

where he taught for twenty-nine years. Over those years, he drew increasingly large numbers of loyal students to his courses in the history of the old South.

Spalding's curiosity about that South never faltered; one of his last scholarly works was not on paper but an interview on the anthropologist David Hurst Thomas's film depicting the excavation of the remains of the Guale Indians interred under the Spanish mission church on the Georgia coastal island of St. Catherines. With almost stern insistence, Professor Spalding, lecturing to us, was changing his own picture of early Georgia. There had been intensely interesting people interacting with Europeans on our coast long before the English came. It was our responsibility, he seemed to be saying, to know this story just as clearly as we knew our more familiar story.

Much as Phinizy never ceased to grow as a historian, he refused to allow himself to be diminished as a human being. He faced cancer with remarkable courage and astonishing candor. It was not simply that he pursued every treatment and braced against every assault; it was that he made the years of dying years of intense living. His interests increased, his travels—with his lovely wife Margie—were extended, and his reach to people grew. I will not soon forget the turn of his handsome white-haired head and the warmth and humor of his smile across the tables of the Blue Bird Cafe.

William S. McFeely

JEREMIAH KAPLAN

Jeremiah Kaplan, one of the leading figures of the American publishing world in the twentieth century, was born in New York City on July 15, 1926, the son of Samuel H. and Fannie (Brafman) Kaplan. As a teenager, he was active in the Young Peoples Socialist

League, the youth wing of the Socialist Party. Not long after Kaplan's graduation from New York City's Seward Park High School, Seymour Martin Lipset, then a student in the sociology department at Columbia University, hired him to be the Young Socialists' national chairman and sent him to Chicago to organize young people in the country's heartland. Shortly after his relocation to Chicago, Kaplan left the Young Socialist organization to take a post with the American Civil Liberties Union in Chicago.

He entered publishing to make his mark at the tender age of twenty-one. As a young socialist and civil libertarian, he had struck up friendships with a number of graduate students in the University of Chicago's sociology department, one of the leading departments in the field. Because many of the classic social science texts, which the Chicago professors taught in their classes, were out of print and difficult to obtain (some not even available in English), someone suggested to Kaplan that he become a publisher in order to translate and reprint these needed works. He was bankrolled by a businessman-anarchist friend, Charles Liebman. He called his firm The Free Press. Kaplan astutely benefitted from a solid base of course adoptions from his friends at the University of Chicago, a policy aided greatly by the G. I. Bill of Rights, under which the federal government paid for students' required textbooks and supplementary readings. Over the course of many years, The Free Press published not only the reprints and translations of the classic works of Weber, Marx, Durkheim, Freud, Piaget, and others, that had been its original mandate, but also many of the works that were themselves to become the classics of modern-day sociology and political science—works by such influential scholars as Edward Shils, Talcott Parsons, Robert Merton, Daniel Bell, Digby Baltzell, Paul Lazarsfeld, Edward Banfield, and Lipset. The Free Press, it would be no exaggeration to say, helped create and legitimize the modern-day social sciences in the United States.

For many years, Kaplan rejected all overtures to sell The Free Press, which had become a formidable, if unorthodox, presence in American publishing. Eventually, in 1960, he made his best deal

by agreeing to terms with Crowell-Collier. In a mood to expand, Crowell-Collier agreed to give Kaplan a line of credit and to leave him in complete control of The Free Press for seven years. In return, Kaplan agreed to devote a quarter of his time to the affairs of Crowell-Collier. That share of time, not surprisingly, increased. In 1963, he became president of Crowell-Collier's Macmillan subsidiary. Even within this larger corporation, Kaplan contributed to the scholarly field on which he cut his professional teeth by developing and publishing the multivolume *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*. Kaplan retired as head of Macmillan in 1986. He later became a consultant to Simon & Schuster and became chief publishing officer until 1989, when he retired for the second time. He served in a number of other capacities in publishing as well, including voluntary offices, directorships, or consultancies with such entities as the Association of American Publishers, the International Publishers Association, Scholastic Publishing Company, and Sage Publishing Company.

His prominence in American publishing brought Kaplan to the attention of the American Antiquarian Society, to membership in which he was elected at the 1983 annual meeting. In the decade that his name graced our rolls, Kaplan was unfailingly helpful, an exemplary member. He advised us on our nascent Program in the History of the Book in American Culture and helped raise money for it. He endowed the Jeremiah Kaplan Family Fund at AAS in support of acquisitions and cataloguing and contributed regularly and generously to other AAS campaigns and funds as well. He identified others who could be helpful to AAS and sponsored their election to membership. He hosted a dinner party for the participants in a history-of-the-book conference in 1984 and a reception for AAS members at the April 1989 meeting in New York. He donated materials to the library. He served as a member of the Society's Council from 1988 to 1992 and while on it also chaired the AAS Committee on Publications. His Council service, he once told Marcus McCorison, 'reinforced my earlier perceptions of the value and importance of AAS.' His appointment to the publica-

tions committee chairmanship fortuitously coincided with his retirement from Simon & Schuster, a time when he was 'actively seeking to expand some of my pro bono publico activities to forestall any possibility of my taking full time employment again.'

Another of Kaplan's passions was music, and in this field too he was an active supporter and a gentle adviser. He served on the boards of the American Symphony Orchestra League and the American Composers Orchestra and chaired the visiting committee of the Eastman School of Music. At one pleasant AAS Council dinner, he did much to advance the undersigned's knowledge and appreciation of several twentieth-century American composers.

Jeremiah Kaplan died of lung cancer in New York City on August 10, 1993. Little more than two months before, he had contributed effectively to the planning conference for the twentieth-century portions of the AAS-sponsored collaborative work *A History of the Book in America*. Seymour Martin Lipset, the sociologist who helped launch his career as an activist, gave a eulogy at Kaplan's memorial service, from which the details in the early part of this memoir are gratefully borrowed. Kaplan is survived by his wife of forty-eight years, the former Charlotte R. Larsen, their four children, and four grandchildren.

John B. Hench

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