



Harold Jefferson Coolidge, Jr. (1904- 1985)

Introduction

Hal was one of the founders of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), a former



Hal recognized that as negotiated at Fontainebleau, the financial base for the IUPN was grossly inadequate. In order to obtain worldwide conservation expertise for the Union, at little or no cost, as well as to expand its recognition and credibility, he designed what became its commission structure. He based it on the highly successful structure of panels and committees of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, where he remained Executive Director of the Pacific Science Board, and in the IU n th



and encouragement of local conservationists he played a major role in developing the conservation organizations and activities in countries worldwide. Yet the IUCN was his primary focus. He played a major role in developing and promoting the original concepts for such an organization; was a central player in IUCN's creation; a designer of absolutely key parts of the Union's structure; the fund raiser who repeatedly rescued the organization; and leader who provided