civil Law. He is one of the most highly regarded members of the firm.

DAVID A. EMBURY AND GEORGE A. REISS are experts in the complicated tax problems of today. They have together brought our tax department to its present high standard and made it one of the best in the City.

Creswell M. Micou gained his first experience in Civil Law during his two years' residence in Brazil (from 1921 to 1923) as a member of our Rio de Janeiro Office. That experience was later broadened when he spent over three years in Brazil (from December 1926 to February 1930) in charge of important business for the Electric Bond & Share Company. Later, during the present war, he entered government service in the economic field and was again in Brazil. His various experiences in that direction have opened important avenues for his activities.

John H. Willenbrok was Savage's assistant in the Real Estate Department for some years. On Savage's death Willenbrok succeeded him as head of the Department and, under his able management, that Department has come to be one of the best in the City.

Fraser M. Horn was absent from the firm on government service in the office of the General Counsel of the War Production Board for about two years. During most of that period he was in charge of the Legal Department of the Regional Office covering New York State and Northern New Jersey. In this connection he had valuable experience which, added to his many other qualifications, fit him for important work of the firm. His social and other connections are numerous and the future has much in store for him.

On leaving the War Production Board Mr. Horn received the following letter from John Lord O'Brian:

# WAR PRODUCTION BOARD WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 3, 1944

Fraser Horn, Esquire
Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle
63 Wall Street
New York. New York

Dear Mr. Horn:

Your letter of resignation has come in. and. in accordance with your request, although with great reluctance, I have

promptly accepted it.

You must be aware without my telling you what a substantial contribution you have made to the work of the War Production Board. The work which you have been doing in such an able and painstaking manner could not have been better done. This is not only my opinion but that of all of the staff here who have come in contact with you. In addition, you have

been one of the mainstays of the whole New York set-up, and I feel particularly grateful because of the large amount of responsibility which you took off my shoulders and carried with such faithfulness and efficiency.

Like my associates, I am hoping that your path and ours will cross frequently in the future; meantime with kind remembrances and very best wishes for your work in the years ahead, I am

> Yours sincerely, John Lord O'Brian

DUDLEY B. BONSAL, who has only just come back to us after some three years in government service, was introduced to us by his distinguished father, Stephen Bonsal. A special link with our firm has been his marriage to one of the daughters of Walter L. Worrall. His knowledge of both French and Spanish, his early training in diplomatic affairs under his father, and his highly cultivated surroundings made him eminently useful as a member of Mr. Rockefeller's staff. His experience during the years that he has been engaged in that work will be of inestimable value to him and to us.

In that connection the following letters are eloquent tributes to some of the services that he has rendered:

#### "THE SECRETARY OF STATE

#### Washington

Mexico, D. F. March 7, 1945

Dear Dudley,

As the Inter-American Conference in Mexico City comes to an end, I wish to express to you my deep appreciation for the fine aid you have rendered throughout the Conference.

Without your valuable assistance it would have been difficult to have achieved such splendid results. I am aware of the many long hours you spent in preparation for the meetings and I am sincerely grateful to you for your untiring efforts.

With best wishes always,

Sincerely yours,

ED STETTINIUS

#### "ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

#### Washington

March 14, 1945

Dear Dud:

Three weeks in Mexico City was a fitting climax to the long and intimate association which we have had during the past four years. Few people have made as important a contribution to the inter-American program as have you. Your broad experience and knowledge had full opportunity of expression in the work of the Conference, and I can't tell you how much the work you did there meant to me.

It has been a great pleasure to work with you, and I hope that our paths will cross often in the days that lie ahead.

With personal regards and very best wishes,

Sincerely,

NELSON

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EUGENE W. GOODWILLIE came to us from Oxford University where he had been a Rhodes Scholar. The fact that he had been selected to enjoy that privilege is eloquent as to his qualifications. Although his connection with the firm has been comparatively brief, he has already made his ability felt. Every day that passes his partners discover in him new qualities. He has demonstrated a talent for leadership and we confidently predict for him a brilliant future.

MILO A. BORGES has centered his attention on the Civil Law and the laws of the Latin American countries. He has prepared and published digests of the laws of Cuba and of Colombia, and enjoys a well merited reputation in both of those countries where his digests are standard works in the courts, and in all law offices. On March 20, 1937 he was made Honorary Professor of Cuban Law in Havana; and on May 20 of the same year the President of Cuba conferred upon him the Céspedes "Orden Nacional de Merito." During the present war he was in government service in the Board of Economic Warfare and Foreign Economic Administration and was sent by the government on missions to Cuba, Haiti, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, Peru, Ecuador and a number of the Central American States. He is still constantly called upon for assistance by the General Counsel's Office of the Foreign Economic Administration.

VERNON R. Y. LYNN comes, on his mother's side, from a distinguished family in Costa Rica. With his knowledge of Spanish and his extraordinary tact and ability to handle clients, he has contributed much to the firm. His ability and experience in maritime matters made him anxious to enter the Navy at the beginning of the War. Twice he applied for admission and twice he was rejected because of physical defects. To overcome these he twice underwent surgical operations, and was then accepted by the Navy and commissioned as a Lieutenant. His advancement was rapid. He was assigned to the training of crews from landing craft, and was later sent to Europe as a Lieutenant Commander in command of a flotilla of 36 landing craft. On D Day he was in command of a task unit of upwards of 150 American and British landing craft of various kinds. These craft were in the assault waves of the first landings. He was made Unloading and Operational Officer of "Utah Beach," one of the two American Normandy Beaches. He continued to handle shipping there until the Port of Antwerp was open. On completing his work there he was given the following citation:

ment of craft. He constantly studied and devised new means

of expediting unloading.

Many of the details of Navy Storm Plan Two, providing for refuge of all ferry craft, were worked out by Lieutenant Commander Lynn, from experimentation during previous storms. In addition to supervising the Operation's Room ashore, he directed the Port Direction and Ferry Control activities abourd the SS Thomas B. Robertson, suggesting and effecting many improvements. All of his duties were carried out against the obstacles of heavy weather afloat and the hazards of enemy air attack and mine fields.

(s) J. E. Arnold."

Lieutenant Commander Lynn has recently returned to the United States on leave, and it is at this moment uncertain whether he will receive a new assignment, or be placed on the reserve list. We hope for his early return to the office.

Wendell W. Forbes has only recently become a partner of the firm, but his association with us has been long and we have learned to value his sterling qualities. He promises much for the future.

CLARENCE U. CARRUTH has been with us since 1926. His development during that period has been quite extraordinary. Beginning as a law clerk, working under the direction of others, he has grown into the full stature of an independent and able lawyer. He has had sole charge of important litigation and has successfully handled much corporate business.

"In the name of the President of the United States, it gives me great pleasure to award this Bronze Star Medal to:

Lieutenant Commander Vernon R. Y. Lynn, D-V(S), United States Naval Reserve.

'For meritorious performance of duty as Commander. Landing Craft (Tank) Flotilla Seventeen prior to and during the

assault on the coast of France, June, 1944.

'Lieutenant Commander Lynn, after weeks of diligent training, brought his flotilla to a high degree of readiness for the operation. He led his section of the convoy through mined waters in unfavorable weather and dispatched his craft to the assault waves according to schedule. Thereafter, he was tireless in unloading landing craft (tanks), Liberty ships and coasters.

'The assiduity and outstanding devotion to duty displayed by Lieutenant Commander Lynn were in keeping with the best traditions of the United States naval service.'

(Signed) Harold R. Stark, Admiral, U. S. Navy, Commander, U. S. Naval Forces in Europe"

On July 27, 1944 the Naval Commander of the Western Task Forces recommended him for the Legion of Merit. That recommendation was based on the following facts as stated by the Naval Commander:

Lieutenant Commander Lynn was relieved as LCT Type Commander for Utah, to assume the duties of Unloading and Operation's Officer for CTG 125.10 on D-plus 8, having arrived in the area on D-day, as Commander Red LCT Assault Unit, (CTG 125.5.4). In his new capacity he alternated between ships afloat and operations ashore, at the same time organizing and instructing ferry craft units, with particular emphasis on LCT's.

Making able use of his LCT Group Commanders, he set up a system of rapid radio communications to expedite assignHamilton Hicks. In view of his recent affiliation, it should be of interest to give some details of his background. He attended Philips Exeter Academy and Princeton University, Class of 1918. He left college in 1917 to enter the Army and he served in France with distinction as a first lieutenant in the famous 80th Division AEF. After the war he attended Harvard Law School, receiving the degree of LL.B. in 1922. From 1922 to 1928 he was associated with the law firms of Travis, Spence and Hopkins, and Spence & Hopkins in New York City. Thereafter, for a short period he was a partner in the firm of Franklin and Hicks and for the past fifteen years he has had his own office in New York City and Westchester County where he resides.

His professional training and a natural aptitude have led him into the fields of litigation where he has had much experience and success particularly with cases involving unfair trade practices.

In May of 1941 American Gas Accumulator Company (AGA — a client of this firm) became a party to a Voting Trust Agreement. The primary purpose of the trust was to have certain foreign stockholdings deposited with an independent, American Trustee. Careful search was made for an individual "Trustee" who could meet high requirements of independence and patriotism, in order that no one in

the future could have any basis for assailing the Trustee as an agent of the foreign stockholders. Of all those considered, Judge Hicks seemed to have these qualifications in the greatest degree, and consequently he was selected. At about the same time he became a Director of American Gas Accumulator Company and later he became a Director of its subsidiary, Elastic Stop Nut Corporation of America.

In his capacity as Director of AGA he became known to several members of this firm, who immediately were favorably impressed by his personality, character, and ability. More recently, during the period when Elastic Stop Nut Corporation encountered difficulties and was publicly investigated by the Securities & Exchange Commission, it was the indefatigable and productive efforts of Judge Hicks that brought that corporation through a storm of unfair publicity and investigation.

With the intimate knowledge that this firm had concerning Judge Hicks, it was natural that he was invited to become one of us. This invitation he accepted. We now welcome with enthusiasm and high hopes this new addition to our ranks. In addition to his many other constructive attributes, the firm can feel that it is now well rounded in every aspect of the profession with a lawyer of such court experience and ability as Judge Hicks.

## ASSOCIATES OF THE FIRM

A description of the present firm would not be complete without mention of Thomas Roberts, although he is not a lawyer and not a partner. He has had an extraordinary career. He came to us as an office boy in 1901 with a salary of \$4. per week. He has often said that when he was sent to deliver a letter uptown upon his first day he deliberated on the platform of the elevated as to whether or not he should return to the office or look elsewhere. Fortunately for him and for us he decided to throw his lot in with us.

Of course it was not long before he graduated as an office boy. He studied accounting. In time he was given work in our Accounting Department and later he became head of that Department and, finally, its Manager, a position which he holds today.

But, Roberts is only nominally an employee, although he receives a retainer from the firm. Had he studied law, had he then been admitted to the Bar he would long ago have been a member of the firm. Even so, while technically an outsider, he has for years been regarded and treated as a member of our partnership organization. Roberts has become an expert in investments and is a confidential adviser in such matters, not only to members of the firm, but to clients of the firm and to numerous personal

clients who have gathered around him. His financial ability, his sterling character and perfect loyalty have won for him the regard and respect of everyone. We rejoice in the great advance which he has had and we extend to him our sincere hand of fellowship.

It is fitting that mention should be made of others who have earned important places in the office.

Edna P. Hopkins came to us in October 1918. She was the first woman lawyer to be taken into the office. As such she was under a psychological handicap which it was not easy to overcome. How is it that she has won out so completely? The answer is not difficult to find. Ability, thoroughness in her work, the faculty of cooperating with her associates, the confidence which she inspires in her judgment. and her success in winning the confidence of clients; these are the things that have overcome the handicap of sex and that have won for her the respect and admiration of her fellow workers. So highly have we regarded her that we have urgently invited her to become one of our partners. We deeply regret that she has declined that invitation as we believe that her joining with us would add an important element to the partnership.

Many of our office force are today in the armed services —

Robert C. Fulton, Jr. a Lieutenant in the Navy; Herbert S. Schwab a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy; Kenneth N. LaVine a Captain in the Army; William K. Laughlin a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy; Constable MacCracken a Lieutenant in the Army.

### Also in the armed forces are:

John Briggs McLemore, Jr.
Michael Mantone
Emil Junge
George Westwood, Jr.
Manuel Rivera
Gilbert Jagoe
William Silver
Robert Wassel

Similar contributions during the first World War should not be overlooked. Mention in that connection has already been made of Stickney, Micou, Borges and Hicks. Also in our armed forces at that time were Embury, Joseph Degen and others no longer with us.

#### FOREIGN BRANCHES

In 1919 Bernard S. Van Rensselaer, who had been in Brazil for personal clients, proposed that we open an office in Rio de Janeiro and offered to take charge of it. We accepted the offer and gave him a partnership interest in that office. He continued there until July 1920 when he was succeeded by Jesse Knight, with Creswell M. Micou as his assistant. That office continued until 1924 when we closed it.

In 1921 Dr. Romulo S. Naon, who had just retired as Argentine Ambassador at Washington, asked us to open an office in Buenos Aires. He offered to become a partner in that office, and to bring in with him Dr. Iriondo, an ex-Minister of the Treasury, and Dr. Horacio Beccar Varela, a leading lawyer of Buenos Aires. We accepted Dr. Naon's proposal and opened an office under the name of

Naon, Iriondo and Beccar Varela and Curtis, Mallet-Prevost & Colt

We sent Van Rensselaer to represent us in the firm. Unfortunately Dr. Naon never became active in that office; neither did Dr. Iriondo; and, for a time, Dr. Beccar Varela and Van Rensselaer were alone. Dr. Beccar Varela is a man of the highest character and

great legal ability, but he was not accustomed to New York methods and was not in full accord with Van Rensselaer. We finally decided to withdraw and recalled Van Rensselaer in 1922. He severed his connection with us at that time.

In May 1921 we opened an office in Havana. Judge Schoenrich was sent to take charge of it. He had, among other assistants, Carlos Lazo, a son of Dr. Antonio Lazo Arriaga. In May 1922, due to the then unsettled financial condition of the world, we decided to close the office.

# FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

I HAVE PURPOSELY LEFT to the last an account of our Foreign Department because it has been the work of many. No one person can be credited with its success. Mention will be made of a few of the more important matters that have been handled and of the persons especially active in them. No attempt will be made to make that list complete or to detail the many activities of the Department.

To begin with, the chief instrumentality of the Department's activities is to be found in the extensive library of foreign law that has grown from a small beginning to its present proportions. That growth has been due largely to Borges who has known how to select books and how to deal with them so as to make their contents easily available. The codes, the legislation and the jurisprudence of the various Latin American countries are to be found on our shelves. We subscribe to the official journals of most of those countries, and are thus enabled to keep abreast of the changes constantly taking place. Few of the Latin American Republics publish digests of their own laws or decisions and, in order to supply that defect the journals, as received, are examined and a card index is prepared of their contents. The library also includes publications from Spain, France and other countries, also extensive treatises and commentaries. It is today probably the most complete library of its kind in the United States. It is doubtful if there can be found in any one of the Latin American Republics so complete a file of the laws of its neighbors.

To the activity of the Foreign Department many have contributed.

It was William E. Curtis who suggested my name to Richard Olney, then Attorney General of the United States, for appointment as special counsel for the government in the Peralta case. That case involved the title to nearly half of New Mexico and Arizona.

Again it was Mr. Curtis who introduced me to James Brown Potter, President of the Tlahualilo Company. That introduction led to important business which, year after year, and for many years brought large revenues to the firm.

Still again it was Mr. Mosle who brought to the Foreign Department the business of his father's firm. That firm had important interests in Cuba and in other Caribbean countries. In connection with its Cuban business the Foreign Department handled what was probably the first issue of corporate bonds

secured by mortgage in any Latin American country. It set a precedent in that line.

Mention should be made of numerous Latin American lawyers who have been associated with us in the Foreign Department.

Dr. Antonio Lazo Arriaga, an eminent Guatemalan lawyer who had been Minister of Foreign Affairs in his native land and later its Minister in Washington, came to us when he resigned that post, and was associated with us for many years as special consultant in Latin American law.

Manuel Garza Aldape and Rafael Martinez Carrillo, both of whom had occupied cabinet positions in Mexico, found themselves at one time in New York as political exiles. Both came to us and remained with us for years. I had known Garza Aldape in Mexico, and had there been associated with him in important litigation. He was an able lawyer and, when I was called to Havana in connection with the affairs of the Bank of the Americas, he accompanied me and was extremely useful.

Rafael Martinez Carrillo was also an able lawyer and for many years after his return to Mexico was our correspondent in that country.

Another Latin American lawyer who spent some years with us was Ruben Lopez-Miranda, a Cuban. He learned how New York law offices are organized and, while here, was a competent advisor on Cuban law. On his return to Cuba he became our correspondent at Havana. We have found him not only able and diligent but absolutely loyal to the interests of our firm and a faithful friend.

From Brazil we had Jose T. Nabuco, son of a distinguished Brazilian Ambassador to the United States. When we opened a branch office in Rio de Janeiro he came to us as a law student and was there with us when he was admitted to the Bar. He came later to our New York office and was with us for a year or more. When we withdrew from Brazil he took over that office in his own name and since then has been a valued correspondent.

In addition to the above we have had young lawyers from Peru, the Argentine and Colombia, all of whom have contributed their shares.

As a long term Latin American law clerk in the office we have had Clodoaldo Barrera, who only recently severed his connection with us. He came to us 18 years ago as a young Mexican lawyer and began as a Spanish stenographer. We soon discovered his legal abilities and for many years we had his able assistance. He has the highly intellectual approach to legal problems which is characteristic of Latin jurists and his association with us has been of inestimable value.

The following are a few of the matters that have been handled by the Department:

Two extradition cases, in one of which we represented the Mexican Government, and the other where we were opposed to the Spanish Government, were carried to the Supreme Court of the United States and are among the important cases on extradition law that have come before that tribunal.

The Department has been interested in three international arbitrations. In one, we were associated with Coudert Bros. and represented the Italian Government in a claim against Colombia. The arbitrator was President Cleveland. Another was between the United States and Great Britain over pecuniary claims. We were counsel for the United States.

The third arbitration was over the Guiana boundary dispute between Venezuela and Great Britain. In that case we were associated with Ex-President Benjamin Harrison, General Benjamin F. Tracy and James Russell Soley, respectively Secretary and Assistant Secretary of War during President Harrison's administration. The tribunal was presided over by M. de Martens, professor of international law at the University of St. Petersburg. The other judges were: Chief Justice Fuller and Justice Brewer, of the United States Supreme Court, Lord Russell of Killowen (Lord Chief Justice of England) and Lord

Justice Henn Collins. The counsel for Great Britain were Sir Richard Webster, attorney general and later Lord Chief Justice of England, Sir Robert Reid, a former attorney general and later Lord Chancellor, C. R. Asquith and A. Rowlatt. The arguments took four hours each day, four days each week, and covered a period of nearly three months. The award secured to Venezuela the mouth of the Orinico and control of the entire Orinoco basin, these being the most important questions at issue.

In numerous Cuban filibustering cases prior to our war with Spain, we were counsel for Spain.

One of our most valued clients has been Henry Ulen. The Company which he formed was engaged in extensive construction work in Brazil, Uruguay, Spain, Poland, Greece and Persia. That work involved negotiations, contracts and bond issues which called for the services of our Foreign Department.

The banking houses of Brown Bros. & Company and J. & W. Seligman & Company became interested in Nicaragua in 1911. In the course of the next few years they succeeded in reorganizing and reconstructing the national railways of Nicaragua, and in establishing a National Bank of issue. The former depreciated currency of the country was withdrawn and replaced by a new currency based on gold. Nicaragua was one of the few countries during the

first World War which remained on the gold standard. The bankers also reorganized the customs service of the country and conducted negotiations on behalf of the Nicaraguan Government with the Council of Foreign Bondholders of London to readjust the country's foreign indebtedness. In all these matters our Foreign Department was active.

After the first World War, American bankers became interested in foreign loans. We were counsel for many syndicates and at one time or another represented nearly all of the New York issuing houses. In that connection we were called upon to pass upon bond issues in Uruguay, the Argentine, Peru, Bolivia, Colombia, Brazil and Austria, the total aggregating well over \$500,000,000.

During the years of oil development in Venezuela, we were counsel for many important companies there and passed upon the titles to most of the territories taken up.

In the various matters above mentioned, the Department has had the close cooperation and services of Schoenrich, Borges, Lynn, Kohlman, Knight, Micou and Seward. In the work of Ulen & Company, Schoenrich was especially active; and, in connection with the government bond issues the services of Kohlman have been invaluable. Schoenrich has made innumerable trips abroad, visiting Poland,

Greece, Persia, Germany and France in connection with Ulen's matters. During the present war he has been sent by our government on missions to Uruguay; and he is at this moment in Liberia engaged in the negotiations with the Liberian Government.

Borges has represented the firm in important litigation in Salvador and has frequently gone to Latin American countries on behalf of important clients such as the Raymond Concrete Pile Company. During the present war, he has been sent to Central and South American countries as counsel for the United States Government.

Micou has had important activities in Brazil, in Yugoslavia and in dealing with frozen credits in Spain and other countries as counsel for the National Foreign Trade Council.

The Foreign Department has continued its activities along many other lines. It has taken part in many corporate bond issues, notably those of Armour & Co. in the Argentine, Brazil and other countries: it has undertaken the organization of corporations, American and Latin American, qualified to do business in those countries: it has dealt with problems arising from conflict of laws as between this country and those under the Civil Law; It has advised other firms when they have been called upon to deal with Latin American matters.

As a result of these activities, it has become as specially qualified to deal with matter ing to the countries south of us. The natifirm is recognized and respected through America, and we have there secured as counts the leaders of the local bars.

The present War and the activities (
Rockefeller as Coordinator of Inter-Ame
fairs have brought the United States into
nomic relations with Mexico, Central a
America, and have focused the attention
can capital upon the great, but hitherto
oped, resources and opportunities presente
countries. We are at the threshold of m
developments in that field; and our serv
are bound to be in ever increasing demand

#### CONCLUSION

Let me add just a final word.

When I joined the firm 48 years ago the thing that most impressed me was the high character of the four men with whom I joined forces, the two Curtises, Colt, and Mosle. I had known lawyers before, both here and in Philadelphia where I was first admitted to the Bar, and I had a high regard for the ethics of our profession. However, I found my new partners to be of a very special type. They were meticulous in their dealings with clients and in the handling of legal problems. If ever a situation arose where there could be doubt as to the correct course to pursue, not one of my partners ever had a moment's hesitation to decide against his personal interest. That spirit permeated the office, and so has continued through the nearly five decades that have passed. Generosity, absence of self-interest, loyalty, have been the watchwords of the firm, and of all those who have worked for it. May those watchwords ever be the foundation stones upon which partners yet to be shall continue to build an enduring structure.