

READ, John Erskine

John Erskine Read was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, July 5, 1888, and brought up in that city. He went through Dalhousie University at Halifax, took his bachelor of arts degree in 1909, had a year of scholarship at Columbia Law School in New York City and then three years as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University.

Mr. Read attended University College at Oxford and chose the Honor School of Jurisprudence, took his bachelor of civil law degree in 1913 and returned to Halifax to practise law. At the beginning of World War I he enlisted as a private in the 25th Battalion, but was discharged on account of poor eyesight. He was later commissioned in the field artillery and went overseas with the first replacements for the First Division in France. He was mentioned in despatches, was wounded and spent 18 months in hospital.

After the war, Mr. Read lectured at Dalhousie Law School. He became dean of the law school and Munro professor of law. In 1929 he left the university to assume the position of legal adviser to the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa, a position he held until February 1946. As legal adviser he appeared as counsel for the government before the International Joint Commission, the Supreme Court of the United States, and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. In December 1944, Mr. Read was raised to a rank equivalent to that of Ambassador.

He was elected a Judge of the International Court of Justice in February, 1946.

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HSU MO

Hsu Mo, who was born at Soochow, China, on October 22nd, 1893, was educated at Peiyang University, Tientsin and George Washington University, Washington, D.C., graduating with the degrees of LL.B. and M.A. He afterwards received the degree of LL.D. (honoris causa) from Melbourne University in Australia. In 1918 he passed the Judicial Examination held in Peking and in the following year he passed the Diplomatic and Consular Service Examinations with the highest honours.

He was Professor of International Law and International Relations in Nankai University, Tientsin, and then Dean of the College of Arts of that University, 1922-1925. While teaching, he wrote Notes on China's Diplomatic History and contributed many articles on political and legal subjects to Chinese newspapers and magazines. In 1926 he received the appointment of Judge, and subsequently Presiding Judge, of the Criminal Chamber of the District Court in Shanghai and then that of President of the District Court in Chinkiang.

From 1928 to 1931 he served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, successively as Counsellor, Director of the European-American Department and Director of the Asiatic Department. In 1931 he was appointed Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and held that post continuously for ten years, being, at the same time, Dean of the School of Diplomacy of the Central Political Institute.

From 1941-1944 Hsu Mo was Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary with ambassadorial rank to Australia, and during 1945-1946 he was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Turkey.