

In Memoriam.

Hon. WILLIAM ARTHUR SLOANE,

Associate Justice of the District Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division Two, 1919-1920; Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, 1920-1923; Presiding Justice of the District Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, 1929-1930.

At a regular session of the District Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, held on May 13, 1930, the following proceedings were had in honor of the memory of the late Presiding Justice William Arthur Sloane.

Upon convening of court, Renwick Thompson, president of the San Diego Bar Association, addressed the court, introducing Eugene Daney, Esq., as dean of the San Diego Bar, who expressed the deep regret of the bar at the passing of Presiding Justice Sloane, and read a set of resolutions prepared in memory of the late Presiding Justice, which resolutions were ordered spread in full upon the minutes of the court.

Mr. Thompson then introduced Honorable Harry C. Clark, Mayor of the City of San Diego, who also paid tribute to the former Presiding Justice, expressing the great loss the people of San Diego felt in his passing.

Presiding Justice Cary then made feeling reference to the passing of the former Presiding Justice and stated that when the court adjourned for the day it would do so out of respect to the memory of the late William A. Sloane, formerly Presiding Justice of the court.

The memorial reads as follows:

MEMORIAL OF THE LIFE AND SERVICES OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM ARTHUR SLOANE.

In Memoriam.

Honorable William Arthur Sloane, the son of Hampton P. Sloane and Adeline (Grand Girard) Sloane, was born at

Rockford, Illinois, on October 10, 1854, and died at San Francisco, California, on the twenty-first day of April, 1930.

On May 1, 1882, he was married to Annie B. Kimball, of Vineland, New Jersey. There were born as the issue of the marriage three children: Harrison G., Paul Edward and Hazel Hortense Harper, the first two being attorneys, practicing their profession, one, Harrison G., at San Diego, and the other, Paul Edward, at San Francisco, where he is the attorney for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

In his youth Judge Sloane moved to Missouri with his parents and received his early education in the public schools of that State, after which he attended Grinnell College, Iowa, from which he graduated in 1877 with the degree of A. B.

In 1878 he was admitted to the bar of Missouri, thereafter practicing his profession at Sedalia. During his residence there he was for two years editor of the "Eagle Times," and thereafter removed to Carthage, Missouri, where for four years he was managing editor of the "Daily Banner."

In 1886 he removed to San Diego, California, engaging in the practice of the law.

In 1888 he was elected one of the Justices of the Peace of San Diego Township, and continued in that office for four years, thereafter returning to the practice of the law in association with the late A. H. Sweet and Lewis R. Kirby.

Thereafter, in 1898, Judge Sloane formed a partnership with Judge Moses A. Luce, which continued until 1905, at which time Judge Luce's son, Edgar A. Luce, joined the partnership, the firm name being changed to Luce, Sloane and Luce, which firm continued until 1911.

In 1911 Judge Sloane was appointed by the Governor and thereafter elected as one of the judges of the Superior Court of San Diego County, California, which office he filled until his appointment by the Governor, on January 1, 1919, as one of the Justices of the newly created Second Division of the Appellate Court, Second Appellate District, which office he resigned in April, 1920, effective May 3, 1920, to fill a vacancy on the Supreme bench occasioned by the death of Associate Justice Henry A. Melvin, and on which day he became, by appointment of the Governor, an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of California.

After serving about three years in this office the judge returned to the bar, engaging in the practice of the law with his son, Harrison G.

When the last legislature created the Fourth Appellate District the present Governor, on his own initiative, and without solicitation from anyone, tendered the appointment of Presiding Justice of this court to Judge Sloane. The Judge at first declined the appointment. The Governor, however, would not accept his declination, but insisted on the Judge accepting, for the reason that the appointment at this time required a man as Presiding Justice who had had judicial experience of an appellate nature, and finally prevailed on Judge Sloane as a public duty to accept the office.

After a short service of about six months the Judge was taken ill and immediately went to San Francisco for a surgical operation. Judge Sloane seemed to rally from this, and expected to occupy his place on the bench at the opening of the San Diego session, on May 13, 1930, and had sufficiently recovered to give promise that he was destined for a further long judicial service, but unfortunately he suffered a stroke from which he never recovered, thereby terminating a long, useful and distinguished career at the bar and on the bench.

In civic affairs Judge Sloane could always be depended upon to be aligned on the side of good government.

He never compromised his principles or his ideals because of expediency, nor because it might be popular so to do. He was a leader in and a warm supporter of the progressive movement, and in 1912 was a delegate to the Chicago Republican convention and supported Theodore Roosevelt for President of the United States.

As a judge he was always fair, courteous and thoughtful, and possessed that judicial poise which gave assurance to friends and foes alike that any case submitted to him, regardless of the result, would receive a fair and impartial consideration.

He was a true lover of justice, and recognized the ideal of Cicero, that the purpose of all judicial proceedings is that "No one shall be harmed and the public weal be served."

His permanent decisions, found in the California and Appellate Court Reports, bear witness to the careful study

and consideration he gave to legal problems submitted to him, bearing in mind at all times that justice was the end to be attained.

He was a sound lawyer, a profound thinker, and a scholarly gentleman. His passing has been a distinct loss to the judicial system of the state, and he was a man whom his home community could ill afford to spare.

He enjoyed the respect, the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. His character was irreproachable, his purposes always honorable. He possessed in a marked degree that rare moral courage which impels one to do that which is right because it is right, irrespective of personal consequences to himself.

The only fear he possessed was of doing wrong. On the bench as well as at the bar he was always courteous, obliging and helpful, particularly to the younger members of the bar, who felt that in his presence they had a safe counselor and friend.

The spirit of the memorial service recently held in loving memory and appreciation of Judge Sloane was that there was being paid a deserved tribute to one who had left behind the remembrance of a noble life, whose influence did not end with his death. We may say, as was said on that occasion, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

We extend to his widow and to his sons and daughter the assurance of our appreciation of the life and services of this good man who, because he lived among us, has left an inspiration for the highest and best, and to carry on the noble aims and purposes of his splendid life.

We ask that this memorial be spread in full on the minutes of this court and a copy, suitably engrossed, be forwarded to the family.

EUGENE DANAY,
EDGARD A. LUCE,
LEWIS R. KIRBY,
Committee.