

tion—at least in recognizable form. George, never daunted, would come back the next time with fresh ideas. My relations with his successor, though positive and friendly, never reached the level of mutuality that George and I had attained, without really trying, over the four years that our respective presidencies overlapped.

In a letter to AAS president and librarian Marcus McCorison on October 4, 1989, appreciating his condolences on her husband's death, Jean Hazzard wrote, 'George lived a rich, full life right 'til the end, and for this I am grateful.' So are all who knew him.

Mortimer Herbert Appley

NATHAN IRVIN HUGGINS

Nathan Irvin Huggins was born in Chicago on January 14, 1927, and died of pancreatic cancer on December 5, 1989, at the age of sixty-two. Huggins graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1954, with a B.A. in history. In 1955, he earned an M.A. in history at Berkeley. He enrolled in the graduate program in history at Harvard University, where he took the A.M. degree in 1957 and the Ph.D. in 1962, thereby extending the great tradition of Harvard-trained black historians, including W.E.B. DuBois, Charles H. Wesley, and John Hope Franklin, among several others. In 1980, Mr. Huggins would become the first Afro-American professor of history at Harvard, becoming in that year the first incumbent of the W.E.B. DuBois Professor of History and Afro-American Studies, as well as the chair of the Department of Afro-American Studies and the director of the W.E.B. DuBois Institute for Afro-American Research.

Mr. Huggins had a rich and varied experience as an instructor, teaching history at California State College at Long Beach (1962–64), Lake Forest College (1964–66), the University of Massachusetts at Boston (1966–70), the University of California at Berkeley (1969–70), and Columbia University between 1970 and 1980. In

1979, he was a guest professor at the University of Heidelberg, in addition to visiting professorships at the Kennedy Institute of the Free University of Berlin, the University of Grenoble, and the Sorbonne.

Mr. Huggins wrote four books: *Protestants against Poverty: Boston's Charities, 1870-1900* (1971), *The Harlem Renaissance* (1971; nominated for the National Book Award), *Black Odyssey: The Afro-American's Ordeal in Slavery* (1977), and *Slave and Citizen: The Life of Frederick Douglass* (1980). In addition, he edited two books, *Key Issues in the Afro-American Experience* (with Martin Kilson and Daniel M. Fox, 1971) and *Voices from the Harlem Renaissance* (1976).

He was the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships, including a Guggenheim (1971-72), a Fulbright (1974-75), and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Mellon and Ford foundations, as well as a fellowship at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford (1979-80). In 1976, he received the American Specialist Award given by the United States State Department.

His public service was broad and engaged, including board of director memberships for the American Council of Learned Societies, the Library of America, WGBH-TV, the Children's Television Workshop, the New York Council for the Humanities, the White House Library Group, the Smithsonian Institution, the Boston Athenæum, and Radcliffe College. In 1980, he became a member of the American Antiquarian Society.

As the director of Harvard's W.E.B. DuBois Institute, Professor Huggins was especially concerned to bring together European Afro-Americanists with American scholars of this subject, both to 'de-nationalize' the image of this emerging field as well as to tie it directly to ethnic and multicultural studies generally. He was a pioneering figure in multicultural studies in the American academy, and consistently urged his colleagues to recognize that 'race' was a much more complicated matter than black-white American relations. Afro-American studies, he claimed ardently, was no more 'for' Afro-Americans than 'majority studies,' let's say, were

'for' majority Americans. He believed that racism and bigotry in all their pernicious forms should be the targets of the committed intellectual.

The most striking aspect of Nathan Huggins's character was that he emanated a marvelous sense of calm or patience, a sense that he had located a core truth about his life and himself and that he was at peace with the knowledge. And this sense of self-knowledge was present wherever and whenever we met, whether at board meetings in New York, at his offices at the Du Bois Institute at Harvard, or even on the streets of Paris, where Sharon Adams and I bumped into him and his wife Brenda during the spring of 1989, quite by accident. The thrill of just such an accident left me quite breathless; not Nathan, who greeted me just as calmly and soothingly as he had a few weeks earlier when we had bumped into one another at the Raleigh-Durham airport, just as our trip to Africa was about to begin.

Nathan Huggins was a pioneering and towering figure in the American academy. The historical profession is impoverished by his absence.

Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

JOHN HASKELL KEMBLE

John Haskell Kemble, maritime historian, was born to Caroline Haskell and Ira Oscar Kemble far from the ocean in Marshalltown, Iowa, on June 17, 1912, and died suddenly while on the cruise ship *Canberra*, on route from Auckland, New Zealand to Sidney, Australia, on February 19, 1990. Childhood summers on Lake Michigan provided a background of passing ships on the lake that captured his imagination and inspired an entire lifetime of consuming interest in matters maritime. It was entirely fitting that a deck chair on an ocean liner should be the place of his last repose.

Jack Kemble's parents found their way to Pasadena, California,

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