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JUDGE JOHN KENNISH.

ALL HOLT COUNTY MOURNS

DEATH OF HON. JOHN KENNISH BRINGS DEEP SORROW TO EVERY HOME IN THE COUNTY.

The sudden death of Judge John Kennish at the Walnut street entrance to the Commerce Trust Company in Kansas City, Wednesday of last week, Sept. 14, 1921, just after the noon hour, was caused by kidney trouble.

Judge Kennish went to the office of Judge James E. Goodrich in the Commerce building at about 12:15 o'clock. After they had talked a short while, they left the office and had luncheon together at a small restaurant on Walnut street, between Ninth and Tenth streets. They remained there about an hour.

Together they returned to the Commerce building, standing talking at the entrance. After a few minutes' conversation Judge Goodrich turned to enter the building. Judge Kennish started to walk away. He had taken only a few steps when he fell to the sidewalk.

Judge Goodrich, the first to reach him as he lay on the sidewalk, said that he was still breathing, but that he died within two minutes.

Thus the conscientious barrister, the incorruptible official, the ideal citizen and husband, the loyal friend, absolutely above reproach; one possessed of rare legal talent, who answered his final summons and crossed over to the other side. He was of clean mind and clean habits. He did not even smoke. He leaves small wealth. His legacy is an example of rugged honesty, of which the country is sadly in need today. It will not be easy to fill his place. Had politics so decreed he would have made an able member of the supreme court of the United States. As an orator of quiet, logical and persuasive power, Judge Kennish had many of the qualities of the Irish statesman Curran. As a Republican, he had many friends and admirers among the Democrats as he had among his own party. He was quiet and modest in manner; he never spoke hastily or in all-considered fashion.

John Kennish should have died hereafter.

John Kennish was the son of William and Catherine Callow-Kennish. His father was a minister of the Primitive Methodist church of England, and on coming to America he became identified with the Methodist Episcopal church in 1877.

The deceased was one of thirteen children, and was born on the Isle of Man, November 11, 1857. He came with his parents to the United States in 1870, the family locating in Liberty township, being a lad of 13 summers when the family located in our county.

John attended the district school with other farm boys, and entered the state university, graduating from the law department in 1884, and entered actively in the practice of his profession, and was chosen city attorney of his old home town, Mound City.

In 1888 he was elected prosecuting attorney of our county, and served the two-year term, 1889-91. In 1892 he was chosen state senator from this district, where he made such a commendable record in antagonizing an organized combine then in control of that body, and in support of good legislative measures. As a result of his record in the state senate he was nominated for attorney-general in 1896 by the Republican state convention. That was the banner Democratic year in Missouri politics, and of course he was not elected. Without solicitation on his part the Republicans of the Fourth Congressional district nominated him for congress in 1900. In 1906 he was induced to accept the Republican nomination for Supreme Judge, and though his campaign was brief and necessarily confined to limited territory the plurality of his successful Democratic opponent, Judge Woodson, of St. Joseph, was but 9,077 in a total vote of 592,856.

Two years later he went into the senatorial primary against John C. Kerens, receiving a large vote in the country districts. In 1909 Governor Hadley appointed him superintendent of insurance. On the death of Supreme Judge Jas. D. Fox, Mr. Hadley appointed him to the supreme bench to fill the vacancy till January, 1911, and

in 1910 he was nominated by his party to fill the vacancy and was elected.

When Herbert S. Hadley was elected attorney-general in 1904, he named Mr. Kennish as his first assistant, and Mr. Kennish was very active in the prosecution of cases against the big corporations.

In 1913 Governor Major named him as a member of the state public service commission, which position he held for three years, when he resigned to return to Kansas City to re-enter upon his legal practice. In August, 1920, he was again appointed to the state public service commission, but resigned in December of that year to become master in chancery in the Kansas City Railway receivership, the position having been tendered him by the U. S. district judge, Hon. Kimbrough Stone. This position Judge Kennish held at the time of his death.

Judge Kennish married Nellie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Offutt, in Kansas City, June 10, 1896. There were no children by this union.

He is survived by his widow, three brothers and six sisters: James Kennish and Thomas Kennish, of Mound City, and Edward Kennish, of Paragould, Ark.; Mrs. David Kelly, Greely, Colo.; Mrs. Catherine Bissett, Mound City; Mrs. William Tyson, Mound City; Mrs. Margaret Allen, Fresno, Calif.; Miss Alice Kennish, Mound City, and Mrs. Jennie Wrench, also of Mound City. His mother died October 1, 1897. His father died October 30, 1897. His brother, Robert, died July 28, 1909. His sister, Mrs. Anna Karnes, died in California in October, 1920. A brother, William, died in the Isle of Man, when 8 years of age.

Short funeral services were held at the Undertaker's Chapel in Kansas City, at 10 a. m., Friday, Sept. 16, conducted by Rev. Grant A. Robbins, pastor of the Linwood Boulevard Methodist church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Kennish were members, and were attended by many of the most prominent citizens of Kansas City. His brother, James, and sister, Miss Alice, and nephew, Prosecuting Attorney Wm. Bissett, of Mound City, attended the Kansas City services.

The active pall-bearers at Kansas City were: Daniel C. Ketchum, Richard B. Noel, A. Z. Patterson, Frank Blake, Ellison A. Noel, John E. Wilson. The honorary pall-bearers: Judge A. M. Woodson, Jefferson City; Judge W. W. Graves, Jefferson City; Judge Henry Lamm, Sedalia; Judge Kimbrough Stone; Judge John M. Williams, California, Mo.; Judge Willard P. Hall, James E. Goodrich, Granville M. Smith, Henry M. Beardsley, Sanford B. Ladd, Francis M. Wilson, William G. Busby, Fred W. Fleming, Albert I. Reeves, E. J. Bean.

The body was taken to the union station, and accompanied by his widow, his pastor, Rev. Robbins; his brother, sister and nephew, and Daniel C. Ketchum, and brought to Mound City. Mr. Ketchum had been associated with Judge Kennish in many law cases, and was very close to him, and when the summons came he was promptly at his side and took charge of all the details with the loyalty and devotion of the true brother.

The body arrived at Bigelow, Friday, Sept. 16, on train No. 21, and was escorted to the Mound City undertaking parlors, where it remained until Saturday morning, Sept. 17, at ten o'clock, when it was taken to the M. E. church, followed by relatives, the body being in charge of the following: Active pall-bearers—W. S. Dearmont, Wes. W. Wehrli, J. P. Davis, Dan Ketchum, Frank Gaskill, Harry Dungan. Honorary pall-bearers—John E. Slater, J. S. Smith, Tom Curry, D. W. Porter, S. F. O'Fallon, E. D. Shellenberger.

The vast audience in the large and commodious M. E. church, and the vast crowd that could not be accommodated was the evidence of the love and esteem in which Judge Kennish was held, not only by those who knew him as the humble citizen and struggling young attorney of the community, but by those who came from every nook and corner of the county—for they, too, knew him

and loved him, feeling that the county and the state had lost a great man—because he was a great man. "Take him for all in all," we shall not look upon his like again.

An impressive music service was rendered by a quartette, composed of Mrs. Roy Miller, Miss Pauline Lawson, Mr. C. E. Munn and Mr. L. H. Moore. The funeral discourse was delivered by his pastor, Rev. Grant A. Robbins, of the Linwood Boulevard Methodist church, of Kansas City, and was a master piece of English in portrayal of the beautiful Christian, official and professional life of this one, who in his windowless home lay before him. Rev. Robbins was deeply affected during his discourse, and at times was compelled to hesitate in order to recover himself. His every decision, whether on the bench, in official position of any kind, before the bar, in the social field, in his companionship, was decided from the viewpoint of right, as his Master gave him light to see the right. Political preference never prompted his action—only one viewpoint was ever uppermost in his heart and mind—"was it right?"

The deep silence that pervaded that vast audience, bore silent and impressive testimony that this impressive servant of the Master had truly portrayed the life of John Kennish.

The impressive services came to a close by the quartette singing Mr. Kennish's favorite hymn, "Rock of Ages Cleft for Me."

After the viewing of the remains, the funeral procession wended its way to the beautiful silent city of New Liberty, and there John Kennish was laid away beside his father, mother and brother, Rev. Malloy, of the Mound City Christian church, offering the benediction.

Circumstances were such that it was impossible for his sister, Mrs. Staggie Allen, of Fresno, Calif., and Edward, of Paragould, Ark., to be present at the funeral.

Father and Mother Offutt, of Kansas City, parents of the bereaved widow, owing to the ill health of Mrs. Offutt were also unable to attend the funeral.

Mr. Kennish was both a Mason and Knight of Pythias, and in his earlier days was quite active in these societies, and took an active part in the organization of Mound City K. P. lodge in 1890, and had served as its Chancellor Commander.

Kindly, John Kennish, good-night. The floral tributes, those silent but fragrant messengers of love, were so liberal and many were elaborate in design, and we mention a few of the more elaborate—so beautiful and sweet, in such harmony and keeping with the life of John Kennish.

Law and Claim department, Kansas City Railway Company.

Officials of the Kansas City Railway Company.

Kimrough Stone, U. S. circuit judge; Judge Fred Fleming and Judge Francis M. Wilson, receivers for Kansas City Railway Company; James E. Goodrich, attorney for Kansas City Railway Company.

Col. Hugh S. Smith, attorney, Washington, D. C.

North Todd Gentry, attorney, Columbia, Mo.

Kansas City Association Telephone Employees.

The Hodgkin Service Club, Kansas City.

Mr. and Mrs. David C. Ketchum, Kansas City.

Supreme Court of Missouri, Officers and Employees, Jefferson City, Mo.

Public Service Commission and Employees, Jefferson City.

Officers Commonwealth Trust Co., Kansas City.

Officers and Directors, Commonwealth Bank, Kansas City.

R. R. Brewster, attorney, Kansas City.

Mrs. A. A. Brewster, Kansas City. Mound City Lodge, No. 294, A. F. & A. M., Mound City.

distinction on the public service commission for some years, but eventually retired from the public service in order to enter the private practice of the law in Kansas City.

The life and work of Judge Kennish furnish a fine testimonial to the opportunity offered a real young man in this wonderful country of ours. Kennish was not a native American. He was born on the Isle of Man, but came to this country when a mere child. He was thoroughly assimilated into our American life and became every inch an American. By hard work and devotion to duty during his childhood, he rapidly rose to a position of outstanding prominence among his chosen people. The state loses a good citizen in the death of Judge Kennish, but all who knew him intimately are consoled by the thought that he rendered a conspicuous service during the few active years of his manhood.—St. Joseph Gazette, Sept. 15.

Not only Kansas City, but the entire state will feel keenly the loss of one of Missouri's ablest jurists in the death of Judge John Kennish. His long political career, including the offices of state senator, assistant attorney general, insurance commissioner and member of the state supreme court was one characterized by accomplishment. The period he spent in public service was one of great value to the state.

It has been men of the type of Judge Kennish who have added much to the high integrity of the judiciary. The legal profession has lost a member whose place in its ranks will not be easily filled.—Kansas City Journal, Sept. 15.

The substantial qualities of Judge John Kennish were so outstanding that in whatever position he served he won the confidence of all with whom he came in contact. Men knew they could depend on him. Whenever he could be induced to accept public office, the official who was charged with the selection could rest easy. He knew there would be no occasion for him to fret over the conduct of that office. Kennish would make good. His fine public record, and the esteem in which he was held in the community and the state, are the tribute that mankind always pays to real character.—Kansas City Star, Sept. 15.

The Third Anniversary.

Monday next, September 26, is the third anniversary of America's greatest battle, which began at the Argonne, Sept. 26, 1918, extending to the Meuse and ending at Sedan, just as the armistice went into effect, Nov. 11, 1918. In this great struggle many Holt county boys took part—Company L, 139th Infantry, 35th Division, and 22 men called to the colors, 13 assigned to the 356th Infantry, 89th Division. Six of the former and two of the latter were killed in action, and one from the 139th Aero Squadron, Lieut. Harris E. Petree.

The Germans had admitted their defeat nine days before the end came, when the Americans by steady advances through thick woods, broken ground, trackless, miry terrain, exposed to merciless fire from hidden batteries, had broken through the most gigantic and scientific defenses that all the skill of the Germans had been able to perfect in four years.

This achievement is without parallel in war, but its importance did not arise from the seeming impregnability of the positions from which the Germans were hurled. They were key positions and the Germans brought to the defense all the reserves that had given the British and French at other points, 36 divisions in all, an opportunity to make uninterrupted and rapid advance. The Germans could not afford to lose the main railway artery and the keystone of their defense.

All other American battles sink into comparative insignificance in the matter of numbers engaged. Grant and Meade had 118,000 men at the battle of the Wilderness. Grant's line of battle was 6 miles and depth of penetration 4 miles. Pershing had 651,000 men in his great Argonne-Meuse-Sedan battle, his line of battle extended for twenty miles and his deepest point of penetration was 11 miles. He had eight times more men than Meade had at Gettysburg, whose line of battle was four miles and penetration one mile. Pershing had 21 divisions in action.

Fourteen fresh German divisions were thrown in for five days' fighting in November, but in vain. There was the natural swaying of lines in battle contact, but the Americans pressed inevitably forward, never permanently losing an inch. Many green troops were used, never before in active warfare, but they dammed themselves as veterans, all they did was against military odds, and was theoretically impossible, but there was not such word in Pershing's dictionary.

In this greatest of great battles, Americans proved that they are the greatest fighting stock in the world.

The Soldier's Slumber.

"Taps" were sounded on Sunday last, September 18, 1921, when Richard Bayha, of Company L, 139th Infantry, 35th Division, was lovingly laid away in his silent camping ground at Mound City, with full military honors, conducted by Paul Shuttles Post, American Legion.

He gave his all for civilization and humanity on Argonne's crimsoned field, September 28, 1918. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Bayha.

The body was laid away in the Pleasant Ridge cemetery, near Fairfax.

—Born, to Ernest Bahler and wife, Wednesday, Sept. 21, a daughter. Dr. J. F. Chandler was in attendance.

Centennial Grand Lodge.

Howard S. Teare left Monday to attend the centennial session of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, A. F. & A. M., which meets in St. Louis, Tuesday of this week, September 20, 1921. On the day previous, the corner stone of the new Masonic temple, one of the handsomest in the entire United States, was laid by the officers of the Grand Lodge.

As Missouri celebrated its 100th anniversary, so will Missouri celebrate the 100th year of the Grand lodge of Masonry in Missouri.

Missouri Masonry in brief is as follows: Representatives of three Masonic lodges, No. 12, now 1; No. 25, now No. 2, both of St. Louis, and No. 28, now Hiram Lodge No. 3, of St. Charles, met in the town of St. Louis on Washington's birthday, February 22nd, 1821, and organized the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Missouri, by the adoption of a constitution, which was presided over by Edward Bates, later President Lincoln's attorney-general. The convention chose the following as its first grand lodge officers: T. F. Riddle, M. W. G. M.; J. S. Kennerly, Sr., Gr. Warden; Wm. Bates, Jr., Gr. Warden; Archibald Gamble, Gr. Secretary; Wm. Renshaw, Gr. Treasurer.

On May 4, 1821, the Grand lodge officers were installed in the Baptist church in the town of St. Louis, and the Grand lodge of the Masonic order of Missouri began to do business, by adopting a code of by-laws. October 1, 1821, the new Grand lodge met in the town of St. Louis for its first annual communication. From a beginning of three lodges it has grown to 658 lodges and a membership of less than 100 to more than 70,000.

Among the interesting items in its first proceedings was they allowed \$20 for engraving the seal of the grand lodge, \$20 for yearly salary of the grand secretary, and a like amount for printing.

No refreshments were served at the first grand lodge meeting, but at the session held in October, 1822, they almost forced the grand lodge into bankruptcy by spending the colossal sum of \$6,684 cents for refreshments; at the third session they retrenched by blowing in \$4,814 cents.

These were doubtless the days of Jeffersonian simplicity in Masonry, for the Grand secretary now gets a salary of some \$4,800, and their banquets doubtless cost several thousands.

The delegates to the Grand lodge in its early days went horseback and paid their own expenses; now they travel in horseless vehicles and Pullmans, and are paid mileage and per diem.

The Mothers' Meeting.

A group of earnest women met in the Presbyterian church last Sunday afternoon, and held a most interesting meeting. It has been the desire of the thinking people of Oregon to do something to improve the social conditions of her young people and many real efforts have been made by different organizations, but this is perhaps the most decided one in which the women of all the churches have united.

Mrs. Ora Hunt read Proverbs 31: 10-31, for the scripture lesson. After the opening prayer, Mrs. H. M. Dungan and Mrs. J. L. Hogan sang a beautiful duet, "Resignation." This was followed by three short earnest talks.

Mrs. Corvin Zeller's subject "Why should we continue these meetings?" was answered in this way: During our recent revival the speaker noticed that the members of all the churches seemed to enjoy working together and such meetings as these would again give them the opportunity for religious sociability, which she feels to be one of our great needs here. Another good feature mentioned was the opportunity it gave the younger women to work along with the older ones who have made this Community one blessed with high ideals.

The next talk was given by Mrs. Will Hanna, on "What other towns are doing for the religious welfare of their children." She told of some towns having the Bible read and the Lord's Prayer given daily, in the schools, and of places having Bible study classes held successfully for the children on Sunday afternoons. Then she told of inquiries that she had held with church workers in our neighboring towns. Many were insisting on having organized classes in their Sunday schools, others were pleading for the closing of dance halls, and all were feeling the need of good leaders.

The subject, "What can we gain by organizing a Mother's Club?" was then discussed by Mrs. Albert Kunkel, who told of some of the things that she had gained in such a club while living in Oklahoma. While it has been her desire to have a Mother's club here, she has felt that nothing could be gained until the mothers realize their need of it as she believes they now do. Since we are so in earnest, and many have good ideas to suggest, we need some sort of an organization where we can each gain information in regard to the teachers' plans and efforts being made for our children. Some have organized choruses, and just now one of our high school teachers has generously organized a sewing class for the girls, and all these workers need the appreciation and interest of the mothers. Mrs. Kunkel made the point that a small child usually responds to what the mother puts up to it, and since no child can be educated without a knowledge of the Bible, why not plan to have classes for the training in Bible study during their early years?

We have had superintendents who read the Bible in school every day, and

would we not gain much by having it read, and the Lord's Prayer given in all the rooms just as they are now doing in Enid, Oklahoma, where Mrs. Kunkel's daughter, Eleanor, is teaching?

During the open discussion which followed, several expressed their desire for definite action, and Mrs. C. E. Bunker was asked to preside during the business session. Mrs. Albert Kunkel was nominated for president, but she withdrew her name and nominated Mrs. Corvin Zeller, who was unanimously elected. Mrs. Scott Hodgins was chosen vice-president, and Mrs. Emma Netherland was made secretary and treasurer. Mrs. Bunker then called for a vote by those present in regard to how many favored requesting the school board and superintendent to have the Bible readings and Lord's Prayer given at the opening of school each day. All present voted for the request. Mrs. Bunker then turned the meeting over to the president elect, who appointed a committee to arrange for the next meeting. Mrs. Lydia Rostock, Mrs. Dan Kunkel and Mrs. VanBuskirk were named.

During their talks, Mrs. Zeller and Mrs. Kunkel mentioned the fact that some very earnest, capable women, who are not mothers, were interested in this club, and it might be well to choose a broader name than that of "Mothers' Club." Please have suggestions in mind for our next meeting which promises to be an interesting one.

COMMITTEE.

Post Office Robbed.

The Craig postoffice was robbed sometime last Friday morning, September 9. Entrance was gained through the front door. A hole was cut in the back door screen but the back door is securely fastened and bolted. An old style blacksmith hammer was found beside the safe. The knob on the safe was knocked off and the safe opened. It was not announced what the loss would be but an inspector has been on the job the past two days and some disclosures may be made in the near future.—Craig Leader, September 16, 1921.

The Craig post office seems to be a favorite stopping place for the traveling cracksmen. The following is the record of the Craig post office robberies:

The first robbery of the Craig office took place, November 8, 1875, while H. S. Hogue was the postmaster. Only a small amount of loot was secured, which consisted of a small amount of stamps and \$6.00 in money.

While L. L. Teare was postmaster, the cracksmen visited the postoffice, without any formal invitation, on the night of March 16, 1894, and secured \$300. Homer Reed was found to be the thief, and in October, 1895, he was given two years in the penitentiary for the crime.

On January 7, 1906, while Phil Thompson was the postmaster, the office was robbed of \$246.

On January 16, 1908, while Mr. Thompson was in charge of the office, a man representing himself as a post-office inspector, giving the name of Orland, confided the postmaster out of the postoffice funds, amounting to \$660. A party named A. J. Moore was arrested for the offense, but proving a complete alibi, he was acquitted.

On Sunday, October 15, 1916, W. H. Hambaugh, postmaster, the office safe was blown, and the loot amounted to \$503 in stamps, \$6.00 in pennies, and a small amount of cash from the Sunday's postal sales.

Friday night, September 9, 1921, Postmaster W. H. Hambaugh found the postoffice had been robbed. The amount had not been given out.

That Bonus Fund.

Gov. Hyde's reported decision to call a special session of the state legislature to provide for the payment of the bonus to ex-service men, is justified. Extra sessions are costly, and we have had one this year, but the proceeds of the bond issue of \$15,000,000 voted by the people for Missouri ex-service men should be available at the earliest possible time.

It is a pity that the funds are not immediately available for distribution. There is widespread unemployment and many ex-service men are in dire need. The bonus would help to tide over the winter and ease the hardships of the men. Since this is impossible, the steps necessary to make the fund available should be taken without delay.

The people have voted the money, the men are entitled to it and many of them need it. The sooner it is paid the better. One dollar now would be worth ten in the future.

They Come Back.

The one hundredth annual conference of the Missouri M. E. church, which was in session at Brookfield during the past week, came to its close last Sunday, by Bishop Quayle making the announcement of his appointments, and we are glad to know that F. J. Smith is returned to the Oregon charge.

Lynn E. Jones is returned to the Mound City charge.

W. A. Wanless is the new appointment for Maitland.

C. F. Hand is changed from Osborn to Rock Port.

W. C. Francisco is given the Graham charge.

T. E. Stewart is sent to Fillmore. During last week the West German M. E. church conference was in session at Kansas City, Kansas, and we are glad to know that Rev. H. A. Feldman has been returned to this charge.