

James W. Prothro

James W. Prothro died Friday, February 7, 1986, while on one of his regular multi-mile jogs. He was 63 and seemed to be in the best of health. He and his wife, Ana, were in the midst of moving into a new house that had just been built for them in the country outside Chapel Hill. Jim had just completed a term as chairman of his department, and was on leave preparing a grant proposal with his new colleague Pamela Conover. Their intent was to restudy after 25 years some of the communities that had been analyzed in *Negroes and the New Southern Politics*. Jim's interest in this project reflected not only an intellectual curiosity about one of the great social experiments of our time—forced desegregation—but also his deep-seated and long-standing commitment to political and social equality. Jim was as full of energy and resolve as ever. His loss is deeply felt by his colleagues and students in Chapel Hill and throughout the country.

His stature in the profession of political science is well known. At the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he personified the department and the field of political science as no one else did. His distinguished career deserves recounting.

A native of Louisiana, Jim grew up near Baton Rouge and graduated in war time from North Texas State University, which later presented him with a Distinguished Alumnus Award. Between 1943 and 1946, he rose from private to captain in the U.S. Army, serving in Europe. After a period of study at the University of Edinburgh, he earned masters degrees from Louisiana State University and Princeton, and a doctorate from Princeton. His dissertation was published as *The Dollar Decade: Business Ideas in the 1920s*, and was reprinted in 1969.

Prothro's academic career began at Florida State University, where he taught for a decade, rising from assistant professor to professor in seven years. In 1961 he was appointed professor of political science at the University of North Carolina, and in 1975 he was

honored as Alumni Distinguished Professor. He served this university as Director of its Institute for Research in Social Science, and in countless other capacities.

He was a central figure in the Southern Political Science Association, and served as president in 1970–1971. He served the American Political Science Association in multiple capacities, most recently as vice-president. He sat on advisory panels for the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Academy of Sciences, the Social Science Research Council, and numerous other distinguished bodies.

In addition to the *Dollar Decade*, Jim Prothro's scholarly legacy includes *Negroes and the New Southern Politics*, the central product of his work with Donald R. Matthews on black political participation in the South. *The Politics of American Democracy* (with Marian D. Irish and later with Richard J. Richardson) was a leading textbook of the 1960s and 1970s.

Surely the most quoted, most cited, and most reprinted of Jim Prothro's scores of articles is "Fundamental Principles of Democracy: Bases of Agreement and Disagreement" (with Charles Grigg). This study took the then remarkable step of empirically investigating the degree of consensus on fundamental principles of democracy, finding that agreement in abstract did not translate into specific applications. Jim Prothro's scholarly work is well characterized by the qualities of this landmark article. It was guided by basic issues in democratic theory, it was characterized by careful empirical research, and it was arresting in its implications.

James Prothro was a central figure in the training of scores of graduate students who are now leaders of the profession. For them he personified high standards, sound scholarly values, and modern methods. His large-scale research projects provided the data base for uncounted dissertations, many of which he himself directed.

Jim felt no need to hide his politics. He

was an ardent liberal, and an unabashed Democrat who taught his dog to roll over when asked if she would rather be a Republican or a dead dog. He was an outspoken advocate of equal rights for blacks and for women long before it was fashionable.

He loved games and competition, especially tennis, chess, and poker. He loved his family and his friends and they loved him. He is greatly missed and he will never be replaced.

Frederic N. Cleaveland
Duke University

Pamela J. Conover
William R. Keech

Richard J. Richardson

Donald D. Searing

Juerg Steiner

The University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill

Bryce Wood

On January 23, 1986, American social scientists lost a comrade and a scholar in the person of Bryce Wood. Bryce made his mark on American political science in two quite different ways. As the staff person for several of the important committees of the Social Science Research Council for almost a quarter century he worked closely with nearly every well-known political scientist of his generation. Meanwhile he maintained his scholarly productivity, something few full-time research administrators manage. Even fewer could match the quantity and quality of his postretirement scholarly publication.

Born on March 13, 1909, in Everett, Washington, a vicinity that remained "home" for him as long as he lived, he graduated from Reed College, subsequently receiving his doctorate from Columbia University in 1940, for a dissertation published under the title, *Peaceful Change and the Colonial Problem*. In 1941 Bryce joined the political science faculty of Swarthmore College, which he liked to think of as "the Reed College of the East." A back operation left him hearty and strong but ineligible for military service for which he volunteered.

However, government service of another kind called. On leave from Swarthmore for much of the first two years of his appointment, he served in the State Department in one of its postwar planning divisions. Subsequently he was a member of the international secretariat at the San Francisco conference that in 1945 produced the UN Charter.

As a teacher at Swarthmore Bryce was liked and respected by both colleagues and students. Within each group, in a short period of years, he formed life-long friendships. In 1951, to his Swarthmore friends' regret, Bryce resigned his professorship to join the staff of the Social Science Research Council. He served it until his retirement in 1973, during the last two years primarily with the Foreign Area Fellowship Program, a joint project of the SSRC and the ACLS.

The four books Bryce Wood published on the international relations of the Americas demonstrate equally his technical historiographic skills in multi-archival research and his analytical proficiency as a political scientist. Two books, *The Making of the Good Neighbor Policy* (1961) and *The Dismantling of the Good Neighbor Policy* (1985), will be standard fare for students of inter-American relations for years to come. A third, *The United States and the Wars of South America, 1932-1942* (1966), provides a useful corrective for parochially Eurocentric students of war and peace and is in any case a substantial treatment of a largely ignored chapter on inter-American relations. The fourth volume, a monograph on *Aggression and History* (1978), is both larger and smaller in concept. It is a multi-archival examination of a small case of a recurrent large problem, Peru's absorption of a significant fraction of territory claimed by Ecuador.

Bryce Wood the person encompassed much more than teacher, scholar, and administrator. Some of his characteristics are suggested by the words "enthusiasm," "energy," "gusto," along with "loyalty" and "integrity." He loved sports; he was a sailor, a rower, a chess player, a gardener, an amateur chef, and above all a birder. There never was a conference or a committee meeting in some