

February 25, 1938.

Louis Leftwich was born in Macon County, Tennessee, December 22, 1877. At the age of fourteen years he became a resident of Nashville. He attended the public schools of Macon County, and Davidson County, and completed his education with graduation from the law department of Vanderbilt University in 1898.

Mr. Leftwich spent his entire professional life as a member of the Nashville Bar. For quite a while in the early years of his practice he was associated with Col. Frank P. Bond, a distinguished Tennessean and a lawyer of ability. After this association he continued his practice alone until 1931 when he formed a partnership with W. Raymond Demmy. This partnership continued until 1935 when Louis Leftwich, Jr. became an associate of the firm.

In 1926 Mr. Leftwich was elected president of the Nashville Bar and Library Association, a position he held for the usual term of one year.

In 1935 he was elected president of the Tennessee Bar Association, a position he held with recognized ability and becoming dignity.

During his college days at Vanderbilt University he became a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. He was one of the original organizers of the Young Men's Hebrew Association of Nashville and was its second president. At one time he was president of the Woodmont Country Club of Nashville, and was one of its trustees from the time of its organization until his death.

In 1906 Mr. Leftwich married Miss Pearl Frankland, a native of Nashville,

He died July 3, 1937. He is survived by his widow and two sons, Louis Leftwich, Jr. and Walter Leftwich.

The law practice of Louis Leftwich was largely general, involving matters of all kinds and every character. Numbered among his clients were those of very substantial means, as well as those quite limited in their resources. They came from all the walks of life. Therefore, he necessarily wrestled with many phases of litigation and was confronted with the necessity of searching out and applying all the substantial and fundamental principles of law.

The layman does not always recognize that litigation involving a comparatively small amount may and often does call upon a lawyer to draw most refined and discriminating distinctions, and thus demand of his close and continued thought and tireless investigation and study. The lawyer who acquires a general practice and gives to his work that devotion which pride and a sense of duty demand, becomes a wise counselor and a safe adviser to his clients. This position Louis Leftwich successfully attained. He was justly recognized as a leading member of his profession.

He greatly enjoyed his work. Sympathetic in his nature, he was quick to become interested in the troubles and misfortunes of those who confided in him; and the promise or hope of substantial remuneration was not a necessary inducement to command his talents in behalf of those who suffered imposition and were unable to protect themselves. His judgment was fine. He was usually deliberate in his undertakings. He seldom moved impulsively and, therefore, was generally free from mistake and without obligation to make excuse or apology for his conduct. His character was so well known and firmly established that his every representation deliberately made to a court was accepted by the judge for its face value and never questioned by his adversary.

While he never sought or held public office, Mr. Leftwich always took an active interest in the civic and political affairs of his community and state. He was recognized as an outstanding citizen who did not hesitate to publicly express his convictions on any matters of general interest and actively lend his support to the candidacy of those whom he thought worthy of the office they sought.

With a pleasing personality, he was agreeable, affable and without affectation among his friends. With a sense of humor and a hearty wholesome nature, he readily entered into the joyous things of life and derived keen delight in the association with his fellows. Wherever you found him - whether in the trial court where the strife and struggle so often incident to contest, engender intemperate language and impetuous conduct; whether in the midst of a political campaign where passion often holds sway; whether in a circle of his friends - everywhere, he was always the gentleman.

Lastly, we deem it not inappropriate on this occasion to enter the sacred precincts of his home where the fine traits of his knightly manhood shone brightest. We deal not in exaggeration when we record in these lines the statement that in his love and tender solicitation for those who composed the members of his family circle, he was magnificent.

RESOLVED:

1. That in the death of Louis Leftwich the bar has lost an outstanding member whose ability and attainments were generally recognized throughout the State, of Tennessee, and more particularly the City in which he lived, has lost a valuable citizen.

2. To the members of his family whose irreparable and inestimable loss we recognize, we sincerely express our deepest sympathy by forwarding to them a copy of these resolutions.

3. That appropriate action be taken to the end that these resolutions be spread on the minutes of the Courts.

F. M. Bass, Chairman,
W. E. Norvell, Jr.,
W. Raymond Denney,

C O M M I T T E E.

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