



1947

## Harrison Arthur Bronson

O. H. Thormodsgard

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr>



Part of the [Law Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Thormodsgard, O. H. (1947) "Harrison Arthur Bronson," *North Dakota Law Review*: Vol. 23 : No. 3 , Article 16.

Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/ndlr/vol23/iss3/16>

This Memorial is brought to you for free and open access by the School of Law at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in North Dakota Law Review by an authorized editor of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [und.common@library.und.edu](mailto:und.common@library.und.edu).

## HARRISON ARTHUR BRONSON

By O. H. THORMODSGARD\*

Harrison Arthur Bronson was born in Nunica, Michigan, November 19, 1873. In 1894 he secured the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the University of North Dakota. In 1895 he was granted the Master of Arts in Latin from the same institution. In 1901 he graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Law with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. In 1901 he was admitted to practice law in North Dakota and Minnesota. For a while he practiced law in East Grand Forks and subsequently moved to Grand Forks. For fifteen years, 1902 to 1917. Mr. Bronson lectured on Real Property in the University of North Dakota School of Law. Mr. Bronson had a love for legal research and legal writing. He is the author of several books: Recitals in Municipal Bonds (1901); Law of Fixtures (1905); Analysis, Notes on Real Property (1906) and Real Property Law (1914).

Mr. Bronson had a vital interest in state government and public service. He served in the state senate from 1913 to 1917 and was assistant attorney general from 1917 to 1918. In 1918 he became Judge of the Supreme Court of North Dakota. On January 6, 1923 he became Chief Justice and served during the term until December 31, 1924.

On returning to practice, he was appointed Chief Counsel for the State Mill and Elevator and served in that capacity for three years, from 1925 to 1928. He also served as Chief Counsel for the Mill in the year 1933.

Judge Bronson was interested in legal education. Besides lecturing on Real Property, he served for seven years, 1911 to 1918, as a member of the State Board of Bar Examiners. As a lawyer-teacher, he loved not only professional law books and literature, but books of many kinds. He thought of his legal profession as a lawyer and as a teacher in a grand manner, and in a grand manner did he aid and assist his fellow students. In 1937, he encouraged the formation of the Law Alumni of The University of North Dakota. He served as its first president until 1941. He was a loyal friend of the School of Law. Judge Bronson was a Commissioner of the State of North Dakota to the National Conference of Uniform State Laws from 1918 to the time of his death. As a Commissioner, he was a member of the following Committees: Judicial Decisions; Educational and Publicity; On Uniform Civil Procedure Section; Appointments of and Attendance by Commissioners and Public Information. As a member of the American Bar Association since 1908, he annually attended the meetings of the Association in the position as a delegate and as an active member of several committees and sections. In 1941-1942, he was President of the North Dakota Bar Association.

Mr. Bronson's professional life was divided between his career as a law teacher, a practitioner and as a judge. He was as familiar with the Norman-French of the Year Books as he was with the Advance Sheets

---

\* Dean, University of North Dakota School of Law. (As the late Mr. Bronson was a lecturer at the University of North Dakota School of Law during a period of fourteen years, this additional memorial is printed at the request of the Dean.)

of the North Western Reporter. He understood the Common Law. He was vitally interested in the actual drafting of legislation. His distinguished service as a member of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws gave proof that he favored uniformity in legislation as well as in judicial decisions. Law to him was a living and progressive science.

Judge Bronson was a member of the Grand Forks Country Club, Lions Club, Fortnightly Club, Phi Beta Kappa, The Order of the Coif, and the Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity. Judge Bronson belonged not only to his family and friends, but he belonged at the same time to his profession, to the University, and to the State. He was by every measure a man of ability and integrity. He died on April 22, 1947.

### HARRY BEAM WINGERD

By HERBERT G. NILLES\*

Harry Beam Wingerd was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania March 8, 1871. He was one of nine children and received his primary education in the rural schools. He attended Key Stone Normal School of Pennsylvania for two years, Hyland Park College at Des Moines, Iowa and the University of North Dakota. He received his law degree from the State University in 1905 in which year he was admitted to the bar of North Dakota. Mr. Wingerd served as Assistant States Attorney of Towner County for a brief period and then moved westward to Williams County where he filed on a homestead. After proving up his homestead he located at Epping, where he served as post master and published the "Epping Bulletin" as well as carrying on his practice of law.

In 1912 he moved to Wildrose, North Dakota where he continued his law practice. He was active in municipal affairs and took part in incorporating the City of Wildrose and served as its first mayor.

On September 16, 1915, he was married to Miss Ida Peterson of Alexandria, Minnesota.

Several years later he was elected County Judge of Williams County which position he held from 1919 to 1944 when he retired from office.

Judge Wingerd was a keen student of political science and an able debater and forensic speaker. He made an outstanding record as an able and conscientious public servant of Williams County. He was a student of the Bible and read at great lengths of Lincoln, Washington, and Benjamin Franklin.

Judge Wingerd died in a Williston hospital April 12, 1947 following a gradual failing of health. Funeral services were held in the First Lutheran Church in Williston and the remains were buried at Evansville, Minnesota.

In addition to his widow, he is survived by one brother, Charles B. Wingerd of Chautauqua, New York, a sister, Mrs. Lottie Feldman of Chambersberg, Pennsylvania and a sister-in-law, Mrs. D. M. Wingerd of Winner, South Dakota.

\* Chairman, Committee on Memorials.