

**MEMORIAL SERVICES**  
**FOR DECEASED MEMBERS**  
**RAMSEY COUNTY BAR**

HELD AT THE  
COURTHOUSE, APRIL 4, 1942



**SAINT PAUL LEGAL LEDGER**

# *Memorial Services*

On Saturday, April 4, 1942, 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.

SPECIAL TERM, Saturday morning, April 4, 1942, court opened pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Justice Andrew Holt of the Supreme Court of Minnesota; Judge John B. Sanborn, United States Circuit Court, and Judge Robert C. Bell of the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota; Judges Hugo O. Hanft, James C. Michael, John W. Boerner, Carlton F. McNally, Kenneth G. Brill, Gustavus Loevinger, Clayton Parks and Albin S. Pearson of the Ramsey County District Court; Judge Michael F. Kinkead of the Ramsey County Probate Court; and Judges John W. Finehout and Robert V. Rensch of the Municipal Court of the City of St. Paul.

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

JUDGE HANFT: Judges of the Supreme Court of Minnesota and of this District; Members of the Bar, and Ladies and Gentlemen:

A memorable year has passed since last we met in this room upon a similar occasion, a year that has witnessed the world torn by bitter strife and brutal war. Many of the younger members of the Ramsey County Bar are already in active service in the army, navy and air force of the United States, determined to do their part towards decisively winning

this war, as democratic nations must and will win it, to save this world from utter chaos. Several members the Bar during the past year have departed to that bourne where everlasting peace reigns supreme, among them one the younger members of our Bar who gave his life at Bataan Peninsula, serving under General MacArthur in action in this just cause.

This is the day set apart by the judges of this district for the annual memorial service, and all matters set for hearing at special term today are continued for one week.

Mr. Cowern, as President of the Ramsey County Association, will you kindly report to the Court the names of the members of the Bar who died during the past year and, as we proceed, the names of the members of the committees who have been appointed to draft and present the memorials today.

MR. COWERN: May it please the Court, following a commendable custom, the Bar of Ramsey County have appointed committees to prepare memorials to the members of the Bar of this County who died during the past year. Those members are:

Humphrey Barton  
Paul Carpenter  
Frederick N. Dickson  
Jesse E. Greenman  
Donald J. McMahan  
Adolph A. Neumeister  
John A. Pearson  
William H. Seward  
James A. Svobodny  
Emery W. Swenson

The committee appointed to prepare a memorial to Humphrey Barton consists of the following members of this Bar: Samuel A. Anderson, Walter T. Mack, Axel E. Parsons, John J. Keefe and will be presented by Peter E. Kamuchey, Chairman.

MR. KAMUCHEY: May it please the Court and member of the Bar:

The following memorial of Humphrey Barton is respectfully submitted by this Committee.

Humphrey Barton was born on a farm near Bedford, Fulton County, Pennsylvania, on May 6, 1857. He received his early education in the rural schools of that County. While going to school, he spent the summer months of each year working on his father's farm. At the age of seventeen years he was awarded a teacher's certificate and began teaching school in one of the country schools of his County. While teaching school he continued working on his father's farm during the summer months. Later he entered the State Normal School of Pennsylvania, from which school he graduated in 1882.

While attending Normal School he became interested in the study of law. Upon his graduation he decided to choose law as his profession. Shortly thereafter he entered the law offices of John Cessna of Bedford, Pennsylvania and studied law there for a period of about three years. In the year 1885 he was admitted to practice law in the State of Pennsylvania. After practicing law in the State of Pennsylvania for a short period of time he decided to try his fortune in the West and moved to Saint Paul, Minnesota, arriving here in April, 1886. He opened up his law offices and started practicing law in this State.

Shortly after his admission to the Bar, Mr. Barton married Miss Lillian Rupp of Youngstown, Ohio. Three children were born to them, namely, Robert Barton, now a resident of London, England; Betty Bangs, now residing at Phoenix, Arizona; and Dorothy Love of Saint Paul, Minnesota, now deceased.

Mr. Barton was actively engaged in the practice of law at Saint Paul, Minnesota, from April, 1886, to October, 1941, a period of approximately fifty-five years. He died on October 30, 1941, here in Saint Paul, Minnesota. His wife died here in Saint Paul several years prior to his death.

During the many years that he was engaged in the practice of law in Saint Paul, he handled many important lawsuits. His opponents in most of

the lawsuits that he tried were lawyers of outstanding ability and leaders in our profession. Mr. Barton had an abundance of natural ability. He was an untiring worker, and a good student of law. No proposition of law involved in any of his lawsuits ever seemed to him too insignificant to be



thoroughly worked out. With these characteristics he quickly added to his natural ability an abundance of acquired knowledge, and learning in the law. He was a brilliant lawyer. He was one of the outstanding lawyers of our community.

Mr. Barton was always fair and sincere with the Court. He never urged the Court to adopt any rule of law unless he thoroughly believed that it was the law applying to the case. He was always sincere, reasonable, and fair with his clients. He was always kind and courteous to his opponents. He was a large man and his stately appearance combined with the eloquent manner in which he presented his cases to the Court and jury created for him an enviable

position of rank among his fellow men and the highest respect and admiration of the Bench and Bar.

Barton was a devoted, loving, and kind husband and father. He was a perfect gentleman. A man of dignity and a man of integrity and sterling character. His reputation always above reproach. By reason of his brilliancy as a lawyer and his gentleness, kindness, and culture as a man he was highly regarded by all those who knew him and will always be remembered as such.

Respectfully submitted,  
MR. SAMUEL A. ANDERSON,  
MR. WALTER T. MACK,  
MR. AXEL E. PARSONS,  
MR. JOHN J. KEEFE,  
MR. PETER E. KAMUCHEY, Chairman.

MR. COWERN: The committee appointed to prepare a memorial to Paul Carpenter consists of Harry S. Stearns, Jr., John L. Connolly, E. G. Carpenter Alton V. Oberholtzer and J. Neil Morton, Chairman, and will be presented by Mr. Morton.

MR. MORTON: To the Judges of the District Court Ramsey County, Minnesota:

The undersigned, constituting a committee duly appointed by the President of the Ramsey County Bar Association, respectfully submit the following memorial to Paul Carpenter, deceased.

Paul Carpenter died at his home, L'Argenteau, North Saint Paul, Minnesota, on November 27, 1941. Burial was at North Saint Paul on November 29, 1941.

Mr. Carpenter was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, on December 1, 1877, the son of Samuel Sangston Carpenter and Mary Macy Carpenter. He was the seventh generation in this country of a family of professional men, lawyers and doctors.

He attended the College of the Academy of the New Church at Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. In 1891 he went to Chicago where as a young man he studied general law and patent law under private tutors and in the offices of Paul Synnestvedt and Hugh L. Burnham. He entered the practice of patent law in Chicago in 1899, and in 1908 was admitted to the bar of Illinois. In 1906 he married Elsie Helen Ryckoff

From 1905 to 1910 he was a partner of Paul Synnestvedt in the practice of patent law, in Chicago, and thereafter, continued in individual practice to specialize in patent, trade mark and corporation law. He later associated with him Brendan J. McCann and Whitman Taylor until their deaths in 1934 and 1936, respectively.

In recent years Mr. Carpenter's professional duties required him to devote an increasing amount of time to matters at Saint Paul, and in 1938 he became a resident of Minnesota. At the time of his death he was the senior member of the firm of Carpenter, Abbott & Coulter, in which was

associated with William H. Abbott, Robert F. Coulter. E. G. Carpenter, and Harold J. Kinney, with offices at Saint Paul and Chicago.

Mr. Carpenter was one of the leaders of the bar, specializing in the patent field. He was a man of powerful intellect and he applied himself with great industry and conscientiousness to the affairs of his clients. He combined mastery of his special field with unusual skill in the drafting and negotiation of contracts and the ability to advise constructively in broader matters of business policy. He was proud of his profession, and in his practice he showed at all times the highest sense of professional obligation. To him, personal and professional honor were synonymous.

Mr. Carpenter was always a student. He was particularly interested in the classical languages, history, and comparative religion. Throughout his life he took a great interest in religion, and he was active in the affairs of the General Church of the New Jerusalem (Swedenborgian). He was secretary of the executive committee of the Church Corporation from 1904 to 1923.

He was a member of the American Bar Association, the Illinois State Bar Association, and the Chicago Bar Association. He was also a member of the Union League Club and the Lake Shore Club of Chicago, and the Minnesota Club, Saint Paul Athletic Club, University Club, and White Bear Yacht Club, of Saint Paul.

In 1930 Mr. Carpenter married Venita Pendleton, daughter of Bishop William Frederic Pendleton, of Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. She survives him and continues to reside at L'Argnteau, North Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Mr. Carpenter is also survived by his son, Philip Samuel Carpenter, of Orlando, Florida, and his daughters, Mrs. John Dewey, of Huntington Valley, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Philip B. de Maine, of Akron, Ohio, and Mary Macy Carpenter, all children of his first wife

Respectfully submitted,  
HARRY S. STEARNS, Jr.,  
JOHN L. CONNOLLY,  
E. G. CARPENTER,  
ALTON V. OBERHOLTZER,  
J. NEIL MORTON, Chairman.

COWERN: The committee appointed to prepare a memorial to Frederick N. Dickson consists of the following members of this Bar: James C. McCloud, Alexander E. Horn, Bruce W. Sanborn, Gordon Sheperd, William H. Oppenheimer, Chairman, and will be presented by Mr. Oppenheimer.

MR. OPPENHEIMER: We mourn today the passing of a distinguished member of this bar.

We honor him as a lawyer, judge and citizen, we cherish and hold dear the memory of his friendship.

Born of pioneer parents on May 15, 1863, Frederick N. Dickson studied in the public schools of Northfield, Minnesota. Upon graduation from



Carleton College in 1885 he came to St. Paul to study in the law offices of J. W. Lusk and C. W. Bunn, and later in the offices of John B. and Walter H. Sanborn. He was admitted to the bar in 1887.

He then entered the practice of law in St. Paul, and 1897 formed a partnership with the late Stan J. Donnelly, This association lasted about three years.

Taking an active interest in politics he served as a member of the Board of Police Commissioners of this City for several years, was Chairman of the Republican City Committee in 1910, and in 1911 was appointed Judge of this Court which position he held until 1921, when he resigned to come a member of the firm

known at the time of his death as Oppenheimer, Dickson, Hodgson, Brown and Donnelly. He remained an active member of that firm until his death on July 9, 1941.



He was married June 1, 1899, to Alice Strong of Chicago, who, with a daughter, Mrs. Horace Mohn, of Red Wing, Minnesota, and two grandsons, John Dickson Mohn and Horace Wheeler Mohn, survive him.

To the public generally he leaves a record of civic patriotism and public achievement. To the Bar of Ramsey County and the State he leaves a record of unfailing devotion to the ideals of our profession.

To us who practiced before him he will always be remembered as a truly great trial judge.

To great natural ability and love of the law he added industry, and developed to a remarkable extent the ability to analyze a problem and pick out the important fact or principle of law upon which its solution rested.

First and foremost in his mind at all times was the consciousness of a responsibility that rests upon one who undertakes to decide between his fellowmen, an active desire to be fair and just, to never let pride of opinion or prejudice sway him from the path of justice to his fellowmen. He welcomed the assistance of counsel.

Possessing a great fund of common sense he quickly detected and distinguished the true from the false. Always considerate, calm and patient he examined all evidence with an unbiased mind and reasoned calmly and logically to a sound conclusion. A great student of the law he refused to be bound by principles outmoded by changes in the economic and social phases of life. He met life fairly and squarely and applied the law as a living servant of society. As evidence of this faculty we refer to but one case. That of—

George J. Grant Construction Co. vs.  
St. Paul Building Trades Council,  
136 Minn. 167.

wherein he ruled that it was lawful for members of a labor union to agree among themselves that they would not work for an employer during a controversy. A decision somewhat startling at the time of rendition but now regarded as sound law. When brought before the Supreme Court on appeal, his decisions were almost uniformly affirmed.

It can truly be said that his voluntary retirement from bench was regretted by bench and bar alike. His unfailing courtesy, patience, his close attention to the trial, his clearness of thought and the clarity of his rulings will be remembered by all who, were fortunate enough to practice before him.

As a judge he maintained that high record of judicial integrity, industry and ability which has and does characterize the bench of Ramsey County, a record that constitutes one of this community's most highly prized and valued assets.

To those of us with whom he became associated as a member of the bar, he will always be remembered as a lawyer, a man and a friend.

We like to think of him as a lawyer, always working, always helpful, always willing to subordinate self to the common cause; to go along as one of a team. Clients honored and respected his judgment, tempering the law as he always did with common sense. His advice was sought not merely as a lawyer but as a practical business man.

We like to think of him as a man, to reflect upon his honesty, fairness, manly character, his earnest purpose to serve his times and his country as a loyal and patriotic citizen.

But most of all we like to think of him as a friend, of his cheerful smile, his ready wit and love of a good story. His readiness to extend a helping hand, to say a kind word to one in trouble, his ability to turn dross into gold and widen the horizon of our imagination to bigger and better things.

As a man, lawyer, judge and friend, his memory is a guidepost pointing the way we all should be journeying.

In ancient times our ancestors worshipped the sun, but always they turned their eyes, addressed their prayers to the rising sun, never to the setting sun.

If Frederick N. Dickson could speak to us now, he would say: "I am of the west, the land of the setting sun, no, longer turn your thoughts to me but

always to the east, to the rising sun, to the rising generation, to the tomorrow and the tomorrows. Do not relax your efforts nor fold your arms in the comforting reflection that the task is done. Work on. Be not afraid of big tasks nor ignore small ones, hold high in the hearts and minds of the lawyers of today and future a keen sense of their responsibility that liberty and freedom shall continue to exist."

Frederick N. Dickson is gone. We shall miss his counsel his cooperation, his friendly greeting, but we must bow to the will of the Almighty, trusting that this is not a closing chapter but, with a broadened field for service, the beginning of a new and larger life.

JAMES C. MICHAEL,  
ALEXANDER E. HORN,  
BRUCE W. SANBORN,  
GORDON SHEPARD,  
WILLIAM H. OPPENHEIMER, Chairman.

JUDGE HANFT: All of us know that for many years Judge Michael and Judge Dickson, with chambers adjacent to court rooms adjacent, were buddies on the bench and off the bench. I am sure we shall be pleased to have a few words from you, Jim.

JUDGE MICHAEL: Fred Dickson was amply endowed mentally. He led a full and industrious life. His more than half a century at the bar and on the bench rendered him an able judge and wise counsellor. He was one of the rare characters who at all times had the courage of his convictions and he decided in his own mind what was right and stuck by it, whether it was regarded as popular or unpopular. I can give no better example of that than to cite two cases, first, the Stickney Fire Escape case and, second, the Slimmer Inheritance Tax case, both of which went to the Supreme Court and were affirmed. It is needless to say that Judge Dickson was very popular with all his associates on the bench. He had that delightful personality that made every one coming in contact with him not only love but respect him, and it was with the keenest regret that his associates on the bench saw his departure from the bench to re-engage in private practice.

To me, one of the most delightful characteristics he possessed was that of companion and friend. No one ever had a truer friend than Fred Dickson. He was well versed in general literature in addition to the literature of the law. He had an unusual sense of humor. He had a fund of humorous jokes that was really surprising, and no one could tell a humorous joke better and bring out the point more distinctly than Fred himself. So far as I am personally concerned, when he left the bench, I felt it very keenly. When he left this world, I felt it more keenly, and to his bereaved family we, of the Bench as well as the Bar, extend our heartfelt sympathy. The memory of Fred Dickson will long be cherished by the Bench and Bar of Ramsey County.

JUDGE HANFT: Thank you, Jim.

MR. COWERN: The committee appointed to prepare the memorial to Jesse E. Greenman consists of the following members of the Ramsey County Bar: Raymond F. Schroeder, Chairman, A. I. Levin and Charles J. Andre, and will be presented by Mr. Andre.

MR. ANDRE: On behalf of the Bar of Ramsey County, the following memorial to Jesse E. Greenman is respectfully submitted:

Jesse E. Greenman was born on, July 3rd, 1860, at Somonauk, Illinois, coming to Minneapolis, Minnesota, at the age twenty, he secured a position in the Credit Department of the wholesale house of Wyman, Partridge and Company. Here by diligent application and hard work he laid the ground work of what proved to be a highly specialized and success business and professional career.

As a result of his work for the Wyman, Partridge Company, he was offered and accepted the position of manager for R. G. Dun & Company and came here taking charge of the Saint Paul Office. As Manager of R. G. Dun and Company, and in particular in charge of their collection department, Mr. Greenman was constantly in contact with the members of our local Bar, and realizing his handicap, with characteristic determination, sought and secured admission the Bar by way of the night law school of the University Minnesota and was admitted to practice.

Mr. Greenman associating himself with Philip Gilbert opened a law office in the old German American Bank Build, specializing in his chosen field of Commercial Law. Later Charles J. Andre was taken into the firm under the name Gilbert, Greenman and Andre, and after the dissolution that partnership Mr. Greenman lived to see the end of the era of big business in the Northwest by the then Jobbers. He retired from the active practice of law January 1st, 1939.

He was a pioneer in the Commercial law field as a specialty branch of the law, and capitalized upon his experience and natural ability as an adjuster and as a direct consequence, gained the confidence of his clientele rendering a service both profitable to his clients and to himself.

Mr. Greenman never forgot his early trials as a young lawyer and was always ready to aid and assist a student or newly admitted lawyer. Among our lawyers who can look back to their start in his office are Samuel F. Lilygren, Charles A. Pitkin, Gilbert C. Rode, Raymond F. Schroeder, Leslie H. Blacklock, Roger Dell, John E. Katzmarek, A. I. Levin and Wilbert H. Steffen. Mr. Greenman even gave Milton Rosen his first job.

In his social activities he was a member of the Masons, Elks and St. Paul Athletic Club. The members of the old St. Paul Commercial Club will recall his activities there during the time the Club maintained quarters in the Guardian Building.

He was brusque in manner, yet kindly and considerate in his dealings with his fellow men. He was a keen contestant whether in a law suit or at the card tables in the various clubs where he was a member.

Since coming to Saint Paul in the early nineties he always made his home here. He was married to Miss Estelle M. Thompson in the Old People's Church of St. Paul, April 18th 1892, and died here January 30th, 1942, his wife having predeceased him. He leaves surviving his children, Mrs. Marion E. Hoff and Allan E. Greenman, both of Saint Paul, and Mrs. Katherine LaVoie of California.

While the ranks of Jesse Greenman's generation at the Bar are fast thinning, yet it can well be said that his conduct and example while

among us might well be emulated and serve as a beacon for others to follow.

Respectfully submitted,  
RAYMOND F. SCHROEDER, Chairman,  
A. I. LEVIN,  
CHARLES J. ANDRE.

MR. COWERN: The committee appointed to prepare the memorial to Donald J. McMahon consists of the following members of the Ramsey County Bar: George G. McPartlin, Charles R. Murnane, Robert H. Tucker, Hon. John J. McDonough and Richard J. Leonard, Chairman, and will be presented by Mr. Tucker.

MR. TUCKER: We gather on this occasion to pause a moment in memory and in tribute to those of our members who have been called from our midsts by him who sits as Judge Eternal. . . .To the Honor and Memory of Donald J. McMahon, who in his thirty-first year passed away December 13th, 1941, this Memorial is affectionately and reverently dedicated.

Donald Joseph McMahon was born at Saint Paul, Minnesota, September 5th, 1910; who, with his twin sister, was one of six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Michael McMahon. He attended parochial grade schools, St. Thomas Academy and College, graduating from the latter in 1931. He thereupon entered the Saint Paul College of Law, graduating from this institution in 1934 and was admitted to the Minnesota Bar the same year.

While attending St. Thomas he was active in debate and forensic circles. While maintaining a high scholastic record, his outstanding extra curricula activity lay in the field of athletics where he excelled in basketball and baseball.

Upon entering the practice of his profession, he became interested in politics and was President of the Ramsey County Younger Democrats at the time of his death.

On the 18th day of July, 1936, he was married to Helen Gallagher. Two children were born of this union, Terrence, born March 19th, 1938, and Timothy born June 17th, 1940.

It is difficult for mortal mind in its limited knowledge and understanding of the infinite wisdom of the Almighty to comprehend the untimely calling from us of one but yet upon the threshold of life; one with so intense a desire of living life in its fullness; one with so effervescent a vitality; one who by his very presence radiated the warmth and friendliness of his personality.

In his legal practice he was the champion of the poor. He approached each case with the zeal, fervor and enthusiasm of his entire being. In the actual trial of cases, his spontaneous humor, his contagious enthusiasm and his friendly sincerity won from him alike the sympathy of the jurors, the admiration of the opposing counsel and the respect of the Court. He gave unstintingly of his time and self in the service of others. Never was he happier than when on some gratuitous errand or mission for some deserving person. A living tribute to his life of service was evidenced by the throngs of friends who attended his last rites.

He was proud of his Irish descent and devout in his religion. Before the disease which was to prove fatal had ravished his body, he enjoyed virile and buoyant health which was reflected in his beaming smile and dynamic personality. While not consciously striving for greatness as such he was content to be one with his fellows. He achieved greatness by his sincerity of purpose, and inherent ability.

"He had not passed the stone that marks the highest point on Life's highway, but being weary lay down by the wayside and while yet in love with Life and raptured with all the World, he passed on to silence and Eternity."

In his passing his parents have lost a noble and loving son, his wife a kind and a generous husband, his children a tender and understanding father, the Bench and Bar a worthy and able advocate and his community an intelligent and energetic leader.

Respectfully submitted,  
GEORGE G. McPARTLIN,  
CHARLES R. MURNANE,  
ROBERT H. TUCKER,  
HON. JOHN, J. McDONOUGH,  
RICHARD J. LEONARD, Chairman

MR. COWERN: The committee appointed to prepare the memorial to Adolph A. Neumeister consists of the following members of the Ramsey County Bar: Andrew J. Newgren, Daniel D. O'Connell, R. W. Allard, Archie Gingold and James T. Denery, and will be presented by Mr. Denery.

MR. DENERY: Adolph A. Neumeister was born on May 13th, 1888, in the Village of Alma, Buffalo County, Wisconsin, the son of Charles and Theresa Neumeister and was one of nine children.

Mr. Neumeister acquired his early education in the public schools of Alma and after finishing grade and high school in the place of his birth, went to La Crosse, Wisconsin, and while there attended a business College. In 1911, Mr. Neumeister came to St. Paul and from 1913 to 1915 was employed by Foley Brothers Grocery Co. He terminated his employment with that firm to accept a position with the Minnehaha Dry Cleaning Company of St. Paul, where he was employed as office manager and director of said company until 1920

On October 23rd, 1913, he married Dorothy E. Schwartz of La Crosse, Wisconsin. While working days to support his family, Mr. Neumeister found it possible to attend the St Paul College of Law in the evenings, where he completed his course and was admitted to practice law in Minnesota in June, 1920.

Immediately upon being admitted to practice law, Mr. Neumeister opened an office on Payne Avenue, in St. Paul. Mr. Neumeister was a genial, friendly man with a good sense of humor and seldom failed to see the brighter side of any difficulty. He was a lover of the great outdoors and took delight in fishing, hunting and golfing. He took much



pride in his ability as a gardener and in the spring and summer months could be seen at five or six in the morning spading, weeding and cultivating his garden and was very generous in distributing the rewards of his gardening efforts to his neighbors and friends. Mr. Neumeister was generous in giving his time and talent to persons too poor to pay for legal services. No person was turned away from his law office because of inability to pay fees.

Mr. Neumeister died January 17th, 1942 and is survived by his widow, Dorothy E. Neumeister, two children, Carleton F. Neumeister and Dolores R. Sieber and three grandchildren, Nancy, Sandra and Mary Sue Sieber.

In summing up Mr. Neumeister's love of nature, love for his fellow man, we are reminded of the poem composed by Samuel Walter Foss, one verse of which is as follows:

I see from my house by the aide of the road,  
By the side of the highway of life,  
The men who press with the ardor of hope,  
The men who are faint with the strife,  
But I turn not away from their smiles  
Nor their tears—  
Both parts of an infinite plan;—  
Let me live in a house by the side of the road  
And be a friend of man.

Respectfully submitted,  
ANDREW J. NEWGREN,  
DANIEL D. O'CONNELL,  
R. W. ALLARD,  
ARCHIE GINGOLD,  
JAMES DENERY, Chairman.

MR. COWERN: The committee appointed to prepare the memorial to John A. Pearson consists of the following members of the Ramsey County Bar: Guy Chase, Chairman, Albert J. Mueller, Hon. Gustavus Loevinger, Hon. Michael F. Kinkead and William W. Cutler, and will be presented on behalf of the committee by Mr. Mueller.

MR MUELLER: May it please the Court:

The Committee of the Ramsey County Bar Association appointed to prepare this memorial respectfully submits the following:

John Alfred Pearson was born at Horby, Sweden, on January 13, 1881. With his parents and sister he emigrated to Minnesota in 1886, attended the public schools in St. Paul and graduated from the old Cleveland High School in 1898. The following year he was pleased to become a naturalized citizen of the United States. He always prized his American citizenship.

From 1900 to 1909 he was employed by the Merchants National Bank. Impelled by ideals and principles developing within him, and not content with routine duties, he commenced the study of law at the St. Paul College of Law and graduated in 1907. Two years later he commenced practice in partnership with Guy Chase, an arrangement which continued to the end of 1911. On September 30, 1910, he married Evelyn Goff.

Early in his professional life he evidenced a genuine interest in the affairs of the County and State Bar Associations. He served several years as a member of the Ethics Committee of the County Bar, and as Secretary of that Committee was instrumental in the adoption of methods of procedure and the keeping of full records and files. He served as President of the County Bar Association in the fiscal year 1932-1933

He was persuaded to leave his private practice and become First Assistant County Attorney for Ramsey County at the beginning of 1931 and continued in that office until January 2, 1937, when he was appointed Assistant Attorney General of the State of Minnesota. Under a new State administration commenced January 2, 1939, he was retained by a new Attorney General and continued in charge, in behalf of the State, of

certain litigation. In those public offices he accepted a large amount of responsibility relating to litigation of much importance to the public interests. Those services were performed with commendable thoroughness and he merited the honorable reputation that he attained as a good and faithful public servant.

He possessed patience and endurance in great abundance, not being content with accomplishment of a task with ordinary results, but delved deeply into his subjects.

It can be said of John A. Pearson, as was said of another, that one had to be profound to know how profound he was. He was never satisfied with superficial knowledge. If there was a legal problem to be solved, he persisted on his quest beyond the probable answer, to an approach to certainty. If it was a philosophical problem, he was no less thorough.

Although ordinarily neither rapid nor voluble of speech, among his intimates he was an excellent conversationalist, contributing his full share in any exchange of ideas and wit. He was equally at home in the stratosphere of metaphysical speculation, the ground-levels of economics and politics, and the hardpan of scientific research.

His attitude toward life was essentially intellectual, questioning, searching for truth. Although never a crusader or an iconoclast, he was not afraid to speak out against tradition or conventions which he believed to be shackling progress. His talents and learning should have qualified him for high places, but his modesty kept him from seeking them. He was peculiarly free, brave and unassuming soul.

He liked travel and the great outdoors, having in 1902 and again with Mrs. Pearson in 1922 journeyed back to his native land and to other places in Europe; and he enjoyed for nearly twenty years such time as he could permit himself to spend, in nearly all months of the year, at his cottage on Balsam Lake, Wisconsin. At various times he was a member of Unity Church, Montgomery Lodge No. 258 A. F. & A. M., the Scottish Rite bodies St. Paul, Osman Temple of the Shrine, the Modern Woodmen, and the St. Paul Athletic Club.

The high sense of duty of John Alfred Pearson and the intense efforts that he devoted to his work in public office during the last ten years of his practice, during which time he did not spare himself to save his health or vitality, shortened his span of life. He died at his home on June 13, 1941, survived by his wife, one son, John W. Pearson, three daughters, Linnea Pearson, Mrs. Evelyn Gustafson, and Helen Pearson, and a sister, Miss Bessie Pearson.

Respectfully submitted,  
ALBERT J. MUELLER,  
WILLIAM W. CUTLER,  
GUSTAVUS LOEVINGER,  
M. F. KINKEAD,  
GUY CHASE, Chairman.

MR. COWERN: The committee appointed to prepare the memorial to William H Seward consists of the following members of the Ramsey County Bar: Bruce W. Sanborn, Joseph P. Tracy, Charles H. Winter and Walter T. Ryan. That memorial will be presented on behalf of the committee by Mr. Sanborn.

MR SANBORN William Henry Seward was born on a farm near Mason City, Iowa, on September 27, 1887. He came to St. Paul in 1901, at the age of fourteen years, and lived here continuously until his death on January 10, 1942. For more than twenty years he applied himself diligently and successfully to the practice of his chosen profession. He was a member of the Ramsey County Bar Association and of the Minnesota State Bar Association.

Mr. Seward learned self-reliance at an early age. He earned his own living continuously from the time he was ten years old. He worked at various employments, in a grocery store, in the accounting department of a railroad, and in selling real estate. When Thomas Frankson, who later became Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota, was developing additions near Lake Como, Mr. Seward became his sales manager. These endeavors, however, proved to be but means to an end.

With his earnings Mr. Seward started to supplement his limited early education. He had decided to be a lawyer. At the age of twenty-five he commenced to put himself through high school, and graduated at the Humboldt High at the age of twenty-eight. He then entered the St. Paul College, of Law, completed his course, and received his LL.B. degree in 1918. He was admitted to practice before the State Supreme Court on June 21st of that year. He had not been turned away by difficulties which would have dismayed a man of less courage and spirit.

In 1918, while still a law student, he became associated with the firm of Sanborn, Graves & Ordway, in a relationship which continued until 1920. In that year he opened offices with Mr. Charles H. Winter, and they were soon joined by Thomas P. McNamara. Mr. McNamara had had a wide and successful experience in trial work, and in these labors Mr. Seward became his apt pupil. He found trial work particularly suited to his tastes and abilities, and developed an active and lucrative practice. He continuously officed with Mr. Winter, and in late years they shared their offices first with Walter T. Ryan and later with Joseph P. Tracy.

Mr. Seward achieved eminence as an advocate and trial lawyer. He was a careful student and untiring in his preparation of law and fact. The day of trial found him thoroughly schooled as to his own case, mindful of its pitfalls, and with a rare insight into weakness in his opponent's armor. He gathered reputation, and in later years frequently appeared in court for other lawyers.

Mr. Seward's desire for self-improvement was one of his marked qualities. His forays into many fields surprised his friends. He read widely into history, biography, and general literature, and was especially interested in psychology. His fine library is a tribute to the catholicity of his tastes.

On May 11, 1920, he married Mary Louise Zwicky of Saint Paul, and their union proved to be a very happy one. Mrs. Seward and two sons, William H. Seward, Jr., now twenty years of age, and associated with Kenneth M. Wright Studios, and John Paul Seward, now sixteen years of age, survive him. Mr. Seward was a devoted husband and father.

While enthusiastic by temperament, he was remarkably steady in his purposes. He was wise in counsel, a warm and loyal friend, and will be sadly missed by a circle which was ever widening.

Respectfully submitted,  
WALTER T. RYAN,  
CHARLES H. WINTER,  
JOSEPH P. TRACY,  
BRUCE W. SANBORN, Chairman.

MR. COWERN: The committee appointed to prepare the memorial to James A. Svobodny consists of the following members of the Ramsey County Bar: William P. O'Brien, Donald M. Faber, John T. O'Donnell, Francis J. Nahurski and Theodore Christianson, Jr., Chairman, and will be presented by Mr. Christianson.

MR. Christianson: James Anthony Svobodny was born in St. Paul, June 13, 1913. He attended the St. James Grade School and Cretin High School. He graduated from the University of Minnesota, receiving his Bachelor of Laws degree in 1937. While attending the University and Cretin High School he showed particular interest and proficiency in military training. He was a Cadet Officer in the University R.O.T.C. unit and earned a commission as Second Lieutenant, Field Artillery, in the Officers Reserve Corps of the United States Army.

Upon completion of his law course, he served six months as a Reserve Officer in charge of a Civilian Conservation Corps at Brainerd, Minnesota. In 1938, he was admitted to the Bar. He entered private practice immediately thereafter in St. Paul where he practiced his profession until he was called into the active military service of his Country as a First Lieutenant on April 28, 1941. For a short time thereafter, he was stationed at Camp Joseph T. Robinson in the State of Arkansas. While there he volunteered for foreign military service and on July 15, 1941, he was sent to the Philippine Islands for active duty. He joined General Douglas MacArthur's forces in the Philippines on August 2, 1941, was stationed at Fort Stotsenberg, located about sixty miles northwest of Manila, until General MacArthur's forces consolidated and established themselves on Bataan peninsula. He was promoted on

December 24, 1941, to the rank of Captain in Field Artillery. While in the vicinity of the Damalog Trail on Bataan Peninsula he was seriously wounded in action on January 31, 1942. As a result of the wounds he sustained in the defense of his Country, he died on February 7, 1942.

For gallantry in action, he was awarded posthumously the Silver Star. The citation issued by General MacArthur on February 11, 1942, recites as follows:

"Having received orders for the battery of which he was the commanding officer, to fire on specific targets, Captain Svobodny, with concern only for the efficient accomplishment of his mission and oblivious to hostile aerial attack and enemy shelling, adjusted the fire of his battery from an observation post in a tree, fully exposed to enemy fire. When his mission was completed he descended from his vantage point in the tree whereupon he was wounded by an aerial bomb which subsequently caused his death."

Captain Svobodny was unmarried, and is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James T. Svobodny, and his sister, Irene, of St. Paul, Minnesota.

"Jim," as he was familiarly known among the younger members of the Bar, was a modest young man, possessed of a friendly and genial personality. He was studious, sincere, and conscientious. Although his period of practice was brief, he is remembered as a forthright and aggressive young lawyer. "Jim's" conduct as a citizen, a soldier, and a lawyer more eloquently emphasizes his character than any words that we might employ. He was a credit to the Nation and to his profession.

The Bar of this County is proud to have had him as one of its members.

WILLIAM P. O'BRIEN,  
DONALD M. FABER,  
JOHN T. O'DONNELL,  
FRANCIS J. NAHURSKI,  
THEODORE CHRISTIANSON, JR.,  
Chairman.

MR. COWERN: The committee appointed to prepare the memorial to Emery W. Swenson consists of the following members of the Ramsey County Bar: Martin J. Hurley, Chairman, Michael Hoxmeier, George Hopland, John B. McGrath and John F. Lord, and will be presented by Mr. Hurley.

MR. HURLEY: Emery Warren Swenson, son of Charles Alfred Swenson and Sarah Sutherland Swenson, was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, on June 23, 1883. He died in St. Paul on September 5, 1941, and was buried in St. John's Cemetery in Foley, Minnesota. .

He was educated in the Grant and Cleveland Schools in St. Paul, the St. Cloud Normal School, the University of Michigan, and the St. Paul College of Law.

On April 30, 1912, he was married to Katherine A. Hall of Foley, and she and their two daughters, Katherine M. Swenson and Ruth H. Swenson, survive him. He is also survived three sisters, Mrs. Irene Critchfield of St. Paul, Mrs. Ebba Childers of Ely, and Mrs. Velma Peterson of Pillager, and two brothers, George of Los Angeles, and Conwell of Seattle.

Mr. Swenson was Principal of Schools at Ashby, Minnesota from 1904 to 1907, and was Principal of Foley High School from 1907 to 1909. In March, 1912, he purchased the Foley Tribune, later changed to the Foley Independent, and for more than twenty-five years he was editor and publisher of this newspaper.

He was admitted to the Minnesota Bar in August, 1911. Later in that year he opened a law office in Foley, and there engaged in the general practice of law for more than twenty-two years. He served as County Attorney of Benton County from 1914 to 1928, and was known throughout that section the state as an able and fearless County Attorney. He was President of the Minnesota County Attorneys Association in 1921.

In May, 1933, Mr. Swenson came to St. Paul as Deputy Agent of the Land Bank Commissioner and was instrumental setting up the office facilities and beginning the operation of the huge land mortgage refinancing program of that governmental agency for the States of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and North Dakota. In the emergency facing agriculture at that time, the scale of operations of this office was unprecedented in the Northwest, and the speed of its accomplishment in



this district was in a large measure a testimonial to Mr. Swenson's untiring efforts and organizing ability. He continued in this office until establishment of the Farm Credit Administration, under which the agency for Land Bank Commissioner loans was transferred to the Federal Land Banks.

In September, 1933, Mr. Swenson was appointed State Counsel for the Home Owners Loan Corporation, with offices St. Paul, and continued in that position until January, 1936, at which time he was appointed State Manager of that corporation. He continued to act as State Manager until September 1, 1940, the date when the Minnesota Office of Home Owners Loan Corporation was merged with the Regional Office at Omaha. In October, 1940, he resumed his private practice of law the offices in Minneapolis, and continued such practice until the day of his death.

In addition to his legal activities, Mr. Swenson took an active part in the civic affairs of his Community and State, to the advancement of which he gave unselfishly of his time and effort. He took an active part in politics, and was for many years prominently identified with the Democratic Party in this State, serving on its Executive and Central Committees.

Mr. Swenson was very industrious in his work. He was careful and painstaking, and had the confidence and respect of all with whom he became associated. He was an excellent lawyer, a loyal friend, a fine type of citizen, and possessed unusual executive ability.

His hobby was his home life, which was ideal. In addition, he was an accomplished musician and singer. For many years he was organist and choir director in his church, and many will remember his songs at both public and social gatherings. He possessed a friendly nature, was optimistic at all times, and he had a host of friends who deeply regret his passing.

Dated April 4, 1942.

Respectfully submitted,  
MICHAEL HOXMEIER,  
JOHN B. McGRATH,  
GEORGE HOPLAND,  
JOHN F. LORD,  
MARTIN J. HURLEY, Chairman,

MR. COWERN: That completes the presentation of the memorials and now, on behalf of the Ramsey County Bar, I move you that the Clerk of this Court be instructed to spread these memorials upon the permanent records of this court in perpetual memory of our deceased members and that the Clerk be further instructed to send copies to the families of the deceased.

JUDGE HANFT: I would like the minutes of this court to show that Judges Sanborn, Bell, Gallagher and Kinhead have sent me their regrets at being unable to attend the services today owing to the fact that they were unavoidably out of St. Paul, also Judge Rensch who had a very heavy calendar this morning and could not be present.

The judges of this court concur in the sentiments expressed in the various memorials read by members of the Bar who have spoken fitting tributes to the character and worth of our former associates.

The motion of the President of the Bar Association is granted, and the clerk is instructed to enter these memorials upon the minutes of this court and to forward copies thereof to the families of the respective deceased.

As a further token of our respect to the memory of those of our brethren who have departed this mundane sphere, this court now stands adjourned without day.

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### Credits

The photographs of Humphrey Barton on page 5 and Judge Dickson on page 8 have been added by the MLHP. They are from *Men of Minnesota* (1915).

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