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DEDICATION

by William B. Aycock*

When Fred Davis, Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal*, informed me that the Board of Editors had decided to dedicate the current issue to its principal faculty advisor, Professor Seymour Walter Wurfel, I tingled with delight. He further informed me that inasmuch as I had known Professor Wurfel for almost three decades, the Board concluded that I should do the dedication. I accepted the honor without hesitation but my acceptance was slightly tinctured with apprehension. My apprehension stemmed solely from an awareness that the *Journal*, like most new scholarly publications, was operating on a cash trickle. Was it possible to prepare a dedication worthy of the subject without busting the budget? The prudent nature of Professor Wurfel indicated that I should attempt a "Nutshell" treatment. Precedent for such an approach goes back to the time Lord Thurlow tried to put the Rule in Shelley's Case in a nutshell. Lord Macnaghten was skeptical and he responded, "[i]t is one thing to put a case like Shelley's in a nutshell and another thing to keep it there." Like the Rule in Shelley's Case, Professor Wurfel is too full of vitality to remain impounded in a nutshell.

My first contact with Professor Wurfel occurred in the summer of 1949. I had just survived my first year of law teaching and the next item on my agenda was reserve duty with the Army. Although I was a reserve infantry officer at the time, I was authorized to attend a school at Fort Bragg conducted by the Third Army for reserve officers in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. Colonel Wurfel was a member of the teaching staff. His lectures on habeas corpus were of such high quality that I felt impelled to know more about him.

I learned that he was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Pomona College and that he had been awarded the LL.B. degree by Harvard. He became a member of the California Bar in 1930. Prior to entering the Army as an infantry reserve officer, he had five years experience as Deputy District Attorney in San Diego County and five years of private practice. He served in North Africa in the infantry, and in 1946 was transferred to the Judge Advocate General's Corps. Prior to 1949 he had been an instructor in the Infantry School at Fort Benning and Director of Instruction of the Military Government School at Charlottesville. In 1949 he was stationed at the Third Army Headquarters in Fort McPherson, Georgia. He had a special interest in continuing legal

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education programs for reserve officers. At this time the Army also needed to recruit able law school graduates for active service in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. After Colonel Wurfel explained this need to me, I secured the approval of my colleagues in the Law School to teach a course in Military Law. During each year that I taught this course, Colonel Wurfel came to Chapel Hill for a week to teach the international law segment. While in Chapel Hill, he interviewed prospective graduates, and through his assistance each year several of them were commissioned First Lieutenants in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. His interest in legal education while in the service was manifested in other ways. While stationed in Atlanta, he earned a graduate degree in law at Emory University. He had articles published in the law reviews of Michigan, North Carolina, Vanderbilt and Tennessee. In 1955 he and I collaborated on a book published by the University of North Carolina Press entitled: *Military Law Under the Uniform Code of Military Justice*. At various times he was granted leave by the Army to teach in the law schools of the Universities of Georgia, Tennessee and Vanderbilt. His final tour of duty was at his alma mater, Pomona College, where he was Professor of Military Science in the R.O.T.C. Program. Thus his military career ended on the campus where it began.

At the age of fifty-two Colonel Wurfel completed his military career of twenty years. Conventional wisdom dictates that law schools shun those who aspire to retire to a law teaching career. But Dean Henry P. Brandis, and his faculty colleagues, decided that Colonel Wurfel was an exception to the rule. In 1960 he was appointed Professor of Law.

Professor Wurfel with characteristic vigor thrust himself with full force into his faculty duties. He taught courses in Agency, Contracts, Damages and Military Law. More recently, he developed courses in Conflict of Laws, Comparative Law and International Law and a seminar in International Business Transactions.

He has served on the Committee on University Government and as a member of the Board of Scientific Directors of the North Carolina Institute of Nutrition. In 1972, upon the retirement of Graham Kenan Professor Frank Hanft, he was selected to represent the Law School on the North Carolina General Statutes Commission. His colleagues on the Commission, in recognition of his superior work, elected him Vice Chairman.

As a member of the faculty, Professor Wurfel has continued to contribute to legal periodicals. He participated in three "Annual Surveys of North Carolina Case Law" conducted by the *North Carolina Law Review* by writing articles on "Conflict of Laws—Choice of Law in North Carolina." Also during the period 1960-1970 he published articles on the subjects of Military Government, Aircraft Piracy and Conflict of Laws. Since 1970, he has contributed articles entitled "Recognition of Foreign Judgments," "Multi-State Business Transactions—Contracts," "Sta-

tutes of Limitations in the Conflict of Laws," and "Jet Age Domicile: The Semi-Demise of Durational Residence Requirements."

The interests of Professor Wurfel in his teaching and research extend from the county courthouse across the seas and encompass law on the land, in the air and on the oceans. It is apparent that each year he has inspired an increasing number of students to enlarge the dimensions of their own perspective on the role of law in the world. His own growing concern for international affairs has its roots in his military experience. After World War II, he was Judge Advocate of the Phillipines-Ryukyus Command, and later he was Judge Advocate of the Fifth Corps in Frankfurt, Germany. In 1963, under the auspices of the Ford Foundation and the American Society of International Law, he undertook a research project involving South America. His inquiries led him for a period of six months to Colombia. He produced a book on *Foreign Enterprise in Colombia: Law and Policies* which was published by the University of North Carolina Press. In 1955 and again in 1966 he attended the summer session at The Hague Academy of International Law. In 1968 he participated in a course in Soviet Law in the College of the City of London. During the period 1970-1975 under the Marine Resources Legal Research Project for Sea Grant he directed and edited ninety-eight research articles by students that were published in eighteen publications. Over a period of a decade he has published eleven book reviews of books on international law. For years he has been and is now the faculty advisor to the John J. Parker International Law Society and to the Jessup International Moot Court Team.

Fifty-five years ago the inspiration and the driving force for the establishment of *The North Carolina Law Review* was provided by the late Maurice T. Van Hecke. Two years ago the inspiration and the driving force for the establishment of the *North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation* was provided by Professor Seymour W. Wurfel. Only those students who have responded and are now responding to his vision and efforts can fully appreciate the dimensions of his work to insure that this student publication is of a quality to reflect credit on law students and the law school. Professor Wurfel is the first to acknowledge the role of his co-advisors, Professor Emeritus John P. Dalzell and Associate Professor Jonathan A. Eddy. All three of them are in agreement that the ultimate success of the *Journal* depends on the student Board of Editors.

Professor Wurfel, due to University retirement regulations, has begun his last year as a full time faculty member. A nutshell treatment of the tangible evidence of his contributions in teaching, in research and writing, and in service reveals a record that is truly remarkable. It is even more remarkable when we pause and reflect that it is a seventeen-year record inaugurated at the age of fifty-two! Based on his curriculum vitae alone, he has earned a place of distinction among all the faculty members to serve in the Law School of the University of North Carolina.

The full assessment of any faculty member must take into account the intangible qualities of the person. Much of a student's legal education is caught from and not taught by a professor. Such qualities cannot be packaged. Looming large among the many qualities possessed by Professor Wurfel is that he is a man of self-discipline. Some people have assumed that self-discipline is a trait that he acquired in the military service and brought with him to the Law School. But not so! Self-discipline is a trait he carried from civilian life into the Army. It has remained one of his strong assets in law school, and it was not dissipated even during the years when many university campuses appeared to reflect greater respect for less exacting values. Unquestionably, some law students have caught this quality from his example. To the extent that this has occurred, the legal profession is a beneficiary.

In dedicating this issue of the *Journal* to Professor Wurfel, I am confident that the Board of Editors are dedicating themselves to the task of insuring that this publication will become a lasting monument to him.