

ALLEN COUNTY INDIANA BAR ASSOCIATION

IN MEMORIAM

FRED E. ZOLLARS

On May 16, 1951, within a few minutes after telephoning a fellow-attorney, Fred E. Zollars died. Thus, again, the Allen County Bar Association has lost one of its most esteemed members. We meet here today to pay tribute to his memory.

Fred E. Zollars was born at Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana, in 1869, the son of the late Judge Allen Zollars. He graduated from Miami University, in Ohio, in the year 1889, and, after studying law in his father's office until 1897, he was admitted to the bar and began the active practice of the law with his father. He continued in his chosen profession until the very hour of his death.

During all his legal career Mr. Zollars was associated with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as its attorney. After the death of his father he formed a partnership with Elmer Leonard and Judge James Rose. The firm of Leonard, Rose & Zollars was one of the best known in Indiana. This firm remained active in the practice of the law for many years and was dissolved only by death -- first Elmer Leonard, then Judge Rose, and now Fred Zollars. Thus, today, we write finis to a great legal firm as well as to the life of its last survivor.

Mr. Zollars was married to Gertrude Lindsay, also a native of Allen County. They were never blessed with children but those who knew Fred best will always remember the pleasure and satisfaction he received in bestowing his love and affection on the children of his friends.

For a number of years prior to her death Mrs. Zollars was incapacitated, and no one will ever forget with what loving and tender care Fred ministered to her every need.

During all his life Mr. Zollars was a great lover of the outdoors and for many years he made journeys into Northern Canada to hunt big game. He took an especial pride in his guns, especially rifles. It was one of his great delights to show his rifles to his friends when they visited him and to explain the workings of them. He made a hobby of studying guns so that he became an expert in ballistics.

During his long career as attorney for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company he not only kept abreast of the railroad law but he made a life study of the mechanics of railroads, so that whenever he was engaged in the trial of a case involving the railroad he not only knew the last word in the law but he knew the workings of the engines, of the cars, and all the language of the railroad man, which made Fred a very valuable lawyer to his company. One of his greatest delights was discussing railroad law with anyone who would listen, and whenever a new decision was handed down by a supreme court, including the Supreme Court of the United States, touching upon railroad law, Fred Zollars knew about it.

Mr. Zollars was a man of strong affections. If he liked a person he was loyal to that person to the very end.

Mr. Zollars was interested in many of the civic affairs of his community, was a director of the Federal Building Company which he organized in 1908, served as trustee for the Fort Wayne Printing Company, was active in the Victory Loan and United War Work Campaigns during World War I, and the local Red Cross drives. He also served as advisory committeeman for the YWCA Building Campaign, and served on several building fund campaigns for the YMCA. He was a member of the Rotary Club, the Isaac Walton League, and the Citizens Historical Association, as well as a member of the various orders of the Masonic organization.

Mr. Zollars served as president of the Allen County Bar Association, the Indiana State Bar Association, and the Chamber of Commerce. He was also a member of the National Rifle Association, the Western Veterans' Association of the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Elks Lodge and the Moose Lodge.

While Mr. Zollars was always interested and took an active part in many of the civic affairs of his community, his first love and devotion was to the practice of the law.

With the death of Fred E. Zollars there has come to an end one of the most prominent families of Allen County, Indiana, his only survivors being two nieces and a nephew. We mourn his passing but glory in the memory of a life well spent.

Respectfully submitted,

ALLEN COUNTY INDIANA BAR ASSOCIATION

Henry Hasley
(Chairman)

Wesley W. Myers

W. H. Williams

James J. D'Amore

Geo. H. Leonard

Memorial Committee