

1971

1971 Commencement Program

New York Law School

NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL



79th

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

June 13, 1971

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NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL

79th

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES



SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1971

2:00 P.M.

PACE COLLEGE THEATRE

1 PACE COLLEGE PLAZA

NEW YORK, N. Y.

ORDER OF EXERCISES

HONORABLE CHARLES W. FROESSEL, PRESIDING

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"Pomp and Circumstance" by ELGAR

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*Former Dean of Rutgers, The State University of
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*Presentation of Candidates by DEAN WALTER A. RAFALKO,
Conferring of Degrees by PRESIDENT SYLVESTER C. SMITH, JR.*

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and the Recessional



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ROBERT COLES EDMONDS

JOHN F. SCILEPPI

Associate Judge

New York State Court of Appeals

Favored with a well-built frame, devoted, courageous and able jurist, cheerful and friendly, with a keen understanding of the rights of society as well as of the individual, are some of the outstanding characteristics of John F. Scileppi.

Born in Queens County at the opening of the century, the son of Ignatius and Nunzia Scileppi, he continued to live and labor in Queens throughout his entire life. Following his preliminary education, he received his LL.B. degree from Fordham University Law School in 1925; was admitted to the New York State Bar the following year; and immediately embarked on the practice of law for a dozen years.

In 1939 he was elected as Justice of the Municipal Court of the City of New York, and in 1949 was re-elected with the tri-partisan support of the three major political parties.

In 1951, as the bi-partisan nominee of both the Democratic and Republican parties, he was elected County Judge of Queens County, where he served until 1962, most of which time as Acting Supreme Court Justice by designation of the Appellate Division, Second Department. In 1962 he was elected Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, where he continues to serve with distinction and dedication.

He is a member of the New York State and Queens County Bar Associations, and has been active in civic, fraternal and charitable organizations in his area for many years. His devoted wife, Katherine, bore him three children—Kathleen C., Barbara N. and John F. Jr.

He has served on the bench from the lowest to the highest Courts of New York for 32 years, and is highly respected by the bench, the bar, and his community, to which he has given most of his life.

A gentleman of unimpeachable character, an outstanding citizen of his county and state, steadfast in the faith of his acceptance, a distinguished jurist respected by his colleagues, and who has contributed much to the law of this state, New York Law School is pleased to confer on Judge Scileppi, the Degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto.

WILLARD HECKEL

Dr. Willard Heckel was graduated from Bloomfield High School in 1930, and from Dartmouth College with the degree of A.B. in the year 1935, a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He received the degree of M.A. from Columbia University in 1936, and was graduated from the University of Newark Law School (now Rutgers University School of Law), in 1940. Upsala College and Rutgers University have conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

Dean Heckel has been a member of the faculty of Rutgers University School of Law in Newark since 1946, and was Dean of the State University Law School from 1963 to 1970, when he returned to full time teaching.

There are few men that have been eminent legal scholars and educators who have shown such public interest in civic affairs as Dean Heckel. He served as Chairman of the Newark Mayor's Commission on Human Rights, as Chairman of the Newark Citizens' Committee on Municipal Government, and as President of the United Community Corporation of Newark (the CAP anti-poverty organization of that city).

He has been active in his religious affiliation, being a Ruling Elder of the Presbyterian Church in Bloomfield; Past Moderator of the Presbytery of Newark; Past Moderator, Synod of New Jersey of United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and is currently member of Session, member of Ministerial Relations Committee of Newark Presbytery, and member of General Council of Synod of New Jersey of the Presbyterian Church.

He was a Naval Officer in the United States Naval Reserve from 1942 to 1946, and on May 8, 1965 received the Woodrow Wilson Peace Award from the United World Federalists of New Jersey.

A distinguished educator, an outstanding public citizen and moral leader of his community, who has made a notable contribution toward raising the standards of legal education, and in directing the interest of law students to the services of the practicing lawyer that are needed by the whole community, New York Law School is pleased to confer on Dr. Willard Heckel the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto.

