

MEMORIAL.

A Memorial to Elbert B. Hand, presented at the Circuit Court of Racine, County, on Monday, April 6, 1953, Honorable Elmer D. Goodland, Circuit Judge and Honorable Floyd J. Monk, Municipal Judge, presiding:

ELBERT BUDD HAND was born in Racine, Wisconsin, on November 11, 1871.

He attended Winslow School and Racine College, where he received his preparatory education. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a B. A. degree in 1892. After his graduation he spent a year in the law office of Hand & Flett, and then entered the Cornell Law School in 1893, from which he graduated in 1895. His name was entered on the roll of attorneys in the Circuit Court of Racine County on October 5, 1895.

On May 1, 1897, David H. Flett became the first Judge of the newly organized Municipal Court for Racine County, Wisconsin, and withdrew from the firm. Elbert B. Hand became associated in the law firm which was then known as Hand & Hand, and continued under that name until 1912, when Lewis J. Quinn became associated with the firm of Hand & Hand, under the firm name of Hand, Hand & Quinn, and later under the name of Hand & Quinn, which is the present law firm. In 1936 John B. Hand, son of Elbert B. Hand, became associated with the law firm of Hand & Quinn and became a member of said firm on March 1, 1938, under the name of Hand & Quinn.

Elbert B. Hand continued in the practice of his profession until June 1949, when he was prevented from continuing his practice on account of failing health. He died on December 11, 1952. He was married to Ada Orr Simpkin in 1902, who died in 1928. She was a lady of culture and refinement. After the death of his wife, he travelled life's highway alone, and never remarried. He gave his efforts to the care and education of his children and the practice of his profession. They had three sons, all of whom are living, Elbert Osborne Hand, of Irvington, New York, Norman Travers Hand of Westport, Connecticut and John B. Hand who continues to be associated with the law firm of Hand & Quinn.

He was a member of the County, State and American Bar Associations and has practiced before the State Supreme Court, many Federal Courts and the United States Supreme Court. Through his professional career Mr. Hand was closely associated with the First National Bank & Trust Company of Racine, replacing his father Elbert O. Hand as a Director in 1910. He served as a Director for forty-five years and was the oldest Director in point of service at the time of his death. He also served actively on the Executive Committee of the Bank for thirty-seven years.

Elbert O. Hand began the practice of law in Racine in 1860, and continued in that profession until after he was joined by his son Elbert B. Hand. Three generations of the Hand family have been continuously engaged in the practice of law in Racine, Wisconsin from 1860 until the present time, a period of ninety-three years.

Elbert B. Hand was chairman of the American Red Cross Racine County Chapter for ten years and chairman of the finance committee of Racine Community Chest for many years. He also was a director of the Palmeto Home and was on the board of vestrymen of St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

Hand was a member of Chi Psi and Phi Delta Phi fraternities, Racine Country Club, Medinah Club and Wisconsin Alumni Club. He was a charter member and former president of the Somerset Club, director of the Central Association, now known as Family Service of Racine and of the Racine Civic Music Association.

We quote the words of his partner, Lewis J. Quinn, one of our good members of the Racine County Bar:

"My association with Elbert B. Hand in the practice of the law covers a period of thirty-five years; he is a good lawyer and his opinion on legal matters is given great weight and is respected by the Judiciary as well as the members of the Bar. He possesses unusual ability, skill and accuracy in preparing and drafting papers and pleadings and has always enjoyed a good practice. He has been in Europe on business matters for clients and has probated wills in Florida, California, Nevada and elsewhere. He is courteous in his home and office, in Court and on the street. He has always maintained high principles for justice and integrity and I have never known him to refuse to take a case from a person who had a just cause, but was limited in ability to pay for such service."

The Racine County Bar Association held a meeting at the Meadowbrook Country Club on the evening of September 22, 1947, commemorating fifty years of service of Mr. Hand as a lawyer in the City and County of Racine. At this meeting there were present Alfred L. Drury, Circuit Judge of the First Judicial Circuit of Wisconsin, Justices Elmer E. Barlow, Edward T. Fairchild and Ward Rector of the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

In the early years of his practice, he was a member of the Belle City Male Chorus, a very excellent musical organization in our City. Mr. Hand was always pleasant and agreeable in his contacts with his fellow lawyers and respectful and dignified in the Courts. He was a good trial lawyer and an able man in all of the work that comes into a law office. His standing as a lawyer throughout the State of Wisconsin and elsewhere was excellent. He was unpretentious and rather reserved in his manner. His son John told me recently that he was a great lover of the poem of Wordsworth, known as "The Daffodils", which he could repeat from memory. We are closing this Memorial with this poem which shows how interested and appreciative he was of the finer things in nature and in literature.

"I WANDERED LONELY AS A CLOUD."

I WANDERED lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of the bay;
Ten Thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee;
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company;
I gazed - and gazed - but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought;

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills
And dances with the daffodils.

We are moved to add a poem on daffodils, written by
Robert Herrick.

"TO DAFFODILS"

Fair daffodils, we weep to see
You haste away so soon;
As yet the early-rising sun
Has not attained his noon.

Stay, stay,
Until the hasting day
Has run

But to the even-song;
And having prayed together, we
Will go with you along.

We have short time to stay, as you,
We have as short a Spring;
As quick a growth to meet decay
As you, or any thing.

We die,
As your hours do, and dry away
Like to the Summer's rain;
Or as the pearls of morning's dew
Ne'er to be found again.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard G. Harvey
John H. [unclear]
Sam J. [unclear]