MEMORIAL

TO

ANDREW G. COOPER

March 17, 1894 - March 4, 1956



1935

HENNEPIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION DISTRICT COURT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA MAY 5, 1956

Andrew G. Cooper

1894 - 1956

Andrew G. Cooper, who was known and generally referred to by practically all of his many friends in the city as Andy Cooper, was born in the City of Minneapolis on March 17, 1894. He died at the age of 62 at his home at 8908 West River Road North, Minneapolis, on March 4, 1956, where he lived with his wife since his retirement and in October of 1953.

Mr. Cooper was reared in Minneapolis on the East Side, and attended grade school and high school in that vicinity. As a young man, and before he studied law, he was a machinist for the Milwaukee Railroad in this city and continued as such for approximately ten years, during which time he became interested in the labor movement and was a member of the International Association of Machinists, Lodge No. 827, which card and membership he retained during all of his lifetime. Also, during this period of time he furthered his education by attending classes at the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota College Law, and was graduated from the Minnesota College of Law and was admitted to the Bar [on June 17,] 1926.

His civil activities were interrupted in 1918 when he volunteered for military service in the United States Army, where he served until the termination of World War I, at which time he received an honorable discharge. For many years thereafter he was very active in Veterans' organizations and traveled extensively in behalf of their various causes. After he was admitted to the bar in 1926, he practiced law for approximately two years by himself and then went into the offices of Latimer & Latimer, whose offices were then in the Security Building which is now known as the Midland Bank Building. In the early 1930's, Mrs. Thomas E. Latimer, one of the partners in the firm of Latimer & Latimer, died, and thereafter the late Thomas E. Latimer and Andrew Cooper formed a law partner-

ship known as Latimer & Cooper. As such, Mr. Cooper engaged actively in the general practice of law until the late Thomas E. Latimer was elected and took office in 1935 as Mayor of the City of Minneapolis, at which time Mr. Cooper was appointed Secretary to the Mayor, which office he held continuously during Mr. Latimer's two-year tenure. The late Mr. Latimer's death brought to an end a long and close association.



Andrew G. Cooper
Secretary to Mayor Thomas E. Latimer and his law partner.
Date of photograph: March 2, 1935

As a young man, while he worked as a machinist and at the time he attended the University, Mr. Cooper became very interested and active in politics, which interests and activities he took part in and furthered until his death. He was very active in the formation of the Farmer-Labor Party in this state and was at one time the Secretary of that political party.

After leaving the Mayor's office in 1937, he again became actively engaged in the general practice of law, during which time he maintained offices in the Midland Bank Building until the year 1942. At that time he became an inspector for the U. S. Army Air Force in this area, in which capacity he served for the duration of the war. Thereafter he again became engaged in the general practice of law, in association with Mr. Frank J. Kozlak of this city, until his retirement in October, 1953.

Andrew Cooper was exceedingly industrious — and his integrity and honesty were unquestioned. He will long be remembered for the kindly and friendly relationship he had with all those with whom he came in contact. He was continuously helping litigants less fortunate than himself, without thought of remuneration.

He was a devout member of the Eastern Orthodox Church. He left surviving him his wife, Clara M. Cooper, and a son, Donald Cooper. Mr. Cooper lives on in the memory and affection of his family, his associates, and his many friends.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas H. McMeekin

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Both photographs were taken on March 2, 1935, and are made available through the Minneapolis Newspaper Photograph Collection, Hennepin County Library. They are also posted in "Photographs of Minneapolis Lawyers from the Minneapolis Newspaper Photograph Collection – Part One" (MLHP, 2017).

Posted MLHP: August 28, 2018