

World War II, he visited all counties of the State, conducting War Bond campaigns, recruiting drives and other campaigns. He was actively interested as a member of the Nashville Bar Association, the Tennessee Bar Association and American Bar Association. He was a Mason and a Shriner, a member of the A. T. O. Social Fraternity. and member of the Belle Meade Country Club, and a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Mr. Walker was survived by his wife, Mrs, Ethel Mathews Walker, and a daughter, Dr. Ethel Walker of Nashville. Mr. and Mrs. Walker gave their daughter the best educational advantages, and she is now a prominent and successful physician in Nashville.

Mr. Walker was for many years a familiar figure on the streets of Nashville, and especially on the athletic field. He had a remarkable physique which he preserved throughout life.

THEREUPON BE IT RESOLVED by the Nashville Bar Association that in the death of Bradley Walker, the Nashville Bar has lost a worthy and most highly esteemed member, and that the community has lost a man active and zealous in civil affairs whose loss can ill be spared.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of these Resolutions be spread upon the Minutes of the Nashville Bar Association, and that a copy thereof be sent to Mr. Walker's family.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Martin, Chairman.

Robert Lusk,
Albert W. Stockell,

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE.

SETH MCKINNEY WALKER
1892 - 1951

SETH WALKER closed the record of his services as a member of the Nashville Bar on February 26, 1951. The news of his passing brought sadness and a deep sense of personal loss and grief to all members of the Bar who were accustomed to deal with him as associate or adversary. In none other have we found so many qualities to respect, admire and esteem.

A native Tennessean, Seth McKinney Walker, was born in Chattanooga on March 6, 1892, the son of Seth M. Walker, Senior, and Mary Stephenson Walker. His father had moved to Chattanooga from Georgia, and for many years held with honor and esteem the position of County Judge of Hamilton County, Tennessee.

A student of law at the Law School of Cumberland University at Lebanon, where he was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, Seth Walker received his law degree, and entered the practice with the late Judge R. P. McClain at Lebanon, in 1913. In the same year he was married to Miss Katherine Hooker, of Lebanon.

Recognition of the quality of Seth Walker was not long delayed. In 1915 he was appointed Assistant District Attorney for the Eighth Judicial Circuit, and in 1918 he was elected to the General Assembly of Tennessee from Wilson County. Elected Speaker of the House of Representatives in January, 1919, at the age of 27 years, he was probably the youngest man ever chosen to preside over that legislative body. In his administration of that office he displayed an ability and capacity for leadership which brought him an invitation to move his office and residence to Nashville, to become local counsel for The Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway, and on May 1, 1919, he began his practice here. His practice

expanded rapidly and his first retained soon became one of many, but it is characteristic of the intense loyalty of his nature that his representation of the Railway for more than thirty years continued always to hold his primary interest and zeal as when it first brought him to Nashville.

Mr. Walker conducted his law practice alone until in 1931 he became member of a partnership with K. T. McConnico, Charles Hatcher, William Waller and John J. Hooker. That partnership was dissolved in the following year, and from 1932 until his death Mr. Walker and his brother-in-law, John J. Hooker, were partners in the firm of Walker and Hooker, an association marked by great mutual affection and esteem. At the date of Mr. Walker's death the firm also included as partners David M. Keeble, K. Harlan Dodson, Jr. and Tyree B. Harris, III.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, the American Bar Association, the Tennessee Bar Association, the Nashville Bar and Library Association, the Belle Meade Country Club, the Cumberland Club, the Elks Club, and until it was dissolved some years ago of the Hermitage Club of Nashville.

In the practice of law Seth Walker was not a specialist, His corporate clients included both the N. C. & ST. L. Railway and the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, of which he was District Attorney, Southeastern Greyhound Lines, of which he was also a director, and the Pullman Company, but his personal and individual clients were many and his practice was varied. Some of his notable successes were achieved in the criminal Courts, and he was often retained as special counsel for the State of Tennessee in cases of unusual importance. Representing individual plaintiffs in suits for damages he sometimes obtained verdicts of spectacular amounts and was seldom unsuccessful in maintaining his clients' right to recover. It is not too much to say that no case was hopeless when its preparation and trial were undertaken by Seth Walker.

To record the qualities of mind and heart which enabled Seth Walker to achieve so great success as a lawyer and advocate requires the use of language which would seem extravagant if applied to a lesser subject.

First of all, Seth Walker was endowed with a great heart which would not be closed to any appeal for aid to secure redress from injustice or wrong. He was gentle and kindly in demeanor and it was easy for those who brought their intimate personal problems to him to make a full and clear disclosure of all that affected their right to invoke his aid. He reached understanding with patience, and with tolerance; and when convinced of the justness of the appeal it was not within his power to withhold his sympathy. The wrongs of his clients he took to himself as if they were his own, and motivated by a passion for justice he became a vigilant and valorous warrior for the cause he espoused.

Extraordinarily earnest, forceful and persuasive in his arguments to courts and juries, Seth Walker had no superior as an advocate. Combined with the power of sympathetic understanding, he possessed an extraordinary memory for details and an apparently instinctive ability to weigh accurately their importance to the issues of his case. He subjected the facts of a case to exhaustive scrutiny in preparation for a trial, and was never known to be caught unawares or unprepared. With his memory for details, his understanding of their relative importance, and his painstaking and tireless preparation, he was able to weave the facts developed on the trial of a case into a fabric too cohesive and strong to be torn or penetrated by the most skillful of his adversaries.

A deep rooted respect for the Courts of State and Nation enabled Mr. Walker to present his petitions and arguments always with assurance that right would prevail and with never a doubt of the integrity and impartiality of the Judge to whom he submitted his case; a confidence which in turn did not fail to beget a like confidence on the part of the Court in the sincerity and integrity of his arguments and submissions. It has been said that only a man of true integrity can concede that quality to others. Seth Walker was such a man, and it is not to be wondered that he was welcome in every court to which he came as an advocate.

In his personal relations with lawyers Seth Walker was unfailingly friendly, with a warmth and courtesy in every word and deed that endeared him to all with whom he associated or came in frequent contact. For his friends and intimates he had an intense loyalty and selfless devotion which knew no limit nor bounds. He loved his association with lawyers, and was a welcome member of every group. He was a man who could not enter a room unnoticed nor leave it without his absence being felt. He loved hunting, at which he was an expert, and enjoyed deep-sea fishing and horse racing; but his chief pleasure in all his recreations came from the opportunities they afforded for association with his intimate friends and discussion with them of thoughts and emotions of deepest meaning and importance to him. It was in the intimacy of these associations that he disclosed his Christian faith and love for his God, without which he could not have been the man we knew him to be.

For his wife and two lovely daughters, Mrs. David M. Keeble of Nashville, and Mrs. Arthur B. Hancock, Jr., of Paris, Kentucky, all of whom survive him, he maintained a true and sincere affection and devotion. In later years he found a new happiness in his five grandchildren. His family and home were for him a constant source of support and strength and he did not conceal his conviction that his wife had played a most important part in the successes he had achieved.

The glory of the legal profession is in the growth and development of such men as Seth Walker, with life and talent dedicated and devoted to maintaining the supremacy of the law. The records of the Nashville Bar are rich with the names of strong and able men who left behind them records of illustrious achievements. That list has been given added lustre and brightness by the addition of the name of Seth McKinney Walker. Stricken in the fullness of his power as lawyer and leader he is already sorely missed and his memory will be cherished as one whom it was a privilege to know and a blessing to claim as a friend.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Nashville Bar and Library Association that in the life and record of Seth M. Walker as a member of the Nashville Bar we have been honored and blessed, and in his passing have sustained a grievous loss which we deplore as one personal to all of us; that this memorial and resolutions be preserved on the permanent records of this Association and entered on the "In Memoriam" minute book of the Chancery Court of Davidson County; and that copies be furnished to the members of Mr. Walker's family.

{Signed}

Geo. H. Armistead, Jr.
Lindsey Davis,
E. F. Langford,
A. B. Neil,
Jack Norman,
W. E. Norvell, Jr.
Wm. J. Wade,

Will H. Swiggart, Chairman.