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In Memoriam: Stojan Albert Bayitch

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Teacher, scholar, jurist, patriot, diplomat, innovator and friend: Stojan Albert Bayitch, whose passing we mourn and to whom we dedicate this issue. Generously and graciously he gave or served in each and more capacities.

The University of Miami foreign law library is a memorial tribute of an outstanding collection of his choosing which commenced with his joining the law faculty in 1952.

Anti-totalitarian, Mrs. Bayitch and he suffered the persecution of Communism and Fascism operating in unison. Forced by a high priority on the hostage list, he left his native Yugoslavia for internment in Switzerland during World War II. His European training and tradition were incorporated with North and South American laws, economics and politics during and after his sponsorship to the University of Chicago Law School.

In addition to serving as Foreign Law Librarian and Professor of Law, Dr. Bayitch also served as the Chairman of the Graduate Committee. With few exceptions all LL.M. and M.C.L. candidates, in international or inter-American law, responded to his guidance which elevated their quality of scholarship and comprehension.

As an innovator in course offerings and materials, Dr. Bayitch set himself off as a man apart. “Law and the Caribbean,” “Law and Revolution,” both syllabi and content predated the tourist influx to the islands, or the student discord of the 1960’s. He taught Aviation Law, with special emphasis on aircraft mortgages in the Americas, when DC3’s were still being converted into commercial craft. In 1957, long before ecology became a byword, Dr. Bayitch published and taught Inter-American Law of Fisheries.

A traditionalist unbounded by traditional approaches or sources, he relied primarily upon his scholarship and originality. A classicist, he reshaped thinking in classical fields such as Conflicts of Law, Comparative Law and Legal History. The knowledge of the ages was reshaped by his intellect into original, current and vital topics, always accompanied by syllabi of his preparation.

Truly, this is a man of all ages, whose contributions shall continue.

M.M.M.
This Issue is Dedicated to the Memory of
STOJAN ALBERT BAYITCH, 1901-1974
Professor of Law and Foreign Law Librarian, 1952-1974.