

MEMORIAL

Julian Edmund Brown
(1884 – 1934)

RAMSEY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

March 31, 1934

To the Bar of Ramsey County,

As testimony of its profound regard for the ability, scholarship, and integrity displayed in the life of the late Julian E. Brown.

Julian Edmund Brown was born in St. Paul, on the 5th day of August, 1884, the second oldest son of Berman and Mary Brown. He attended the common and parochial schools, Cretin High School and the St. Paul College of Law and was graduated from that institution in 1906. He was admitted to practice in the courts of the State the same year.

Mr. Brown was married to Estelle C. St. Aubin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. St. Aubin, on January 29, 1913. Three children were born of them, Mary Louise, Joan, and Julian Brown Jr. all of whom were born and reared in the family residence in St. Paul and who now survive him.

Mr. Julian E. Brown began the active practice of law in the fall of 1906, with offices in the Capital National Bank Building, where he was associated with James Cahill now of the Chicago Bar. This association continued until after his marriage when he and his wife removed to Winnipeg, Canada, where he was connected with the Foley Bros. interests for a period of two years. Returning to St. Paul, he resumed his practice with offices in the Commerce Building, and in 1930 removed to the Merchants National Bank Building.

Mr. Brown's interest in civic affairs prompted him to become a candidate for the Legislature from the 39th Legislative District, comprising the Riverview section of the City of St. Paul. He was elected and served with honor and distinction from 1921 to 1923. While a member of the Legislature, he served on some of the most important committees of the house, cities of the first class, judiciary, general legislation, dealing with utility problems, workmen's compensation, commerce, manufacture, retail trade and others.

This session of the legislature was noted for the forward steps taken in the matter of legislation beneficial to labor. The present workmen's compensation law of the state, a model law, was enacted. The state highway law, the tax on the occupation of mining iron, the law creating the port of St Paul, the law providing for the addition of a contagious ward to the City and County Hospital, the zoning for St. Paul and other cities, the law creating a state budget commission, were all passed by this Legislature.

In the enactment of all these major matters of Legislation, Mr. Brown gave unstintingly of his time and talents. In matters pertaining to the social welfare, veteran's problems, care of the indigent and delinquent, he displayed a high conception of public and private responsibility. In matters pertaining to commerce and trade, he exercised unusual influence by reason of his special training in this branch of the law, and he was a valuable member of the judiciary committee.

During his term of office, the jurisdiction of the municipal court, City of St. Paul, was enlarged and extended and the conciliation court was established. His activities for a new Robert Street Bridge over the Mississippi River are well remembered. His public service, while brief, was fruitful of big results for the State, the City, and the district which he represented.

As a lawyer he was always energetic and industrious in his work, specializing in Bankruptcy and Commercial law. In his practice he was a capable trial lawyer. Always courteous and loyal to his friends, modest and retiring in his nature, a man of good common sense and sound judgment, it was always a pleasure to meet and converse with him. The last few years of his life his health failed rapidly. His attempt to continue the ambitious program he had set only hurried the inevitable. He died in the City of St. Paul, on the 17th day of March 1934, at the age of 53 years, beloved of his professional brethren.

The sympathy of this bar goes forth to his family and friends in the loss they and we have sustained.

We move this memorial be spread upon the records of the court and copies be mailed to the immediate members of the family of our departed friend.

Dated March 31st, 1934.

John L. Levin
John Keefe
Maurice Hallihan



Posted MLHP: June 1, 2010.