

The Interpreter

Archives, University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries

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Our Mission

In the Spring of 2000, the Archives continued the original efforts of Captain Roger Pineau and William Hudson, and the Archives first attempts in 1992, to gather the papers, letters, photographs, and records of graduates of the US Navy Japanese/Oriental Language School, University of Colorado at Boulder, 1942-1946. We assemble these papers in recognition of the contributions made by JLS/OLS instructors and graduates to the War effort in the Pacific and the Cold War, to the creation of East Asian language programs across the country, and to the development of Japanese-American cultural reconciliation programs after World War II.

Lionel Casson Who Wrote of Ancient Maritime History Dies at 94

Lionel Casson, who melded his mastery of classical literature with the findings of underwater archaeology in scholarly but accessible books about the history of ancient seafaring, from the primitive dory to the vast armadas of the Roman Empire, died July 18 in Manhattan. He was 94.

The cause was pneumonia, his daughter Andrea Casson said. Drawing from an array of sources — the writings of the historian Thucydides and the speeches of Demosthenes; cargo manifests kept by unknown captains; images of ships on sculptures; the dating and typing of timbers taken from sunken vessels — Dr. Casson's gracefully written books traced the trade routes that bound the ancient world and described the early evolution of shipbuilding and naval warfare.

A particularly useful source for Dr. Casson were amphorae,



Ensign Lionel Casson, amusing the

dignitaries on the dais, R. Pineau

Collection, 6-4-1-30J.

the earthenware freight containers of antiquity that carried products like honey, olive oil, wine, frankincense and myrrh from port to port. Markings preserved on many amphorae identified not only the point of embarkation but the year and the month.

Dr. Casson, a professor of classics at New York University from 1961 to 1979, wrote 23 books on Greek and Latin literature and the maritime history of the ancient Western world.

In one of his best-known works, "The Ancient Mariners: Seafarers and Sea Fighters of the Mediterranean in Ancient Times" (Macmillan, 1959), he wrote of the Egyptians, Minoans, Mycenaeans, Phoenicians, Greeks and Romans and how they ventured from timid voyages hugging the coasts to bold dashes across open seas.

He described how maritime commerce progressed from nearby exchanges to an integrated network stretching from the Mediterranean and Aegean Seas to shores as distant as Britain and India. With commerce and politics fomenting rivalries, warships evolved from flat-bottomed rowboats into leviathans bearing

hundreds of oarsmen and warriors. The Athenian trireme, for example, was a war galley with 170 oars arranged in three banks; rowing was synchronized to the piping of a flutist.

"A trireme could sprint at a seven-knot speed or spin about in little more than its own length," the book says. "Despite its size and power, it was light and shallow enough for the crew to run it up on a beach" so crew members could cook, eat and sleep on shore.

But there were even larger ships in the ancient world, the "supergalleys" built by Egyptian pharaohs and their Macedonian rivals. One, built by Ptolemy IV, Dr. Casson wrote, "was over 400 feet long and 50 feet wide; the figureheads on the prow and stern towered more than 70 feet above the water, and there were no less than 4,000 rowers manning its benches."

Dr. Casson did not limit himself to ancient maritime history. His 1964 book "Illustrated History of Ships and Boats" (Doubleday) traces water travel from the days when men floated across a river on an inflated animal skin to the days of steel-skinned nuclear submarines.

Dr. Casson also published "Libraries in the Ancient World" (Yale University Press, 2001). By piecing together findings from archaeological digs, references from literary texts and even epitaphs relating to libraries, he offered a succinct view of the development of reading, writing and book collecting in Mesopotamia, Greece and the Roman Empire. He sprinkled the book with amusing asides, including all-time best-seller-list assessments. "Homer led by a wide margin, with the 'Iliad' favored over the 'Odyssey,'" he wrote.

In 2005, Dr. Casson received the Gold Medal Award for Distinguished Archaeological Achievement from the Archaeological Institute of America.

Born in Brooklyn on July 22, 1914, Lionel I. Cohen (he later changed his name to Casson) was one of two sons of Abraham and Bess Cohen. His father owned a lumberyard.

Besides his daughter Andrea, he is survived by his wife of 63 years, the former Julia Michelman; another daughter, Gail Casson; and two grandchildren.

Dr. Casson received his bachelor's degree in 1934, his



**New York University
Lionel Casson**

master's degree in 1936 and his doctorate in 1939, all from New York University, and was hired as an instructor at N.Y.U. In World War II, he attended the US Navy Japanese/Oriental Language School at the University of Colorado, was valedictorian of his class, and served as a Navy Japanese Language Officer, interrogating Japanese prisoners of war.

Andrea Casson said that when her father was a teenager, he and a friend bought a small sailboat and soon began plying the waters of Long Island Sound. In 1952, while teaching at N.Y.U., he received a Guggenheim Fellowship. It allowed him to study ancient maritime commerce and spend a year examining the site of every important ancient harbor on the European coast of the Mediterranean and most of those on the coasts of Asia and Africa.

The majesty of masts and billowing sails enraptured him throughout his life. When replicas of the Niña, Pinta and Santa Maria made their way below the towers of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge in July 1992, in observance of the 500th anniversary of Columbus's discovery of America, Dr. Casson was standing on the shore of New York Harbor.

"They looked fine, until they dropped their sails," he said. "Then they kept on moving, and you realized they had motor power."

*By Dennis Hevesi
New York Times
July 24, 2009*

[Ed. Note: I just had to include the shot of valedictorian, Lionel Casson, causing CPT Welch, President Stearns, Florence Walne, and others to crack up on the stage. The only way you can really see the image was to have it enlarged considerably. We provided a copy of this image to the Casson family.]

Memoirs Of Ari Inouye

(Cont'd) My father called Boulder "paradise" after the experience of living behind barbed wire and guard towers located in the Sevier Desert of Utah; this new experience must have indeed seemed like paradise to my parents. We were very happy to get them out of camp and to see them enjoying their freedom once again.

My brother, Michinori, was in the armed service at the time and was stationed at an Army hospital in Fort Worth, Cheyenne, Wyoming. He came to visit us every other weekend on weekend passes. We were so fortunate that this was possible in spite of wartime conditions.



"Inouye's", Detail, Yomoto Collection, 01_02_00_16, Archives, UCB Libraries.

On November 5, 1945, our second son, Stanley, was born. About the same time, the Boulder Naval Language School was being phased out and the teachers were gradually being dismissed. I was one of the teachers who was being retained; many of the other instructors had already gone back to California, including the ones who had been sent to Stillwater, Oklahoma.

In March 1946, we made preparations for our return home. Part of our preparation included purchasing a homemade wooden box trailer. We attached this trailer to our old 1937 Plymouth car, and this was how our family returned to Oakland. There were five of us: my dad, Ida, our two children and I. David was two-and-a-half years old; Stanley was four months old. Mother was in Salt Lake City, Utah, at the time. All the belongings we needed – all the baby things and whatever we could possibly take – were loaded onto our trailer. Our furniture and other belongings had to be packed and made ready for the Navy to ship back to us in Oakland. Under these circumstances, none of us really wanted to leave Boulder, but we were fortunate to have a home to which we could return. Many did not.

Making a fresh start and making a living for the family was not an easy task. Feelings against the Japanese were still very strong. I'll never forget the time when my father, ill as he was, helped me cut weeds in a vacant lot. We were paid for this; it was the new beginning of making a living for the family.

A fellow landscape architect I had known since high school called me and offered me the use of the office he was renting. He was willing to leave all of his equipment for me since he was offered the position of State Landscape Architect and was moving to Sacramento. Another old high school friend, Kirk Hayes, offered financial help in order to get started in business. I was indeed grateful for their kindness and help.

I now had this nice office in Montclair, but soon discovered I would have very few clients, although there was a lot of work to be had in the post-war building boom. The local nurseries were happy to sell their plants to me but were not willing to recommend me to clients that asked for garden design. Because of this, I obtained a California Landscape Contractors license. This enabled me to do design work and installation according to plan.

As time went on, my work load increased, and as a result, I was able to hire some student

help. Those who came to work for me included a pastor, a seminarian, three future landscape architects, two veterans of the 442nd, and others. We were all in similar situations of just starting out after the war. We often survived on peanut butter and jelly sandwiches that got us through those early days. We did not know until years later when one person who helped me remarked that those peanut butter sandwiches were the only things he had each day. Our income was such that it was a time of feast or famine for the family, not only for us, but for many.

While in private practice, I also worked with Howard Gilkey, a landscape architect who had a private practice and was a Master Designer of the Oakland Home and Garden Show. In those days, the Oakland Garden Show was an annual show. It was a spectacular show of beautiful gardens designed by some of the leading landscape architects. As the Master Designer, he created the entire show around a central theme. One year it would be Giant Redwoods, or Sequoias, the Giant Ferns, and the Waterfalls that roared down from the ceiling to the floor. There would be rhododendrons, azaleas, orchids and anthuriums. All the participating entries would plan their entire gardens around the central theme. A person could only minimally appreciate the grandeur of the garden until they attended one of these shows. (to be cont'd)

*Ari Inouye
USN JLS Sensei
1942-1946*

The Reminiscences of Donald Sigurdson Willis

[Donald S. Willis passed in 2009. This is an excerpt of a longer memoir.]

The US Naval Japanese Language School (1942-43)

[Cont'd, at Boulder] The battle for Guadalcanal was raging (and we got word of our first language officer casualty, named Holtom [The Pearl Harbor trained Marine was KIA on Makin Island. His brothers John and Dan were in the CU USN JLS and would have been informed],

when Mary Jean arrived and found a place to stay for a week on Pennsylvania Avenue, close by campus. Sure enough, I stopped studying (or did an inadequate job) while I devoted all my time outside of class to persuading her to marry me during the Christmas holiday (the Navy would be giving us a week off). We walked and talked, talked and walked (one night until the wee hours of the morning in the park in front of the band shell). After she left, I explained my situation to Miss Florence Walne, the Director, and she graciously allowed me to join a section which was proceeding at a slightly slower pace. This allowed me to catch up.

Dick [Greenwood] got married to Wilma and moved to the same apartment building where Margaret and Bob Wilson were living (Bob, also from UW, was a graduate student in history there when he joined the school – d. '91, after many years at UCLA).

My new roommate was Wendell Furnas, newly repatriated from China, where he had been a journalist, and had been imprisoned by the Japanese, and his class, a small one, was called the fall group (ours, 150 in all, was designated the “Summer” class).

We had classes (5 or 6 students in each section) in Reading, Dictation, and Conversation – Reading was 2 hours – Monday through Friday. Saturday mornings were reserved for examinations covering each week’s work, and they were two hours long at first, longer later on. We were required to commit to memory certain selections, and had to appear before a panel of inquisitors at various times.

Our teachers were mostly Japanese by race, *Issei* or *Nisei* (1st or 2nd generation), and there were also a few ex-missionaries on the faculty. There were close to a hundred persons teaching the language altogether. Among the students were a number who had been in Japan with missionary families. These were called “BIJ’s” (Born in Japan), and some of them were already practically bilingual! Few of them knew much about the

written language, however, and their dropout rate was quite high, considering their great advantage over the rest of us.

Harvard sent the most students, followed by California and Washington, but every region of the country was represented. The Easterners tended to be somewhat haughty, and we Westerners considered them a bit effete.

I bought Bill Woodward’s ‘36 Ford V-8 when he left (those who had been in progress at Berkeley graduated in the fall), and was able to take my friends up to Rocky Mountain National Park. But all in all, it was not a very good idea to have a car, what with gas and tire rationing and all, and when freezing weather came, that radiator leak became a more important consideration. Besides, I was going to get married, and I had to borrow money to buy Mary Jean’s engagement ring, and to buy the car. So I sold the car only a few months after I bought it, and your friendly Arnold Bros. Ford dealers kindly took it off my hands for a fifth less than I paid for it.

The car played a part in our pheasant hunts. We cruised the area where Crossroads Shopping area now is [*He must have written this between the late 1970s and 1990, as that area has a new shopping area called ‘29th Street’*], and whenever we flushed a bird, we shot at it with a rifle, pistol, shotgun – whatever we had. The only thing is that we broke the law in multiple fashion – shooting from a moving vehicle, using rifles and high velocity firearms, taking hens, etc. Once we were apprehended by the game warden and fined \$25. We designated Bob Wilson the culprit and all chipped in to pay his fine. But those pheasants tasted delicious when the wives took them out of the freezer compartment in the refrigerator and cooked them for Sunday dinners [*reminds me of my northern Idaho and eastern Washington fraternity brothers at the University of Idaho, who took their pheasant guns with them, to and from home on fall weekends to shoot birds from the side of the highway!*]

I was able to get an apartment in the same building as Bob’s and Dick’s (and there were some other language couples there, as well). It was a bit over a mile from the campus, on the extreme western fringe of town, on 6th Street and Cascade Avenue, and it was called “Cascade Manor” (we heard that it had been a tavern before being made into apartments). “Louie” was the manager/landlord, and the rent was \$45 per month, about half my Navy pay. Just a block up the street was Baseline Road, and across from that, the magnificent city park space leading to the Flatirons (tilted slabs of sandstone rearing up to 8,000 feet). Chautauqua (cottages, auditorium, and large park) was a few blocks to the east. It was a truly magnificent setting!

I bought a new radio-phonograph console from Sears in Denver, and acquired a number of “Music Appreciation” type records, most of the names of which I still remember, along with the music itself (my first album came as a gift from Sears: Mozart’s 40th Symphony): Selections from “Marriage of Figaro” (my favorite opera), “La Bohème”, Schubert’s 5th Symphony, Debussy’s “Afternoon of a Fawn” and “Preludes”, Mozart’s 28th Symphony.... In addition, one of my classmates (a student of Arthur Schnabel at Michigan) played the Mozart 21st Piano Concerto at a Denver Symphony Orchestra concert. A number of us listened to this work at the Faculty Club before the event. Several other compositions have always been associated with this period: Brahms’ 2nd Piano, Boccherini’s Cello Concerto, *Pirates of Penzance*, and Grofé’s familiar *Grand Canyon Suite*. We often listened to KSL, Salt Lake City (“Crossroads of the West”) on Sunday to hear the Mormon Tabernacle Chorus. (to be cont’d)

Donald S. Willis
JLS 1943

[Ed. Note: It is interesting that Lionel Casson’s obituary is running with Donald Willis’s memoir, since they spent considerable time together on an LST and in New Caledonia together in 1943.]

Eugene P. Boardman Memorial Resolution

(Cont’d) In 1948 he became a member of the Society of Friends. Throughout the rest of his life he played a prominent role in this group. He served several terms as Clerk, the chairman of the congregation, and as Recording Clerk who kept the records and later as Librarian and Archivist. He was serving as the latter at the time of his death. As the presiding officer he demonstrated his tact at skillfully guiding, but not leading, discussions to make sure that the results reflected the sense of the group. One who participated in many of those meetings recalled: “He was quite a statesman.” He spent 1965-66 as a lobbyist with the Friends Committee on National Legislation in Washington in an effort to convince Congress that the government should change its China policy. He later published his recommendations in *A New China Policy--Some Quaker Proposals*.

Retirement from the University in 1980 gave Gene more time to devote to his abiding interests in music and politics. A talented pianist and organist who helped pay his way through Harvard playing at churches, he later was a member of the Philharmonic and Civic Choruses and sang in the chorus or in bit parts with the Madison Civic Opera. He also had more time to help the Democratic party as he began to work several hours a week at party headquarters. Then, he also contributed to the environmental efforts of Rock Ridge Community near Dodgeville. In the spring of 1987, Edgewood College awarded him an honorary doctorate in humane letters. At that time, the College president saluted him: “His career and life have exemplified the values of Christian humanism, his teaching reflected a global perspective and interdisciplinary approach and he is a strong proponent of liberal arts.”

He is survived by his former wife, Betty, and by three daughters, Susan, Sarah, and Erika, and three sons, Christopher, Andrew, and

Benjamin, and eight grandchildren.

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Faculty Document 727

7 December 1987

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF

THE FACULTY OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-

MADISON

ON THE DEATH OF EMERITUS

PROFESSOR EUGENE P.

BOARDMAN

[Ed. Note: Eugene Boardman was a classmate of John Erskine, Richard Gard, Paul Dull and Gerald Holtom at the Pearl Harbor JLS December, 1941. The non-graduates from that program went to the Berkeley JLS.]

Edward H. Hobbs III (1921-2006)

Hobbs, Dr. Edward H, 85, former dean of the Auburn University School of Arts and Sciences, died in his home in Auburn on Sunday, June 25, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. Dr. Frank Covington will conduct the service. Internment took place at a family service in Selma at Live Oak Cemetery. "Soon after my arrival as president of Auburn University, we were able to add strength to the faculty by hiring Ed and Marley Hobbs," stated Harry M. Philpott, former president of Auburn University. "They were at Ole Miss and agreed to come to Auburn, Ed, as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Marley as assistant professor of Art. These appointments were among the most successful I ever made. "In his 20 years as dean, Ed Hobbs was known for his great skill in dealing with people. He also emphasized that college is not simply for professional development but also important in the enlightenment of the total person." "It is leaders like Dean Hobbs that have made the Auburn community a thriving and exciting place. His many contributions serve as a fitting memorial to an outstanding man," Philpott said.

Hobbs was born in Selma, Alabama in 1921 and attended schools there. He was the son of Mary Dannelly Hobbs and Edward Henry Hobbs II. He

received his A.B. degree from the University of North Carolina, M.A. at the University of Alabama, and Ph.D. from Harvard. The Hobbs married in 1943 in Boulder, Colorado where Marley (Marleah Kaufman) was a student at the University of Colorado and Ed, a Naval Intelligence Officer, was there to study Japanese.

In 1949, the Hobbs moved to Oxford where he became assistant director for Public Administration and Research and associate professor of political science at the University of Mississippi. They lived in Oxford for 18 years before moving to Auburn.

In 1967, Dr. Hobbs was named dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. "When Dean Hobbs was appointed, Arts and Sciences contained at least 12 departments, not only in the humanities and social sciences, but also those in mathematics and physical sciences," stated former academic vice president Dr. Taylor Littleton. "All of these departments were strengthened by his judicious use of often scarce resources and by his high standards for teaching and scholarship in faculty recruitment and retention. I know of no academic dean who carried with him more trust and respect than he did," said Littleton.

He retired in 1988 as dean emeritus of Arts and Sciences and professor of political science. He also retired that year as a Captain in the US Naval Reserve.

In addition to his duties as dean, he was former chairman of the East Alabama Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors and past vice-chairman of the Auburn Planning Commission. He was also an Elder of the First Presbyterian Church, past president of the Auburn Rotary Club, and a member of the beautification Council, United Way, Presbyterian Community Ministry, Alabama Men's Hall of Fame, Alabama Humanities Foundation and a key organizer of the Food Bank of East Alabama.

Survivors include his wife, Marleah, and four children, Milton Dannelly Hobbs (Lenore

Ethridge) and Vivian Blair Edge (John T.) of Oxford, Miss.; Miriam Kaufman Whatley, Opelika and Edward H. Hobbs IV (Beth Dillon, Birmingham). The Hobbs' grandchildren are Milton D. Hobbs II, Miriam Lovelady (Niles) and Jess Edge, Oxford, Miss.; Laura Scott (Paxton) and Kirsten Whatley, Nashville, Tenn.; Steven Whatley, Atlanta; Edward H. Hobbs V, Athens, Ga. and Dillon Hobbs, Birmingham.

The Birmingham News

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Stuart Tave

JLS 1944

Honored with

Maclean Prize in 2000

Stuart Tave, the William Rainey Harper Professor Emeritus in the College and the Department of English Language & Literature, will receive the 2000 Norman Maclean Faculty Award at an Alumni Assembly at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 3, in Rockefeller Memorial Chapel.

"It's very flattering to have this kind of attention, especially so long after my retirement," said Tave, who received a Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 1958.

For nearly 50 years, Tave, a former Dean of the Humanities Division, Chairman of the English Department, Master of the Humanities Collegiate Division, and Associate Dean of the College, has devoted himself to his students and to the life of the University.

The Norman Maclean Award recognizes emeritus or senior faculty members who have made outstanding contributions to teaching and the student-life experience on campus. It was named in honor of Professor Norman Maclean (Ph.D., '40), who taught English at the University for 40 years.

Tave—for many years a colleague of Maclean's in the English Department—has had a profound effect on students' lives both in their academic work and personally. Jay Schleusener, Associate Professor and former Chairman of English, remembers students in the College and at the

graduate level often flocked to Tave for advice. "There was no other teacher here who held the attention of our students as he did," said Schleusener. "And not just their intellectual but their moral attention, an attention that ran through and through them," he continued.

Since his retirement in 1993, Tave has continued to take part in seminars and workshops throughout the University. On occasion, he also has taught in programs at the Gleacher Center in downtown Chicago, in literacy programs at the Blue Gargoyle, in the undergraduate Fundamentals program, and in undergraduate and graduate English Department classes.

The University recognized Tave's influence as an educator with the establishment of a teaching fellowship named in honor of his retirement. In 1993, the Stuart Tave Teaching Fellowships were created to give promising Ph.D. candidates a chance to teach undergraduate courses on topics related to their dissertations. "It gives them the chance to design their own course," explained Tave. "It's a very good teaching experience that doesn't exploit them."

One alumnus recalled of Tave: "He listened to each of us with a focus, a concern, a depth of what I can only call intense intellectual interest, which I will never forget. He made each of us believe that what we said was of such substance, that it was worth no less than the greatest attention he could give."

"As he would be honored by the Maclean Teaching Award, so would he bring honor to it," remarked another.

Arthur Fournier

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University of Chicago Chronicle

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