



1958

## Memorials

William S. Murray

O. H. Thormodsgard

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# Memorials

H. P. JACOBSEN

On June 30, 1958, H. P. (Hans) Jacobsen died in a Bismarck hospital.

Hans Jacobsen was born in Denmark on May 25, 1875. With his parents, he emigrated to the vicinity of Grundy Center, Iowa, at the age of five. His only memory of Denmark was of a sentry, rifle on shoulder, pacing in the railroad yards of Copenhagen.

Danish-born, raised in Iowa, he came to western North Dakota when Hettinger County was in its infancy, and the new town of Mott was the scene of a land rush. One day, around 1909, he met by chance on Mott's only main street, a young lawyer named J. K. Murray from the state of Wisconsin. Without formal contact, seal, or signature there then began a lifelong friendship and partnership the formal aspects of which were only terminated nearly thirty years later when his partner moved to Bismarck.

Hans Jacobsen was a lawyer especially skilled in probate and office practice. He was fully capable of trying a case successfully in court, as his courtroom opponents learned when the occasion arose. He was frugal personally and possessed yet of that particular generosity towards others which best manifested itself in the fact that he never spoke unkindly of, or to another, whether attorney or layman.

During his long and fruitful lifetime, he was successful not only in the law, but through his close association with banking and milling interests in the community he chose as his home. He married an Iowan in 1913, Iva Jacobsen, who survives him; there were no children. To this most fatherly of men, who could take great interest in coaching a law graduate for the bar examination, or in writing to a young protegee in the Navy, this must have been one of life's ironies. In the last weeks of his life, when most men of the age of eighty-three might repose in senility or leisure, Hans Jacobsen could apply his dry Scandinavian humor to the question of whether the two-year old grandson of his former partner, a Democrat, could be held in the fold of Republicanism. For, in all time and in all places, he could joke about the divergence of faith, political party, and national descent, between himself and his virtually lifelong associate.

Hans Jacobsen was a Republican and a Methodist, and loyal to

his religious and political faiths, but tolerant of the views of others. As a State Senator from Hettinger County, he participated in such milestones of our Legislative history as the impeachment of a District Judge before World War I, which it happened he opposed.

In 1953, having taken part in the ups and downs, the droughts and the bumper crops of Hettinger County, Hans Jacobsen retired and moved to Bismarck, where he lived until his death, with his loyal and faithful wife.

In his last years of life, the disabilities of illness did not dim the keen edge of his mind.

Hans Jacobsen is not alone in possessing the character he did. He would be embarrassed by being pictured as an idol or an ideal. A Dane by birth, an Iowan by heritage, he is only typical of the small-town North Dakota lawyer, in whom the traits of integrity, character and solidity are mixed with the attitudes of humor and humility.

The old saying is that nothing but good shall be said of the dead. As to Hans Jacobsen, this should be paraphrased to read:

"Of him, nothing but good could be said,  
Whether he lived or was dead."

WILLIAM S. MURRAY.

### HON. JOHN C. POLLOCK<sup>1</sup>

In the village of Casselton, in the Territory of Dakota, John C. Pollock was born on December 29, 1888. His father, Robert M. Pollock, was a lawyer and for professional reasons moved his family to Fargo. John C. Pollock attended the public schools and the Fargo College, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1909. He graduated from the Harvard Law School in 1912 and then returned to Fargo where he practiced law until 1946.

In 1925, he served part time as Police Magistrate of the City of Fargo. For two terms, from January 1, 1927, to December 31, 1930, he was States Attorney of Cass County. From 1931 to 1946 he was Juvenile Commissioner of the First Judicial District. In October, 1946, he was appointed District Judge by Governor Fred G. Aandahl. Judge Pollock was elected for a full six-year term in 1950

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<sup>1</sup> Prepared and presented to the Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, August 24, 1958, in Los Angeles, California.

and re-elected for another six-year term in 1956. In performing his professional duties, whether as an attorney, States Attorney, Juvenile Commissioner or as a District Judge, he won the personal respect of the lawyers and judges of the State of North Dakota. As a member of the Judicial Council of North Dakota, he took special interest in the improvement of Civil Procedure.

In 1948, he was appointed by Governor Aandahl as one of the Commissioners for the State of North Dakota. He was diligent in securing the enactment of the Uniform Acts by the Legislative Assembly. Up to the time of his death, which was on August 9, 1958, he was Chairman of Section E of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

Judge Pollock is survived by his wife, the former Miss Dorothy Dalrymple, two sons, Robert D. Pollock of Ontario, California, and John Pollock, Junior, of St. Paul, Minnesota.

In the untimely death of John C. Pollock, the City of Fargo has lost a civic leader, the lawyers of North Dakota will always remember him as an able and conscientious lawyer, and the judges will praise him for his efforts in improving the administration of justice, especially for the juveniles. As a trial judge, he was equal to the best. He appreciated his membership in the Conference of Commissioners.

We pay our respect and tribute to Judge Pollock as a loyal friend, a true companion and a gentleman.

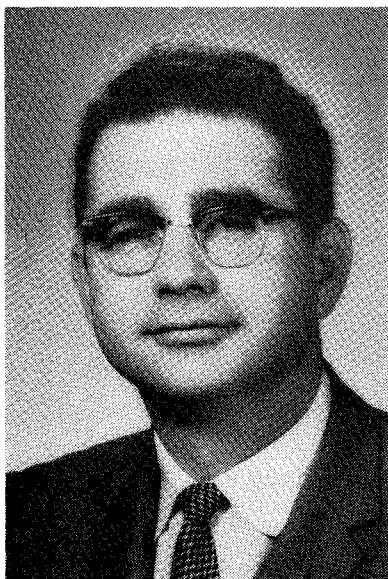
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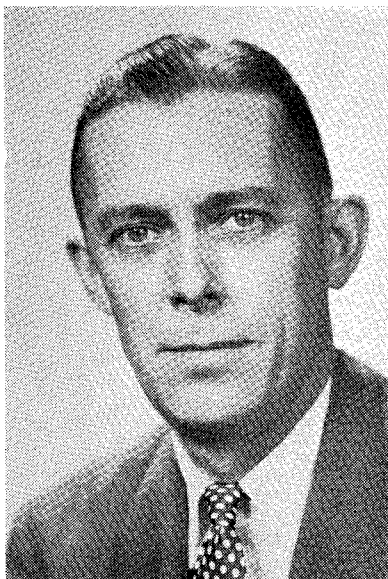
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