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Memorials

North Dakota State Bar Association

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Memorials

The following tributes to the memory of those members of the Bar of North Dakota who have passed away have been prepared by the Committee on Memorials of the North Dakota State Bar Association. The Committee is under the chairmanship of The Honorable J. H. Newton, Esq., Clerk of the Supreme Court of North Dakota, and consists of Messrs. A. W. Aylmer, Vernon D. Forbes, William T. DePuy, Joseph P. Fleck, Roy A. Ilvedson, and Orrin B. Lovell.

JOSEPH N. MENDRO

Joseph N. Mendro, prominent Williston attorney, died at the Veterans Hospital in Minneapolis on June 23, 1953. Mr. Mendro was born at Kansas City, Missouri on January 25, 1898. While he was still an infant his parents moved to Chicago, Illinois, where he received his common school education. He was self educated as far as high school work was concerned and attended Bismarck Junior College for two years while an employee of the State Welfare Board at Bismarck. Mr. Mendro was not a law school graduate, but studied law under the direction of William G. Owens, a former President of the State Bar Association, at Williston, North Dakota. He was admitted to the North Dakota Bar on July 23, 1943, and practiced law at Williston until the time of his death. He served for a number of years as Executive Secretary of the Williams County Welfare Board, rendering outstanding service in that capacity. In recognition of such service he was later called to Bismarck to accept a position in the State Office of the Public Welfare Board. At the time of his death Mr. Mendro was attorney for the REA in the Williston vicinity.

Joseph N. Mendro served his country in World War I, serving overseas with Company E of the 164th Infantry, and was discharged in 1919. He was a Past Commander of the Edgar M. Boyd Post of the American Legion at Williston and was also a member of the Masonic and Moose Lodges.

Mr. Mendro was married on April 22, 1917, to Isabel Scott of Williston. She survives, as does one daughter, Mrs. Elmer Rogneby (Isabel), Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, and two sons, Joseph, Jr. and Selby, both residing at Williston.

ROBERT NORHEIM

Robert Norheim, Williston, died at his home on July 3, 1953. Mr. Norheim was born in Norway on June 28, 1876. He came to the United States at the age of sixteen and lived for several years with an uncle at Cresco, Iowa. He graduated from the Law Department of the University of North Dakota in 1904 and was admitted to the Bar of North Dakota on June 15th, 1904. After practicing two years at Fargo, Mr. Norheim removed to Alexander in McKenzie County where he continued in practice for many years and was active in community life and the politics of that area. He served as a member of the North Dakota House of Representatives during the sessions of 1911 and 1913. About the time of his arrival in McKenzie County he was appointed United States Commissioner and took many of the final proofs of homesteaders who at that time were settling in McKenzie County. In 1914 he was appointed by Governor L. B. Hanna to accompany Governor Hanna and his group to Oslo, Norway, where presentation of a bust of Abraham Lincoln was made to the people and Government of Norway. He also served two terms as State's Attorney of McKenzie County.

Mr. Norheim, for a period of years, was located at Dickinson in charge of the land acquisition program of the Federal Government for the purchase and withdrawal from cultivation of sub-marginal lands. In 1944 he located at Williston and carried on a general practice there until his death.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Norheim is survived by two daughters: Mrs. John T. Gleason (Marianna) and Margaret Norheim, both of Omaha. Burial was in Omaha on July 6, 1953.

Annual Convention
of the
State Bar Association
of
North Dakota

Fargo, North Dakota

August 6-7-8, 1953

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