

IN MEMORIAM
CLARE CLYDE CLARK

Clare Clyde Clark, a distinguished member of the Shreveport Bar for more than sixty years, passed away on April 15, 1976, at the age of eighty-eight. Mr. Clark was born at Conway in Union Parish, Louisiana, on March 13, 1888, the son of Edward Levin Clark and Susan Mayo Clark. He received his education in the elementary schools of his native parish and thereafter obtained his B.A. and L.L.B. degrees at Louisiana State University. He was admitted to the Louisiana State Bar in 1913.

Clare Clark began his legal career in private practice in Shreveport. He was a partner of T. Fletcher Bell who became Judge. In 1924 he became a partner in the firm of Barksdale, Bullock, Warren, Clark & Van Hook until its dissolution in 1942. At that time he became a senior partner in the firm of Cook, Lee, Clark & Egan, which, upon the appointment of Judge Elmo T. Lee to the Bench, has become the firm of Cook, Clark, Egan, Yancey & King. By choice, he became a pure office or counsellor type of lawyer as distinguished from the courtroom practitioner. He developed a very successful practice and an expertise in handling successions and real estate transactions proving that the English system of dividing attorneys into two groups known as solicitors and barristers might well work in this country. He was dedicated to the administration of justice, yet he was modest and thoughtful of others, kind, gentle and sympathetic; a man of absolute personal integrity with infinite patience and modesty, who always found time to visit with his friends.

His dedication to the law was equalled by his loyalty and devotion to his church. As a member of the First Baptist Church of Shreveport, he served as a member of the Board of Deacons for over forty years and served as Chairman of Deacons from 1930 - 1964. He was a member of the Executive Board of the Louisiana Baptist Convention from 1935 - 1941 and was attorney for the Convention Executive Board for many years; he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1956 - 1961; wrote the charter for the Louisiana Baptist Foundation and served as its attorney for many years and was a Trustee of the M. E. Dodd Foundation.

He was a veteran of World War I and served on the Shreveport Municipal Fire & Police Civil Service Board from 1944 - 1947. He was a Mason and Shriner, an honorary member of the Phi Delta Phi law fraternity and a member of the Shreveport, Louisiana and American Bar Associations. He was listed in Who's Who in America.

On January 14, 1922, Mr. Clark was married to Mary Thatcher Clark, who survives him. As one of ten children, Mr. Clark is survived by his brother, O. B. Clark, of Strong, Arkansas and many nieces and nephews, including Judge James E. Clark of the First Judicial District Court. He is also survived by a foster daughter, Mrs. Mary Clare Taliaferro, of Shreveport and two foster grandchildren.

The paths in life that men carve out are distinguished one from another by the route they follow, and their breadth and significance at the end of the road. Clare Clark's straight path was one which all of us might well wish to follow.

Listing only some of his characteristics and accomplishments cannot portray the full spirit of this truly Christian gentlemen, nor adequately express the loss we have suffered. We are left with an

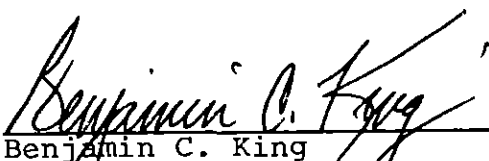
empty sadness tempered by a feeling of gratefulness for the heritage he left us from his rich and rewarding life. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family with the realization that the true memorial and epitaph to Clare Clyde Clark is his exemplary life and his untiring devotion to his family, his church, his friends, his community, state and nation.

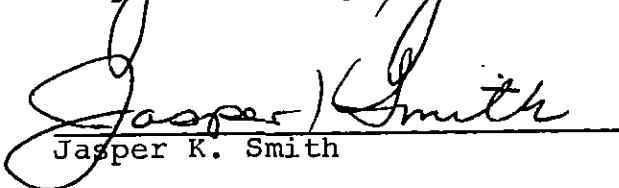
True greatness must be measured in terms of virtue, not in terms of fortune. Virtue alone is sufficient for it, only, makes a man worth admiring in life and, in death, worth remembering.

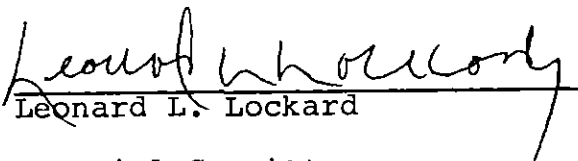
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this memorial be presented and read at memorial exercises to be held in the Caddo Parish District Court under the auspices of the Shreveport Bar Association on September 7, 1976 and that it be presented to the Supreme Court of Louisiana at memorial exercises to be held under the auspices of the Louisiana State Bar Association.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be delivered to the members of the immediate family of Clare Clyde Clark as a testimonial of the high esteem and regard held for him by the Shreveport and Louisiana State Bar Associations.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,


Benjamin C. King


Jasper K. Smith


Leonard L. Lockard

Memorial Committee