

## New Treasurer— Henry Allen Hope

Henry Allen Hope has been elected by his fellow Benchers to serve as the next Treasurer of the Law Society. This is partly because he is the next senior Bencher, but those who know him will realize that it is also because of his not inconsiderable ability and in spite of his not inconsiderable eccentricities. For instance, he owns, and runs, a 600 acre dairy farm on the Blackwater Road, outside Prince George and is, as far as careful research is able to establish, the only member in the history of the Bar to have been run over by his own tractor, while driving it. This was an incident which occurred on the first day of a sabbatical which his firm had been misguided enough to grant him.

He was born, allegedly on the wrong side of the tracks, somewhere near Winnipeg, Manitoba in 1931 and spent his early employable years working in a number of logging camps in the wilds of northern Ontario. In fact, it was just after leaving the bush to join the R.C.A.F. (where he spent much of his time confined to barracks) that he managed to complete his high school education through the good graces of the grade 12 equivalency program. Secondary education was evidently not his favorite pastime, which makes his achievements in later life even the more remarkable.

Upon leaving the Air Force, he joined the Merchant Marine and gained experience which later would help him in running a Local of the International Seafarers Union. To be precise, he was Executive Director from 1964 to 1965 of the Board of Maritime Union Trustees in Montreal. His associate in that endeavour was the gentleman now known as The Honourable Mr. Justice Victor Dryer and it was of course the Board which followed the Norris Inquiry into the Union's activities. This activity was preceded by work as a consultant in Vancouver for Public Industrial Relations Ltd. He graduated from the U.B.C. Law School in 1961, was articled to H. M. Ellis, now a Provincial Court Judge, and F. R. Anderson, Jr. Prior to Law School he had attended the University of Alberta during which time he also served as a reporter for the Edmonton Journal, senior enough and good enough to merit a number of bylines. When he first came to Vancouver and while enrolled at the U.B.C. Law School, he worked as Night Editor for the Vancouver Sun.

Upon his call to the Bar, he decided to relinquish the fleshpots of the City of Vancouver and headed north to Prince George where he started practising with Les Cashman, now County Court Judge in Nanaimo and Jack Heinrich, now Minister of Labour. In 1966, the firm of Cashman, Hope and Heinrich was founded. It is now known as Hope, Heinrich and Hansen. Under Cashman's able direction, Hope developed his now renowned courtroom ability. His main practice was originally intended to be in public and commercial law. However, his partners compelled him to confine his activities exclusively to the courtroom, immediately upon learning that he had sworn his own Affidavit on a Deed of Land. That restriction proved to be fortuitous for Allan Hope, because over the next 15 years, he impressed client and foe alike, partner and colleague and judge and jury with his sense of fair play, compassion, wit, and equally important, his common sense approach to the law.

He now practices almost exclusively in the field of Labour Arbitration. In attempting to reach him to ensure the accuracy of this brief biography and to solicit comment

from him upon becoming Treasurer-Elect, we learned that his telephone had been disconnected, pending B.C. Tel's Appeal of one of his more recent Arbitration Awards.

One of his great joys as an up country practitioner was to oppose Vancouver Counsel. This he took as a challenge and became determined to prepare his case as thoroughly as possible with as many ambushes as were available for the unwary migrant from the big city.

He cannot be described as a shy man. His wife, on one occasion is reputed to have informed him that "you do not need a wife, you need an applause meter". On one occasion a client presented him with a desk set as a token of appreciation for a particularly successful piece of litigation. The set was engraved "To the Greatest Lawyer in Canada". Hope eyed it crustily and said "I resent the territorial limitation". On another occasion, he was Chairman of an Arbitration Board handling a problem of mandatory retirement. There were two awards from the other members of the Board, Hugh Ladner deciding one way and Steven Kelleher the other way. Hope was asked what his decision was and whether he agreed with Ladner or Kelleher. His immediate response was "I really do not understand your question because surely there is a third point of view".

His activities for the betterment of the Profession have been prodigious. In 1973, he was elected as the Bencher for the County of Cariboo and for the next year, served on the C.B.A. Committee on Specialists. The next year he served on the Discipline Committee, the Professional Standards Committee and the Specialization Ad Hoc Committee. In 1975, he was on the Credentials Committee and the Planning Committee. The following year, both the Information and Finance Committees. In 1977-1978, he was Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee. In 1979 on the Credentials Committee and its Chairman in 1980, when he was also a member of the Executive Committee and the Policy Review Committee of which he is today the Chairman. He is currently Chairman of the Policy Department Committee which is conducting the Management Review of the Society, a sorely needed endeavour for it appears clear that the Administration of the Society has outgrown its own strength.

He is not traditionalist, and has no hesitation in assaulting a concept he considers to be outmoded.

J.H.H.

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