

6-15-1969

1969 Commencement Program

New York Law School

NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL



77th

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

June 15, 1969

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NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL

77th

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES



SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 1969

2:30 P.M.

STATLER HILTON HOTEL

Terrace Ballroom

SEVENTH AVENUE AND 33RD STREET

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

ORDER OF EXERCISES

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JERRY FINKELSTEIN

INDUSTRIALIST, PUBLISHER AND COMMUNAL LEADER

He has spent the greater part of his life in the world of industry and public service. Ere one task is done, another beckons. He is a realist in judgment and an idealist in his concern for his fellow man.

Interested in big business, he also devotes his boundless energy and diverse talent to the Civil Service Leader, the New York Law Journal, and the New York Daily Column, of which he is the publisher.

Many honors have come to him as Chairman of the New York City Planning Commission; as Chairman of the Fine Arts Gifts Committee, by the appointment of President Kennedy; cited by the Citizens Union and the United Jewish Appeal; and a member of the Board of Trustee of his alma mater, the New York Law School.

As a busy man, he still finds the time to give of himself to the educational, civic and charitable needs of his Country and of his City.

And, so, New York Law School is pleased to confer upon Jerry Finkelstein the degree of Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, and admit him to all the rights and privileges thereto appertaining.

JOHN SEWARD JOHNSON

INDUSTRIALIST, PUBLIC SERVANT, HUMANITARIAN

John Seward Johnson was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey in 1895, attended Yale University, and entered the family business of Johnson and Johnson, a great manufacturing enterprise centered at New Brunswick, New Jersey, whose trade mark of Red Cross first aid products is known around the world. He has been a Vice President of the Company since 1931. Under the Presidency of his brother, the late General Robert Wood Johnson, this company set a high standard by building modern plants beautifully landscaped and set far back from the highway with ample parking facilities for employees.

John Seward Johnson has been a civic minded business executive. He has served as Township Committeeman of Tewksbury Township in Hunterdon County, Trustee of the Hunterdon Medical Center. He served in the United States Navy in the First World War. He is an ardent yachtsman, a member of the Cruising Club of America, the New York Yacht Club, and Royal Thames Yacht Club.

His interest in good government under good laws has been extensive during his entire business career. He has recently served on a Commission appointed by Governor Richard Hughes to survey the problems of the location of a jetport in New Jersey, and the report is a masterpiece of thorough objective study and far-sightedness.

New York Law School is delighted to confer upon John Seward Johnson, successful business executive and civic-minded citizen, the Degree of Doctor of Laws Honoris Causa, with all the rights and privileges thereunder appertaining.

JOHN VINCENT THORNTON

LAW TEACHER, AUTHOR, PRACTICING ATTORNEY

John Thornton was indeed law oriented and came naturally to the callings of lawyer and teacher. His father, two brothers and a sister were lawyers, his mother a teacher and a sister a probation supervisor. At the top of his class in grade and secondary school, John was graduated from St. John's University in 1944 with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Economics, *magna cum laude*.

After combat service as a Navy officer in World War II, Mr. Thornton attended Yale School, became an editor of the Law Journal, was graduated with honors, and awarded membership in the Order of the Coif. While attending law school, he taught Economics at Yale College and Albertus Magnus College, and later became Associate in Law on the Columbia Law School faculty.

For two years, he served as Law Secretary to our Board Chairman, then an Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals. Thereupon, Mr. Thornton taught at New York University as a full professor in the Law School, and a lecturer in the Medical and Dental Schools, wrote many learned articles and served as an editor of the Annual Survey of American Law, the Annual Survey of New York Law, and the Journal of Occupational Medicine. In 1952, he married Edna Grace Lawson, who bore him six fine children.

Mr. Thornton then practiced law as a member of a prominent firm, Whitman, Ransom and Coulson, and, in that capacity, served as counsel to a number of large enterprises, including the New York World's Fair headed by Master builder Robert Moses. He participated actively in public service ventures, and among others, directed a medical-legal survey for the United States Public Health Service; and served as counsel to the Judiciary Committee of the New York State Constitutional Convention. Recently, Mr. Thornton became Assistant General Counsel of Consolidated Edison Company of New York.

Mr. Thornton was elected a trustee of New York Law School in 1963, and has served it in various capacities, including his present post of Vice President and as Associate Dean.

In recognition of his distinguished service as law teacher, administrator, author, practicing attorney, and corporate counsel, thus filling with distinction five separate careers in the law and done so almost simultaneously, New York Law School is proud to confer upon John Vincent Thornton, the degree of Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, with all the rights and privileges thereunto appertaining.