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AN APPRECIATION OF JUDGE MARVIN R. DYE

Charles S. Desmond†

No one in the intervening two dozen centuries has as accurately listed the work habits needful for a good judge as Socrates: "Four things belong to a Judge: to hear courteously; to answer wisely; to consider soberly; and to decide impartially." None of those who have lived and worked with Marvin Dye in the close communion of an appellate court could possibly fault him for lack of courtesy, wisdom, sobriety or impartiality. But there are other reasons why the bar respects and admires him and why his associates love him. His simply natural dignity is combined with unfailing kindness and consideration. His quiet manner belies a determination to serve his State and his fellowmen well. Good strong common sense has carried him serenely on the long road which led from a quiet Chautauqua hamlet through Cornell and World War I to a successful law practice and Court of Clanns service, and a truly fine twenty-one years of service on the New York Court of Appeals.

A kind man, a sound man, a fine judge and a good companion—what more can be said? Maybe a word about his nonjudicial interests, about his admirable family life, his abiding loyalty to Cornell, his deep and firm religious commitment. Wide travel and a lifelong interest in things like architecture and decor plus a continuous study of and involvement in history and government have rounded out a full and interesting life. Basic to his official as well as his private life is one and the same dedication to quiet, unostentatious, efficient and intelligent service to his fellows.

† Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals.