

SIMS CROWNOVER:

Your committee appointed to draft memorial resolutions upon the life of Sims Crownover, appreciating the honor of such designation from among so many friends and associates of this beloved lawyer, has prepared for your consideration the following resolution:

Whereas, in the recent death of Sims Crownover, the Nashville Bar has lost one of the most conscientious and capable members, the Nashville Bar Association now enters upon its permanent records this memorial statement.

Robert Nicholls Sims Crownover was born in Winchester, Franklin County, Tennessee, on January 15, 1912. His father was the Honorable Arthur Crownover, a resident and prominent lawyer of Winchester and Franklin County, and presiding Justice of the Middle Division of the Tennessee Court of Appeals until 1942. His mother before her marriage was Emma Sims of Crowley, Louisiana. Sims Crownover came from Southern pioneer stock. As indicated his forebears were leaders in the community in which they lived and in their state. He was a brother to the late Arthur Crownover, Jr., lawyer and author of treatises on Circuit and Chancery practice. Sims had a rich heritage from our profession.

His early education was obtained in the public schools at Winchester and Nashville, Tennessee. Even at this comparatively early age he portrayed characteristics of the sparkling keen intellect that was later, in maturity, so much in evidence as he practiced his profession of law. After completing his secondary school education he entered Vanderbilt University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1932, and by diligent work and application became a Master of the Arts in 1933. At the age of 24 Sims graduated from the Vanderbilt Law School with a degree of Bachelor of Law in 1936. During his years in law school Sims attained the highest scholastic average for the three years of his law course and thereby earned the Founder's Medal for scholarship. Sims was a member of the Order of Coif, Lincoln's Inn, and won the Martin Medal for freshman law scholarship. In the undergraduate school Sims earned a place on the sophomore honor roll and membership in Phi Beta Kappa.

After his graduation and admission to the Bar, Sims Crownover began the practice of our profession in New York City as an associate of the law firm of Carter, Ledyard and Milburn. The cool green hills of his native state beckoned him to return and he formed an association with his brother, Arthur, the late Judge J. Roy Hickerson, and Joe T. McCary.

Sims served his country in the dark days of the war. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1942 as a private and was discharged as a captain in the Judge Advocate General's Department in 1946. Sims was also associated at various times with former United States Senator Tom Stewart and Thomas P. Gore. His last associates in the private practice of law were Thomas G. Watkins and Edward J. Jenkins. For the last three and one-half years of his life, Sims was a hearing examiner with the Social Security Administration in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, in which he was associated with Robert C. Boyce, William C. Bowen, and Mr. Gore. He made an outstanding record in this work.

In addition to his professional activities, Sims gave unstintingly of his time and effort in public and civic affairs. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and was president of the Andrew Jackson Chapter. He also served as president of the Tennessee State Society. In his civic endeavors Sims also headed

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the State endeavor for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and in 1955 was instrumental in raising the largest sum of money in any annual campaign to support this excellent cause. Sims was a member of American Legion Post No. 5 and held many high offices in this local post from 1949 to 1953. Sims served as campaign chairman for the State in the Crusade for Freedom, that is, Radio Free Europe. He also was chairman of the Christmas Seal Campaign for Nashville and Davidson County in 1952, raising the largest sum of money raised up to that time for the Anti-tuberculosis Association. Sims was very active in the Civitan Club of Nashville, following the footsteps of his illustrious father and brother, both of whom has served as International Presidents of the club. Sims was a member of the Downtown Civitan Club and upon organization of the West End Civitan Club served as president of the club. Sims was a member of the American Bar Association, the Tennessee Bar Association, and the Nashville Bar Association. Although Sims' professional and civic endeavors took a large part of his time, he was also a member of the Cumberland Club of Nashville, the Hillwood Country Club, and the Froelac Club. During his school days he had been a member of the Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha (social fraternity), and Eta Sigma Phi (classical fraternity).

His hobbies included research and study of the Civil War. He was the author of a booklet entitled "The Battle of Franklin," published in 1955 by the Tennessee Historical Society.

In 1942 Sims married Ruth Horn of Nashville, a daughter of noted Tennessee Historian Stanley F. Horn, Sr., and a niece of Hon. Albert Williams. Five lovely children were born of this marriage: Ruth Horn, now 21; Alice Beryl, 20; Robert Nicholls Sims, Jr., 19; Arthur II, 13; and Stanley Fitzgerald Horn, 10. Although his professional, civic, and social activities occupied a large part of his time, Sims lavished all of the care, attention, and affection possible upon his family. His recreational hours were spent with his family. On the day of his death he had played golf with his son at Hillwood Country Club. He was keenly interested in all the activities of his children and furnished proper paternal guidance for them. He was a communicant of St. George's Episcopal Church in Nashville. Sims was possessed of a sparkling sense of humor and enjoyed hearing and telling a good story. He was throughout his entire life a person of boundless energy with a particular interest in golf in later life. Often when on assignment away from his permanent duty station and home, at some distant city or place, he would play golf if facilities were available, or, if not, walk extended distances as a matter of recreation and interest.

During the late evening of December 19, 1964, while at home with his family, Sims became seriously ill and upon removal to a local hospital very shortly died. After appropriate services conducted at St. George's Episcopal Church by The Reverend Arthur W. Fippinger, he was buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery at Nashville, Tennessee, alongside or near the grave of his illustrious father, and where his brother Arthur has since been buried.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE MEMBERS OF THE NASHVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION That in the life and memory of Sims Crowover, our fellow lawyer and co-laborer in all things for the proper administration of, and the advancement of, justice, we have been honored and also blessed and have suffered a distinct loss, which we sincerely deplore.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That we now tender to his widow and children and the other relatives our heartfelt sympathy and condolence.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That copies of this resolution be preserved on the permanent records of this organization and entered in the "In Memorial" minute book of our Davidson County, Tennessee, Chancery Courts and that copies of this memorial be furnished to the members of his family.

Edward J. Jenkins

Bill Bowen

Robert C. Boyce, Jr., Chairman

Unanimously adopted by the members of the Nashville Bar Association at a memorial service held this the 18th day of November 1965.