

MEMORIAL

JOHN HENRY BURWELL

(1894-1955)

John Henry Burwell was born on November 7, 1894, in Washington County, Minnesota. His parents were Willis Gorman Burwell and Minnie Burwell.

He attended the public schools at Hastings and graduated from high school in 1913. He was a student at Macalester College for two years and the University of Minnesota for one year. Thereafter he enlisted in the United States Army during the World War and served three years. After his discharge from the Army, he taught school in St. Paul and other communities.

John Henry Burwell attended the Minneapolis College of law from which he graduated in 1923 and was then admitted to the Minnesota Bar and commenced to practice law. In 1931 he was admitted to the Illinois Bar and practiced in Chicago for several years. He returned to Minnesota in 1934 where he resumed the practice of law.

In 1938 John Henry Burwell was appointed by J. A. A. Burnquist as special Assistant Attorney General for the banking department of the State of Minnesota. Thereafter he was transferred to the Highway Department and then to the Conservation Department where he served as Assistant Attorney General until March, 1955. He tried important cases for the State of Minnesota.

John Henry Burwell died in an automobile accident October 2, 1955. He left surviving his wife, Esther Kinnon Burwell, whom he married in 1936; a brother, Willis Earl Burwell of South St. Paul, and a sister, Mrs. Frank Kummer of Hastings.

John Henry Burwell was well liked and had a host of friends. He was very active in communal and civic affairs. He served one year as Commander of the Laidlaw Post of the American Legion and was a member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church of which he was a deacon. He was a member of the Masonic Fraternity, including Minneapolis Lodge

A. F. and A. M., the Scottish Rite bodies and Zuhrah Temple of the Shrine. John Henry Burwell was a great lover of the outdoors and was active in conservation work.

In the passing of John Henry Burwell, the State of Minnesota lost a valuable citizen and servant. The Bar has lost an honest, able industrious and ethical member. All who knew him well miss his kind, warm and helpful friendship. □

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This is a memorial of the Hennepin County Bar Association. The date it was delivered and the names of the memorial committee are not listed in the copy at the Minnesota Historical Society. It likely was delivered in 1956.

Burwell's death certificate on file at the Historical Society lists his date of birth as November 7, 1896. ■

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