

IN MEMORIAM

FRANCIS J. ROSENTHAL

1876 — 1932

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RAMSEY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

APRIL 15, 1933

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May it please the Court: On behalf of the Bar of Ramsey County, Minnesota, the undersigned Committee presents its testimonial in respect of the memory of the late Francis J. Rosenthal, a member of this Bar, and asks that it be made a part of the records of this Court.

The death of Francis J. Rosenthal, a member of the Bar of Ramsey County, is keenly felt by all who knew him, but particularly by those who chanced to become most intimately acquainted with him or most frequently came in contact with him in his daily life. To us of the Bar, the loss of his radiant smile, his warm handclasp and his ever courteous and hearty greeting has created in our circles an emptiness, never to be refilled.

His parents, Joseph Rosenthal and Mary Matz, intermarried in January of 1876, in Poland, and within a few months thereafter left their motherland and immigrated to far off America. With an unswerving faith in and conviction of the promise of the then far West, they pioneered their way westward, settling in St. Paul, Minnesota, in June, 1876, where both of them spent the remaining days of their lives.

Francis J. Rosenthal, born November 1st, 1876, in St. Paul, Minnesota, was the first of thirteen children born to his sturdy pioneer parents. In the year 1881 he commenced his studies in St. Adalbert's Parochial School in St. Paul, Minnesota, completing his studies there in 1889. For two years following his graduation, he attended St. Thomas College. In 1892 he entered the then St. Paul High School, from which he graduated in June, 1894. The following two years from 1894 to 1896 he attended the Academic Department of the University of Minnesota, abandoning

his studies there to accept a position in the General Offices of the Great Northern Railroad.

Gifted with a rich baritone voice and with a natural talent for and inclination toward music, much of his time in his earlier years was devoted to study in music, in which he was later to gain considerable prominence and recognition. The intervening years between 1898 and 1910 were devoted largely to musical study and organization work in various Polish organizations, local and national in scope, taking him throughout the Middle West and Eastern sections of the United States. During this period also, he took part in many operatic and symphony concerts as instructor, choir master and soloist in Milwaukee, Chicago, New York and other large metropolitan centers of music. In the Northwest he was recognized as a leading figure in musical circles until his death.

In June, 1907, he married Adalia Avery, a noted pianist of St. Paul, Minnesota. Together they reared a family of two daughters and one son.

In the year 1910, he entered the St. Paul College of Law, having definitely abandoned his musical career as a profession. He was admitted to the Bar in 1914, and shortly thereafter commenced his practice in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he practiced until his death, at the age of 55 years, on August 22nd, 1932.

The only Polish newspaper published in the State of Minnesota, was organized by Francis J. Rosenthal, and for some time edited and managed by him. Until his death he served on its staff in the capacity of Vice President. In the field of newspaper publisher, as well as in his musical and professional career as a lawyer, his life was marked by tireless industry and devotion to purpose.

Much of his work in all of his activities was directed toward aiding those about him, oftentimes at the cost of personal discomfort and sacrifice. The problems which he encountered through his varied activities, were necessarily involved and cumbersome, the odds sometimes crushing, but through them all he always emerged unphased. The trials and disappointments which he experienced were buried within

him, to be shared with no one. To those with whom he came in contact, he conveyed nothing but comfort, encouragement and inspiration.

As a member of our Bar, he was known to be modest and of retiring disposition, never boisterous nor disposed to eloquence but always watchful and alert for his client's best practical interests. He was always respected as an impartial and considerate Lawyer, devoted not to the purpose that his point must be gained, cost what it may, but to the creed that justice shall prevail. In that respect he recognized his obligation to the Bench and the Bar and with that always in mind, conducted himself accordingly.

With his many friends and admirers, we join in a sincere expression of our sorrow at his passing. We mourn his death.

To his family we of the Bar of Ramsey County, express a kindly sympathy and Godspeed.

 /s/ FRANCIS J. NAHURSKI, ESQ. CHAIRMAN
 /s/ M. F. KINKEAD, ESQ.
 /s/ M. J. DOHERTY, ESQ.
 /s/ HAROLD C. KERR, ESQ.
 /s/ THOMAS W. MCKEEKIN, ESQ.

COMMITTEE.

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