
IN MEMORIAM Jean Pierre Adrien François

The sad news has reached us that our friend Professor J.P.A. François died on 7 October 1978 at the age of 89 years.

The Netherlands International Law Review owes Professor François a great debt.

When in October 1953 the first issue of our Review appeared he was active as legal adviser to the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He welcomed our enterprise with great enthusiasm. It was he who inspired the Netherlands Government to take an interest in the Review and who succeeded in persuading the Government to lend the new periodical financial support.

We were fortunate to find him ready to join the Board of Editors. He remained faithful to it until his very last days.

He contributed to the Review not only with a number of learned articles, but also with such regular features as periodical assessments of the progress of the work in the International Law Commission of which he was an honoured member and president. From time to time he reported on current events in the Peace Palace at The Hague.

In the period that he was Secretary General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration he hosted the meetings of the Board, which were held in a room in the lofty tower of the Peace Palace.

After retiring from his manifold activities he continued to attend the Board's meetings. His presence in our midst allowed us to benefit greatly from his wisdom, vast knowledge, experience in international relations and common sense.

We hardly know how to express our gratitude for all he did not only for our Review but also for international law at large. We are proud to have been able to do something in exchange. On the occasion of his 70th birthday we were able to offer him the *liber amicorum Varia Juris Gentium* to which authorities in the field of international law from all over the world contributed.

Professor François devoted his life to international law in a unique way. He will, for ever, be a great example to us. We are grateful and proud that this outstanding scholar was a good friend of ours.

Board of Editors
