MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

BYARD H. SMITH

Mr. President, members of the Allen County Bar Association and friends.

Today we are gathered for a moment of reflection on the passing of a long time member of this Association.

Byard Hale Smith died May 1, 1976. Though he was a member of this Association since 1923, not too many members knew him as a lawyer, but knew him rather because of his other activities in the community.

Byard was born in Adams County, the son of Judge and Mrs. David Smith. He came to Fort Wayne when his father, along with Pat Parrish, came from Decatur to engage in the practice of law here. Byard enrolled at Earlham College and completed his undergraduate work at Indiana University. He pursued his legal training at Yale University and received his L.L.B. degree from that institution in 1923. Following his graduation, he joined the local Bar Association, but did not actively practice law in this community except as a corporate officer.

He joined the Medical Protective Company and its legal staff in 1928 and served as general counsel and as President of that company from 1953 to 1956 when he resigned. Shortly thereafter he became associated with Lionel Houston and formed Smith, Houston and Company to engage in the investments and securities business. During his career he was also admitted to the practice of law in the State of Illinois.

Byard Smith was most active in Masonic affairs in the northeastern part of the State of Indiana. He was a member of Maumee Lodge 725 F&AM, and served as Past Master. He was a member of the Scottish Rite and was Potent Master of the Fort Wayne Lodge of Perfection. He was an active member of the Supreme Council of Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of Scottish Rite for Indiana, and was very active in the York Rite, serving in various positions of leadership. He was also a member of Rotary Club, Quest Club, Fort Wayne Country Club, Fort Wayne Y.M.C.A. and served on the Family Service Bureau of Allen County. He always had time to serve worthy and necessary needs in our community.

He was a long time member of Trinity English Lutheran Church and active in its affairs.

He is survived by his widow Margaret and a daughter Joanne Wahl, one brother Robert, and a sister Ramona Triplett.

Those of us who were fortunate enough to know Byard Smith in his lifetime will miss his friendliness and the good humored relationship he had with people generally. We will all join with his widow, his daughter and other members of the family in sorrow at his passing and extend our deepest sympathy to them.

Mr. President, I move that the Allen County Bar
Association give public expression of the sorrow of its members
upon the death of Byard Hale Smith;

That the adoption of this Resolution be made a matter of record in the order books of the Courts of Allen County;

That a copy of this Resolution be sent to his widow Margaret and family.

WITNESS our hand and seal this 5th day of May, 1976.

Respectfully submitted, The Allen County Bar Association Memorial Resolution Committee

Judge Robert E. Meyers, Chairman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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Jesse E. Eschbach
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