

In his personal relation with his fellow lawyers Robert Gambrell was unfailingly friendly, with a warmth and a courtesy in his every word and deed.

Mr. Gambrell was never married, but for his father and his brother, David H. Gambrell, he maintained a true and sincere affection and devotion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Nashville Bar Association that it depllores the early and untimely death of Robert H. Gambrell, and resolves that this memorial and resolution be preserved on the permanent records of this Association and entered on the "In Memoriam" Minute Book of the Chancery Court at Nashville, and that copies of this Resolution be presented to the members of Mr. Gambrell's family.

Frank A. Berry, Jr.,
Barrett Sutton,

Weldon B. White, Chairman.

CHARLES THOMAS SHAW:

CHARLES THOMAS SHAW was born in Ripley, Tennessee, July 24, 1888. His parents died when he was a very small boy and his earliest memories centered around the first years which he spent with his brothers and sisters in a Memphis Orphanage. Some years before the end of the century, the children were removed to the old Randall-Cole School, which is now the Tennessee Industial School at Nashville. It was here that he received his grammar school and high school education.

He challenged the attention of his teachers with his bright mind, energy and ambition. He particularly challenged the interest of Professor Simmons, who was for so many years the friend of the boys at that school, the music teacher and band leader. In the years that followed, Charlie became an accomplished musician and became proficient with all the brass instruments.

However, the thing that most attracted the leaders of the school was his devotion to his brothers and sisters and his continuous efforts to better their lives. When he had finished the high school courses, he determined to study pharmacy. He applied himself to this preparation and later received a certificate as a registered pharmacist in this State. As such, he was connected with various drug stores in and around Nashville, and later came to operate several of his own.

In September 1911, he married Bessie Fisher, who survices him. To this union was boen one child, a daughter, who is now Mrs. Nina Shaw Paty. His four grandchildren were the center of all his interest during the last years of his life.

When he was fifty years old, "Doc", as he was affectionately called, was still trying to better his place in the world. Notwithstanding the fact that his business required long hours of work daily, he enrolled at the Watkins Night School. About the same time he started studying law. No man ever worked harder and sought to overcome more obstacles to become a lawyer.

He continued his academic studies at Watkins for four years, passing all his subjects, and in addition was a faithful and regular student of public speaking at that school for the same length of time. He participated in every oratorical contest with young men and women twenty-five and thirty years his junior, and was an object of inspiration to all of them.

He later graduated from the Southern School of Law at Memphis. He received his license to practice law in this State in 1942. From that date on until the illness that resulted in his death forced him to leave his office, he devoted every hour of every day to the practice of law. No lawyer has ever been more loyal or devoted to the interest of his clients. He died on February 25, 1956, and was buried in Spring Hill Cemetery at Nashville.

It is one thing for a man to continue through life upon a path which has been prepared by his parents or afforded by a good family economy. It is another for one to successfully pursue his goals on his own initiative but aided and assisted by good fortune and the advantage of the breaks of life. But it is still another for an orphan to start from no beginning, but with his eyes fixed upon the stars, make his way through the wilderness of strangers, abject poverty and continuous frustration, and reach the sunny plateau of success.

Even though the way be hard and long, it is one thing to have a family and friends to encourage you through adversity, but it is yet another to ply the course alone and in the face of continued and repeated obstacles to ever move ahead, urged and encouraged only by determination and faith. Often this latter experience makes men bitter. Some lose their sense of charity. Some find it hard to continue loyalties. Some have their faith shaken, even though they finally become successful, when they look back upon the sacrifices they had to make.

Not so with "Doc". The sweetness of his disposition, his unostentatious charity, his intense loyalty to his friends, his gratefulness and his faith in God, were lessons to those who knew him.

He never wanted anything for himself. He worked twenty-four hours of every day for his family and friends. If America is an example of opportunity to all, then the life of Charlie Shaw was an example of America. He never walked among the high and mighty, but the high and mighty often sought him. He was humble and never bragged. The only fear he ever entertained was the fear of lack of knowledge. The thing in life he dreaded was his own professed ignorance of a better way to work and serve. His only desire for a greater portion of the material things in life was that he could give more to his family and friends. To him friendship was a religion, - disloyalty was infidelity -- gossip was blasphemy.

He practiced his profession with zeal and industry and stood steadfastly for what he conceived to be the interests and rights of his clients.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Nashville Bar Association assembled in session this December 7, 1956, that we lawyers acknowledge a loss with his death; that this Resolution be entered upon the proper records of this Association; and that a copy of the same be transmitted together with our condolences to his widow and family.

(Signed) Jack Norman, Chairman.
B. B. Gullett,
John L. Uhljan,
COMMITTEE.
