

MEMORIAL SERVICES

FOR DECEASED MEMBERS

of the

RAMSEY COUNTY BAR

ASSOCIATION



Held at the

C O U R T H O U S E

Saturday, April 5, 1947

RAMSEY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICES

Court House, Saturday, April 5, 1947
10 A.M.

On Saturday, April 5, 1947, Memorial Services in honor of those members of the Ramsey County Bar who died during the past year were held in the Court House.

**STATE OF MINNESOTA, COUNTY OF RAMSEY,
District Court, Second Judicial District.**

Present: Justices Clarence R. Magney and Leroy E. Matson of the Supreme Court of Minnesota; Judge John B. Sanborn of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals; Judge Robert C. Bell of the United States District Court; Judges John W. Boerner, Carlton F. McNally, Kenneth G. Brill, Gustavus Loevinger, Clayton Parks, Albin S. Pearson, Robert V. Rensch and Royden S. Dane of the Ramsey County District Court; Judges John W. Finehout, John L. Rounds and Arthur A. Stewart of the Municipal Court of the City of St. Paul; and Michael F. Kinkead, Judge of Probate, Ramsey County.

Also present: Officers and members of the Ramsey County Bar Association, members of the Bar and families of deceased members of the Bar.

Mr. Charles J. Curley, as Treasurer of the Ramsey County Bar Association, reported to the Court the names of the members of the Bar who died during the past year.

Judge Boerner: We have met this morning to pay tribute to those members of the Bar whose lives have ended during the past year. The exercises will be conducted by the Ramsey County Bar Association, and the Court now recognizes Mr. Charles J. Curley, the Treasurer of that Association.

Mr. Curley: Honorable judges, ladies and gentlemen: In the unavoidable absence from the city of Mr. Roland J. Faricy, the President of the Ramsey County Bar Association, and Mr. James C. Otis, Jr., its Secretary, it becomes my duty and privilege to represent the Bar Association at these memorial services. The Ramsey County Bar Association desires to present to this Court, memorials to the members of the Bar who have died during the past year.

The first memorial will be given for Mr. Walter L. Chapin, and will be presented by Mr. W. W. Allen.

Mr. Allen read the memorial to Walter L. Chapin.

Walter Leeds Chapin was born in Boston, Massachusetts, January 27, 1863, and died in St. Paul, Minnesota, March 9, 1947, a life span of more than 84 years.

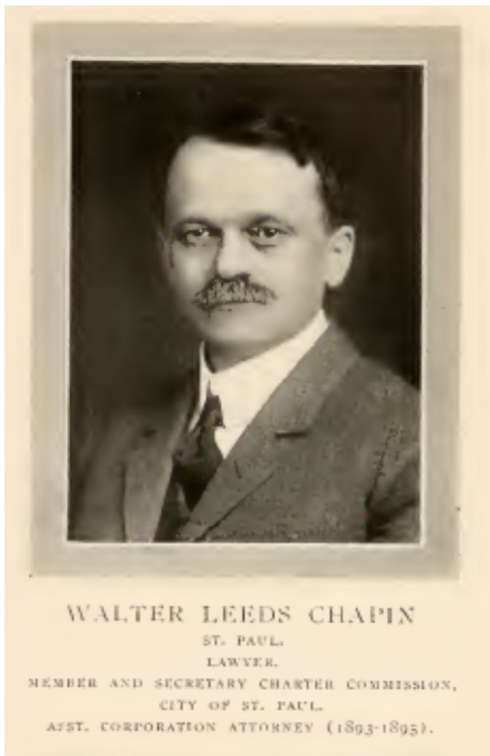
His father was George A. Chapin and his mother was Sarah H. Davis. There were nine children, four of whom grew to maturity and came to St. Paul with their parents in 1869. These were Sarah D., George G., Blanche I., and Walter L. George died in 1870. Sarah D. Chapin died March 5, 1947, four days before Walter Leeds Chapin and one day before her own one hundredth birthday.

Walter Leeds Chapin married Susan Winifred Sewall in July, 1887. She was a daughter of Joseph Sewall, a former City Engineer of

St. Paul. There were four children, George G., Harold S., Mary W. and, Walter L., Jr. Mrs. Chapin's death in 1942 ended a happy married life.

The father, George A. Chapin, was engaged in the hardware business after coming to St. Paul. He died when Walter L. was fifteen years old. This made it necessary for Walter to stop school, he then having had a year or two of high school. He did surveying work for the City Engineer's Office and, by self-education, attained a proficient knowledge of mathematics and Latin.

Walter L. Chapin studied law in the office of McMillan & Beals. This was an outstanding law firm. Mr. McMillan had been a Chief



Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court and at this time was a United States Senator. Mr. Chapin always had a high appreciation for the help given to him in his studies by Mr. Beals. Mr. Chapin was admitted to the Bar, February 9, 1885.

He was employed by the Northern Pacific Railway Company as a tax attorney. He was an Assistant city Attorney.

Except for a short period in 1889-1890, when he was in partnership with Otto J. Sauer, Mr. Chapin practiced alone. His practice continued without interruption until his death.

Mr. Chapin was a member of a committee that produced a so-called Federal plan for government of the City of St. Paul in

1912. While this plan was not adopted, it was part of the work that led to the present commission form of government.

About the same time he was a member of a committee instrumental in setting up the present city playground system. Dr. W. A. Dunning was chairman of the committee. Dunning Field was named as a recognition of Dr. Dunning's energetic leadership.

Mr. Chapin had a continuing and active interest in politics. He was a candidate for the District Court in 1914 and for nomination in the Congressional primary election in about 1926.

He was a Republican in his political faith. After World War I he voted for Democratic presidential candidates, due to his strong belief that the United States should join the League of Nations.

Basically, Mr. Chapin had a good mind and he felt at home in any intellectual group. On political questions, as well as on a wide range of issues, he had thoroughly developed opinions.

Mr. Chapin was an active whist player for many years. When contract bridge became popular his interest continued and he was a regular attendant at the Northwestern Bridge Club or Grand-Slam Club. He participated in the 1947 Winter Carnival Tournament.

He was a long-time member of the Junior Pioneer Association and was a member of the Commercial Club before the organization of the St. Paul Athletic Club.

He was a member of the teaching faculty of the St. Paul College of Law for about thirty years.

Mr. Chapin was a lifelong member of Unity Church. He became a

member of the Sunday School when the Church was organized in 1872. Mr. Chapin attended the 75th anniversary of Unity Church, February 25, 1947.

Mr. Chapin joined the American Bar Association in 1923. He was a long-time member of the Ramsey County Bar Association and of the Minnesota Bar Association. He had an intense interest in all matters tending to elevate the practice of law and in the bettered relations of lawyers to their clients and to the public.

The Bar of Ramsey County suffered a great loss in the death of Walter Leeds Chapin. The sympathy of the Bar is extended to his children and their families.

**Respectfully submitted,
W. W. OLSEN,
FLOYD PEABODY,
IRA OEHLER, Committee.**

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Mr. Curley: The next memorial will be given for Mr. Augustus W. Clapp, and will be presented by Mr. Charles W. Briggs. Mr. Briggs is out of town, and Judge Sanborn will read the memorial.

Judge Sanborn read the memorial to Augustus W. Clapp.

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Augustus Wilson Clapp was born in Hudson, Wisconsin, February 9, 1877, the son of Newel Harvey and Sarah Elizabeth Clapp. He received his preliminary education in the public school of Stillwater and St. Paul, Minnesota. He graduated with a B.A. degree from Yale in 1898, and was accorded Phi Beta Kappa honors.

He was admitted to the Minnesota Bar in 1901, and as a member of the firm of Clapp & Macartney practised law in St. Paul from 1901 to 1906. He then moved to Muskogee, Oklahoma, where he practised law until 1912, as a member of the firm of Rogers & Clapp. He then returned to St. Paul and again resumed practise as a member of Clapp & Macartney. In 1918 he served without compensation as Chief of the Labor Section, Priorities Division, War Industries Board. After the close of the war he resumed the practice of law in St. Paul with his old firm. Shortly thereafter the firm was reorganized as Clapp, Richardson, Elmquist, Briggs & Macartney.

In 1933 and 1934 he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Lumber Code Authority under the N.R.A. In 1930 he became General Counsel, and in 1931 a director and member of the Executive Committee of the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company.

In October, 1940, he dissolved his partnership connection with Clapp, Briggs, Gilbert & Macartney, and moved to Tacoma, Washington, where he continued as General Counsel and a member of the Board and Executive Committee of Weyerhaeuser Timber Company.

Throughout his professional career, while serving a large clientele in the general practice, he was closely associated with the lumber industry and was thoroughly familiar with its growth and development.

He was a member of the Minnesota, Athletic, and Somerset Clubs of St. Paul, of the Bohemian Grove in San Francisco, of the Tacoma Country & Golf Club, and of the Ranier Club, Seattle, Washington.

He was a member of the American, Minnesota, and Washington Bar Associations.

He passed away October 5th, 1946, survived by his wife, Gladys Hays Clapp, a son, Augustus Wilson Clapp, Jr., of St. Paul, a daughter, Dorothy Clapp, of Santa Barbara, California, and two grandchildren.

It is fitting that we speak further as one lawyer to another.

It is not difficult for those of the legal profession who knew Gus Clapp intimately to state the reasons for his success as a lawyer. And he was truly a brilliant lawyer.

The canons of ethics were as he would have written them, and he observed them both in spirit and in deed.

He was a man of great mental powers.

His versatility was demonstrated by his mastery of the higher reaches of mathematics and his skill in music in his younger days. He was unusually accomplished in the use of the English language. His knowledge of Greek and Latin aided him in appreciating the correct meaning of words and in writing with lucidity and precision which are so necessary in the law. He was well grounded in the classical literature of the ages. He built a legal document as an accomplished architect constructed a building. Every part had a use and bore its appropriate stress.

He had a phenomenal memory. He was always intellectually honest with himself and with others. The steadfastness with which he held to any position he took was born of confidence in his abilities and the integrity of his judgment.

He had great powers of concentration which produced finished work in record time.

He never shunned matters of detail, and apparently was un-baffled by them. He could penetrate the intricacies of accountancy and was at home with the members of that profession.

He was an expert in the field of taxation and took no small part before the courts and before the Revenue Bureau in solving the ever-growing and intricate problems reflected in the Revenue Code.

His practice brought him wide experience in and familiarity with corporation, trust, and real estate law of many jurisdictions. He was especially gifted in the drafting of contracts involving complicated situations.

Primarily he was a practising lawyer. As a result of environment and heritage from his father his professional life was devoted to the application of legal principles both existing and anticipated, to the complex problems of individual and corporate business in large spheres of activity.

In disposition and legal temperament he was the judge rather than the advocate. In a legal controversy he inherently and judiciously focused his attention upon what he thought would be the ultimate and just event of the battle rather than upon tactical maneuvers of procedural forces and equipment, or the unrelenting zeal of the advocate. In makeup he was the counsellor rather than the court warrior. If the facts could be taken as established, he had a rare gift of arriving at correct legal conclusions.

In everything he did he had a fixed ambition to excel and ethically to win. He never lost a golf match nor a fishing contest for loss of striving to the utmost, nor did he fail honorably to bring to the solution of every legal problem that confronted him -- his maximum talent and capacity.

In his political, social, and economic thinking he was a staunch individualist. He believed in a competitive world and a free market for goods and services. He surely felt that genuine distinction at the bar, as well as in other walks of life, was a matter of personal attainment; that rewards should be commensurate with services performed. Nevertheless, as an instance of his unpublicized sympathy for the distressed and unfortunate, he established a rule in his office that the Little Sisters of the Poor were to be admitted no matter what his engagements might be.

It is perhaps the tragedy of the legal fraternity that the brief cases of its members, except in rare instances, are not carried into history. When the final recess comes, and "life's fitful fever is o'er" the files of the most eminent practitioners, save those called to public life, are closed. Their great experience and knowledge escheats to the general fund of human activity. Seemingly there is no perpetuation here. But in the ranks of the legal profession great and honorable service at the bar lives on. It becomes the folk lore of lawyers. The candle of brilliance burns on to illuminate the path and encourage the forward steps of those who remain in the continuous line of men and women who study, create, and apply the law. In the forum of our society, search for the principles of justice in the affairs of men is never adjourned. It is never-ending, and ever moves in new directions. But past efforts are carried along as a guiding lamp. And so the devotion of a life to that search, as understood by the greatest of

all professions, cannot wholly pass away. There will always be those to remember.

**Respectfully submitted,
CHAS. W. BRIGGS, Chairman,
HON. JOHN B. SANBORN,
G. S. MACARTNEY, Committee.**

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Mr. Curley: The next memorial will be given for Mr. Louis R. Frankel, and will be presented by Mr. Milton P. Firestone.

Mr. Firestone read the memorial to Louis R. Frankel.

Louis R. Frankel was born in St. Paul on August 7, 1875, and lived here throughout his lifetime. He received his education in the St. Paul schools and at the University of Minnesota. He was admitted to the Bar in 1897, and excepting for the times that he occupied official positions, he was engaged in private law practice in the City of St. Paul.

He commenced practicing law in the office of the late Judge Bechhoeffer, and remained associated with him for several years. He was first assistant, Corporation Counsel of the City of St. Paul during the incumbency of the late Judge Michael as Corporation Counsel, for the period of more than twelve years, during which time he took an active and leading part in the administration of the legal affairs of the City of St. Paul. Mr. Frankel was recognized as an authority on municipal law, and at the request of the Charter Commission drew a proposed charter providing for the City Manager Plan, which plan was at one time seriously considered and actually submitted to a vote of the people. After resigning as first assistant, Corporation Counsel, he again engaged in private law practice, and was, for many years,

associated with the late Horace Glenn and Stiles W. Burr. For some years prior to his death, and at the time of his passing, he was attorney for the Regional Office of the Federal Farm Credit Administration, located in this city.

He died on April 22, 1946, after a brief illness and is survived by his widow, Ann B. Frankel.

Mr. Frankel, besides being actively engaged in the practice of law throughout his lifetime, was also much interested in civic, philanthropic, and social service endeavors. He was a member of the Board of the Community Chest for many years, Chairman of its Budget Committee, and very active in the administration of its affairs. For twelve years he was a member of the Child Welfare Board of Ramsey County, and for six years was Chairman of that Board. He also played a leading part in establishing two of the Settlement Houses of this city, the Hallie Q. Brown Community House, and the Central Community House, now Capitol Community Center. He was on the Board of both institutions for many years and spent a great deal of time and effort in the excellent contribution which both of these institutions have made to the community at large. He was, for many years, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Mount Zion Cemetery, and held this position at the time of his death.

Mr. Frankel, as a lawyer, was able and studious, and had a high professional standard; as a public servant he was a diligent, dependable and faithful counsellor, and as a citizen of St. Paul he gave generously of his time and energy for the public good.

**Respectfully submitted,
GUSTAVUS LOEVINGER,
ALBERT J. MUELLER,
MILTON P. FIRESTONE.**

Mr. Curley: The next memorial will be given for Mr. James H. Kelehan, and will be presented by Mr. James T. Denery.

Mr. Denery read the memorial to James H. Kelehan.

James H. Kelehan, son of Bernard and Sarah Quale Kelehan, was born on a farm near Granite Falls, Minnesota on April 13th, 1886 and died in St. Paul on October 12th, 1946. He was one of six children. His father, Bernard Kelehan, was one of the early settlers in Yellow Medicine County, Minnesota.

James H. Kelehan received his grade and high school training in the public schools of Granite Falls. He later worked his way through the University of Minnesota by teaching school at Granite Falls and doing odd jobs. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1908 and was admitted to the Minnesota Bar in 1909. He worked for the Credit Clearing Company of St Paul for a number of years and was manager of said Company from 1918 to 1931. From 1931 to the time of his death he was engaged in the general law practice, being associated with the late Joseph Dady and the late John H. Russell.

His wife, Sadie Kelehan, died in 1933. He is survived by four children namely: Sister Irmina, James L. Kelehan, Francis M. Kelehan and John C. Kelehan.

Jim Kelehan, as he was affectionately known by his many friends was a kind and considerate man and an able and conscientious Attorney.

He took a keen interest in sports particularly in football and golf and he was also an enthusiastic and able player of bridge. He was a member of the St. Paul Athletic Club from 1926 until his death.

Jim Kelehan's warm and genial personality, together with his high moral character, will cause us to miss him in the years to come.

**The Committee,
JAMES T. DENERY, Chairman,
VERN L. BERRYMAN,
H. W. ALLARD.**

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Mr. Curley. The next memorial will be given for Mr. John P. Kennedy, and will be presented by Mr. Eugene F. Matthews. On account of illness of Mr. Matthews, Mr. Leo E. Stenger read the memorial to John P. Kennedy.

John P. Kennedy was the eldest son of Patrick and Mary Kennedy and was born at St. Louis, Missouri, September 22, 1874, and died at St. Paul, Minnesota, December 16, 1946. When he was two years of age, his parents purchased a farm near Caledonia, Houston County, Minnesota, which became the family home and where John secured the usual training of farm boys, learning the meaning of hard work and honesty. He attended grade schools of Houston County, and the Caledonia High School. Immediately thereafter, he was a teacher in the public schools in his home community.

At nineteen, John Kennedy was appointed a United States Railroad Postal Clerk through competitive Civil Service examination, and he held that position of trust for a period of ten years. His run on the Milwaukee Railroad took him from LaCrosse, Wisconsin, to Madison, South Dakota, and he had many friends at each end of the railroad line. During his spare time at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, he studied law in the office of Winter and Esch, and in 1905, upon examination by the State Board of Law

Examiners of Wisconsin, he was admitted to the Bar at LaCrosse.

Thereafter, he moved to St. Paul and entered the St. Paul College of Law from which he was graduated in 1907. He also was admitted to the bar of Minnesota during that year upon examination by the State Board and began the practice of law in St. Paul. He took a post graduate course at the University of Minnesota where he received the degree of Master of Laws.

For thirty-eight years he was associated with his brother, Leo Kennedy, under the firm name of Kennedy & Kennedy, and for eighteen years both he and Leo were associated with W. B. Douglas former Attorney General of Minnesota, and the firm specialized in personal injury and Probate Law with unusual success. After the retirement of Judge Douglas, the firm continued on as Kennedy & Kennedy with the same line of practice, until the death of Leo Kennedy on January 28, 1946. John and Leo were inseparable companions, and the blow of Leo's death was a great shock for him.

John Kennedy was a staunch Republican, but only entered politics in his own district in St. Paul where he was elected in 1927, 1929 and 1931 as Representative in the House, and he served with distinction on the Judiciary Committee each of his three terms. He declined further re-election. He also served as trustee of the Ramsey County Bar Association several years back, and took a keen interest in both the Courts and the lawyers. He was respected by the Judges and all the Courts before whom he appeared, and his word was considered his bond.

In 1909 he was married to Miss Sophia Gantert of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, who is his only survivor, his two children having died in infancy. His wife was a real helpmate who contributed much to

his success and happiness, both as a family man, and as a professional man.

He was a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters, and the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus, and also a member of the County, State and American Bar Association.

He led an exemplary life and was a respected citizen, an honor to his profession and a pride to his home.

**Respectfully submitted,
LEO E. STENGER,
EUGENE F. MATTHEWS,
IRVING C. CHRISTENSEN.**

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Mr. Curley: The next memorial will be given for Mr. George Nordlin, and will be presented by Mr. Beldin H. Loftsgaarden.

Mr. Loftsgaarden read the memorial to George Nordlin.

George Nordlin was born at Bismarck, North Dakota, May 7, 1884. At the age of one year, he moved with his parents to Saint Paul, where he made his home for the rest of his life. He attended Saint Paul public schools, was graduated from Central High School and also from the University of Minnesota.

He was admitted to the Bar in 1906 and successfully practiced his profession until his death which occurred on Nov. 20, 1946, at the age of 62 years, 6 months and 13 days.

He was married to Olga Oliver on June 22, 1924, who survived him. He is also survived by a step-son, Roland J. Oliver, who is the surviving member of the law firm of Nordlin, Oliver and

Pleva, 1010 Pioneer Building. He is also survived by one brother, Henry Nordlin.

George Nordlin was an able lawyer and well respected by the members of the Bar. He was especially interested in young lawyers and was always willing to give them counsel. The late Governor Floyd B. Olson served his apprenticeship in the office of Senator Nordlin.

In addition to his practice of law, he devoted a great deal of time to public service. He served as a Representative in the State Legislature in the sessions of 1917, 1919 and 1921, after which he was elected to the State Senate, serving the 1923 to 1933 sessions inclusive. He served in his legislative capacity with distinction, and was diligent in his examination of measures which attracted his attention. He was compellingly persuasive in explanation of his convictions concerning legislative proposals.

One of the outstanding legislative enactments, resulting from his untiring efforts and championed cause, was the first Minnesota "Old Age Assistance Act." His interest and work, in behalf of old age assistance, did not terminate with his leaving the State Senate. The Fraternal Order of Eagles sought him because of his ability and devotion to the cause, and he became National Grand Worthy President of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He was the only man in the history of the organization to serve two terms as President of the Order. During his term of office, he traveled extensively throughout the country, speaking in behalf of old age assistance on a national basis, and he is deserving of a great deal of credit for the enactment of the "National Old Age Assistance Act."

In recognition of his services and ability, he was honored by being appointed a member of the President's Committee on

Economic Security. He was also tendered the position of Regional Director under the Social Security Act, but, because of his required work and declining health, he was compelled to decline. Because of his outstanding service for the Fraternal Order of Eagles, he was appointed a life member of the Board of Trustees of the Order.

His rare judgment, in dealing with people and their problems, his congenial personality, his fraternal spirit and his public service will always linger in the memory of his large host of friends and admirers, amongst the members of the Bench and the Bar, and the public generally.

**Respectfully submitted,
BELDIN H. LOFTSGAARDEN, Chairman,
GEORGE L. SIEGEL,
RALPH STACKER.**

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Mr. Curley: The next memorial will be given for Mr. Joseph F. Pleva, and will be presented by Mr. Roland J. Oliver.

Mr. Oliver read the memorial to Joseph F. Pleva.

Joseph Frank Pleva was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota on April 20, 1911. He received his primary and high school education in the Minneapolis public schools and his pre-legal training at Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois and the University of Minnesota. He entered the University of Minnesota Law School in 1933, graduating with honors in 1936. While attending the University, he was employed by the Marquette National Bank and the Wilson Hardware Company in Minneapolis.

He was admitted to the Bar in 1936 and became associated with

the firm of Nordlin & Oliver. The following year he was made a member of the firm, which was thereafter known as Nordlin, Oliver & Pleva.

After his entry into practice, he supplemented his legal education by taking specialized courses at the University in Accounting, Traffic and Transportation, and Taxation. He was admitted to practice before the Inter-State Commerce Commission, the Board of Tax Appeals and the Treasury Department in addition to the State and Federal Courts.

Joe, as he was affectionately known to nearly all the members of the bench and bar and to his friends, was prominent in the activities of the Intermediate Section of the Ramsey County Bar. He was a leader in the St. Paul Junior Association of Commerce, having served as chairman of a number of that organization's more important civic activities. He was an active member of the West End Commercial Club. He was District Treasurer of the Czech-American National Alliance, and president of the St. Paul Sokol Gymnastic Society. He took a prominent part in the activities of his church as an elder of the Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church and president of the Westminster Foundation of Minnesota, an organization charged with carrying on and maintaining religious work and training for Presbyterian college students throughout the State.

He was married in 1941 to Mildred Buzicky of St. Paul. His wife and a daughter, Elizabeth Joan, both survive him.

Following the declaration of war, he entered the Army in August, 1942, receiving his basic training in Artillery. Thereafter, he entered Officers' Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he was commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry, and was assigned as an instructor at the school. Being dissatisfied in a job

of comparative safety and wishing to maintain so far as possible his contact with the law he applied for and received a transfer to Allied Military Government. After an extensive period of training, he left this country, arriving in England in February, 1944. In August, 1944 he was sent to France and shortly thereafter was assigned to the Ninth Armored Division as a member of the Military Government Staff. On the morning of April 13, 1945, while proceeding in his jeep in combat column in Germany, he was killed by the explosion of an enemy shell. Statements from the men of the Ninth Armored Division are full of the highest praise for Lt. Pleva, both as a soldier and a man. Posthumously, he was awarded the Bronze Star and an Oak Leaf Cluster for meritorious conduct in action.

Joseph Frank Pleva was a deeply religious man. He was possessed of unlimited energy, vitality and courage. He held a deep and sincere love for the practice of law. Although aggressive in protecting and defending his clients' interest, he was always modest in his demeanor. He was a man of high ideals and purposes. His death is a great loss to his country, his community and his profession.

**Respectfully submitted,
ROLAND J. OLIVER,
THEODORE CHRISTIANSON, Jr.,
GERALD E. CARLSON.**

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Mr. Curley: The next memorial will be given for Mr. John C. Russell, and will be presented by Mr. M. J. Doherty.

Mr. Doherty read the memorial to John C. Russell.

John Charles Russell was born at Belle Plaine, Minnesota, on November 17, 1884. In early childhood he moved with his parents to Fairfax, Minnesota, where his father engaged in the practice of law until his death now many years ago.

John received his early education in the grade schools of Fairfax, and later attended high school in LeSueur, Minnesota, from which he graduated in the year 1904. For a time he taught school at Fairfax and then entered the University of Minnesota, where he graduated from the law school in 1908. While at the University he became a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity, and always thereafter had many friends in that society.

Following graduation from the law school he was employed by the Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Company in Minneapolis until the year 1912. He then went to Kelliher, Minnesota, where he associated in the practice of law with his uncle, P. J. Russell, whose principal office was at Bemidji. After practicing at Kelliher for some time, John became associated with Larson Brothers Lumber Company of that city, which association continued until 1914, when he returned to Minneapolis to become sales manager of the company in that city. He continued to act in that capacity until 1922, coming then to Saint Paul, where he entered the employ of the Credit Clearing House. In 1932 he formed a law partnership here with James H. Kelehan, specializing in commercial law. This continued until 1942, at which time he joined the Bureau of Internal Revenue, where he continued during the remainder of his life.

In the year 1913 Mr. Russell married Helen McHugh, by whom he is survived. He is also survived by his mother, residing at Fairfax, and by a niece, Mrs. James Fetsch, of Saint Paul.

Mr. Russell was a quiet unassuming gentleman. He had an

unusually cheerful disposition and a ready smile that radiated kindness and good will. He probably never incurred a real enmity.

Although he had an attractive personality that made him an agreeable companion, he never appeared to seek a wide circle of friends, but he always gained the attachment of those who knew him well. He was a devoted husband, and his primary interest was his home, his wife, and their intimate friends. He was possessed of a strong religious faith and was a faithful member of the Catholic Church.

Beyond these primary objects of his devotion his greatest hobby was athletics, particularly football. He followed the fortunes of the University of Minnesota teams with special interest. This interest: was probably accentuated by close friendship with Dr. George H. Hauser, one of the coaches of the Minnesota team.

He departed this life on April 24, 1946. He will be remembered with kindness and affection by all who knew him.

**Respectfully submitted,
ROBERT F. LEACH,
WM. H. OPPENHEIMER,
M. J. DOHERTY, Committee.**

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Mr. Curley: The next memorial will be given for Mr. Harry S. Stearns, and will be presented by Mr. James H. Mulally.

Mr. Mulally read the memorial to Harry S. Stearns.

Harry Sampson Stearns was born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, on May 12, 1885. He attended grade schools there. In 1898 the family moved to St. Paul where he attended Central High School. There he won his letter in track entitling him to become a member of the "C" Club. He was at one time President of that organization and a staunch supporter during his entire life. After finishing high school he entered the University of Minnesota, where he graduated from the Law School in 1909 and was admitted to practice of law the same year.

After doing claim work, he entered the law firm of Denegre and McDermott. After the death of Messrs. Denegre and McDermott, he became associated in the practice of law with Ralph Stone, Phillip Mackey and Bert McKasy. This firm continued until 1939, when he became associated with his son, Harry S. Stearns, Jr., which partnership continued until the time of his death. Besides being admitted to the practice of law in Minnesota courts, he was admitted in all the Federal Courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States.

He became one of the best trial lawyers in the Northwest. His success in the practice of his profession was due not only to the care and untiring effort which he put into his work, but to his attractive personality. He was naturally so friendly that it was almost impossible not to like him. He took pride in not making enemies in the court room and always believed that there was more chance of winning cases by being fair to the opposing side than by bitterness and the creation of ill will.

Upon the introduction of the Minnesota Workmen's Compensation Act, he tried the bulk of the cases coming under that Act. In 1919 he was appointed trial attorney for the State of Minnesota for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and handled all the major litigation of that company up to the time of his death.

He also tried all the Chicago, Great Western Railway Company cases in Minnesota from 1935 until shortly before his death. He was attorney for the Pullman Company which he represented since 1919.

Not only was he active in the field of railroad litigation, but for years was the trial attorney for many insurance companies. During the 1920's he represented from fifteen to twenty insurance companies and always had a large number of cases for trial.

All during his life, Harry Stearns took a deep interest in sports, both as a spectator and a participant. He was a member of the White Bear Yacht Club and was an enthusiastic user of the golf course there. He played an excellent game as is evidenced by the many trophies he won. For years he was a prominent member of the St. Paul Athletic Club. He served as a member of its Board of Directors for many terms and in 1926-27 was its President. Being one of the early members of the club, he was responsible for the introduction of boxing and was for a long time Chairman of the Boxing Committee. He enjoyed "working out" in the club gymnasium and until the last few years could be found always every noon hour engaged in the game of hand-ball or some other form of exercise.

Harry was a great reader. He loved books of all kinds and had good libraries both at his home and at his office. He was a member of the Braden Lodge of Masons and attended St. Clement's Episcopal Church.

He was married in 1911 to Auverne McFetridge. There were three children as a result of that marriage—Harry S. Stearns, Jr., Elizabeth Anne Stearns, and Thomas J. Stearns.

During the late war, Harry Jr., served his country as a Lieutenant in the Coast Guard for four years, during most of which time the ships on which he was stationed were engaged in convoy duty.

Thomas J. was an Army Captain for five years, most of the time in the Philippines. By the absence of Harry, Jr., from the law firm during the war, a great strain was placed upon his father taking on the law work alone. Undoubtedly this, and the anxiety of having his sons imperiled during the war, had much to do with undermining his health. He was warned by his physician that he was under too heavy a strain but decided to keep up his work. Just one week prior to his death which occurred December 20, 1946, he was busy as usual at his desk preparing to go into court.

Harry Stearns was essentially a family man devoted to his wife and children. He was proud of his boys—proud that they were able to go on the battle field to fight for those liberal principles which he believed in and fought for in his own way.

As I stated before, Harry Stearns loved good reading, especially poetry. For years he carried in his pocket the beautiful poem written by Alfred, Lord Tennyson "Crossing the Bar." It was found in his pocket at the time of his death and I think it fitting that I end this memorial by reading it.

**Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea.**

**But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home**

**Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;**

**For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face,
When I have crost the bar.
—Alfred, Lord Tennyson**

**Respectfully submitted,
JOHN F. SCOTT,
CARL W. CUMMINS,
EDWARD D. MULALLY,
Committee.**

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Mr. Curley: On behalf of the Ramsey County Bar Association I move that these memorials be made a part of the records of this court, and that a copy of each memorial be sent to the bereaved members of the family of the deceased.

Judge Boerner: The motion will be granted, and the memorials will be spread upon the minutes of the court and copies sent to the respective families of the deceased. Court will now adjourn.

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Credit

The photograph of Walter L. Chapin on page 4 is from *Men of Minnesota* (1915) and has been inserted by the MLHP.

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