

gifts to the American Antiquarian Society. Booth was also extremely generous in the fields of biomedical research and to his church, First Unitarian Church, Second Parish, of Worcester.

He received his education at Bancroft School, Deerfield Academy, and Williams College, where he was a member of the class of 1937 and president of his college fraternity, Phi Gamma Delta. After Williams, Booth studied English literature for one year at Cambridge University in England. He returned to the United States to be employed in Worcester at the radio station WTAG (*Worcester Telegram And Gazette*), the AM and FM stations then part of the Worcester newspapers owned and run by his father. Starting out as traffic manager, a position that scheduled on-air advertising, in 1951 he became vice president of the radio station and later its president and general manager, and eventually vice president for radio and a director of the parent company. He was active in regional and national broadcasting organizations at a time when radio was a relatively new and a fast-growing medium. In service to his country, Booth enlisted in 1941 as a private in the United States Army. After training, he was commissioned a second lieutenant and assigned to land duty in the Pacific Theater. At the end of the war, he mustered out as a captain.

Predeceasing Booth were his older sister, Doris Booth Butler, and his older brother, Howard M. Booth. A bachelor, Booth leaves his niece, Penelope Booth Rockwell, and nephew, George F. Booth II, who are members of AAS, and his sister-in-law, Barbara Allen Booth.

Bruce Bennett

DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN

Daniel Patrick Moynihan was a noted figure on the American public scene. There were few people in New York, where he lived, or in fact in the nation, who were not aware of his many accomplishments

or of his well-known, round, smiling face, fancy bow ties, and Irish walking hat. He was a cordial and convivial man. Members of the United States Senate, where he served four terms representing New York from 1977 to 2001, admired his political skills and also his taste for good liquor, which he held very well.

The forty-five years he spent in public life were divided between public service and academia. In an outstanding career as a politician and diplomat, author and academic, Senator Moynihan touched and affected the lives of citizens as few have done. His official career and his considerable written output always related to the social problems that needed responsive attention. He was compared to Woodrow Wilson as someone who bridged the gap between the intellectual and political worlds. Moynihan's distinction was in his ability to blend the ivory tower with the mean streets of the city.

Moynihan, the son of a journalist, was born in Oklahoma on March 16, 1927, moving shortly afterwards to New York City, where he was raised by his mother. He knew firsthand about the hardships and burdens of a family headed by a single parent. He attended City College for a year before enlisting in the navy, which, after the war, enabled him to attend and graduate from Tufts University in 1948 and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy the following year. A Fulbright fellowship took him to the London School of Economics in 1950, but he did not complete his dissertation before returning to the United States and becoming involved as a campaign worker and staff member for New York political figures. From 1959 to 1961, he was the director of Syracuse University's New York State Government Research Project, before joining the Department of Labor, serving in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

Surely his best-known work, coauthored with Nathan Glazer is *Beyond the Melting Pot: The Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Jews, Italians and Irish of New York City*, published in 1963. It was a major study of multicultural ethnicity in New York City. The first chapter, on 'The Negroes,' was a study of concerns in that community

relating to shortcomings in economic and educational achievement that the authors suggested resulted from the failure of the 'Middle Class Negro to offer sympathy or assistance' to those in need. He was principal author of *The Negro Family: A Call for National Action*, a 1965 Labor Department Report. He depicted the high rate of dysfunction (out-of-wedlock births and single-parent households) in black families as acting at least in part as an impediment to the community's own leadership in attending directly to those issues. These views caused considerable criticism. And his suggestion in 1970 that the Nixon Administration pursue a policy of 'benign neglect' on racial issues again stirred cries of insensitivity, although this was a misinterpretation of Moynihan's intention. Yet many of his recommendations concerning these problems, such as passing laws prohibiting discrimination in employment and housing have become incorporated as part of ongoing solutions. In his study *Maximum Feasible Understanding* (1969), written while on leave from Harvard University, where he was then professor of education and urban politics, he again addressed social issues, especially the festering poverty problem. He stressed the importance of greater community control over public services as well as greater involvement by social reformers in creating a better society. Leveling class differences was central to his long career. In 1965 he received an Arthur S. Flemming Award that recognized him as an 'architect of the nation's program to eradicate poverty.'

Another notable accomplishment of his senatorial stay was the passage in 1991 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Act. This allowed more federal highway trust fund money to be used for mass transit. As a champion of urban development, he supported a fairer distribution of such money to New York City, citing long-standing Federal neglect. In 1997 he exclaimed that such inaction was the 'true cause of urban fiscal and economic crises.'

Senator Moynihan held strong convictions and independent views. They were often mixed in with a theatrical bent. When, as ambassador to the United Nations in 1976, he was cautioned by

Soviet delegates to watch his rhetoric as it could offend nations, he retorted: 'We will not take care. We do not give a damn.' Secretary of State Henry Kissinger did not approve Moynihan's confrontational approach, however, and Moynihan resigned later that year. Even so, a general overall assessment of his career was to describe him as 'the nation's best thinker among politicians since Lincoln and the best politician among thinkers since Jefferson.'

Moynihan's years in the Senate were marked not by legislative milestones but by ideas. Senator Edward M. Kennedy once said of his colleague that 'having read history, and thought about it, and being opinionated,' he exemplified 'what the Founding Fathers thought the Senate would be about.' In 2000 President Clinton awarded Moynihan the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

Members of AAS, to which he was elected in October 1986, could relate to his interest in supporting resolutions to appropriate funds to establish a National Policy on Permanent Papers. In a letter of March 20, 1989, written to Marcus A. McCorison, then president of the Society, Moynihan described congressional appropriations passed in 1976, 1984, and 1985 that enabled the Library of Congress and National Archives to salvage essential documents and that would 'save the countless volumes of today, for tomorrow's children.' This concern for the preservation of history and a better future for society reflects his vision as it related to the mandate of AAS.

Moynihan died in Washington, D. C. on March 26, 2003. His life of public service and his written output—nine books written as a senator, eighteen in all—will be long remembered. He leaves his wife, the former Elizabeth Brennan, their three children, Timothy, Maura, and Jonathan, and two grandchildren.

Leo Hershkowitz

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