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W. C. ...
DEPUTY CLERK

MEMORIAL TO

NECKLEY MICHAEL FERRIS

February 15, 1916 - August 25, 1979

Presented to the First Judicial District Court of Louisiana in and for Caddo Parish by the undersigned Committee designated by the President of the Shreveport Bar Association to prepare and submit a resolution in memory of the late Neckley Michael Ferris of Shreveport, a member of the Bar of this Court and of this Association

Neckley Michael Ferris, whose association with the Bar of this Court spanned three decades, was a resident of Shreveport from his birth on February 15, 1916 until his sudden death on August 25, 1979.

By education and background Neckley was well qualified for the field of law. He was valedictorian of the 1933 graduating class of Jesuit High School - then known as St. John's High School - where he participated in debating and dramatics and won an honor scholarship to Loyola University of the South in New Orleans. During his six years as an undergraduate and law student at Loyola University, Neckley was a leader in religious and extracurricular activities, serving as president of his senior law class and as a member of the Blue Key National Honor Society. He was also listed in Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

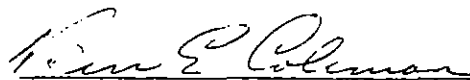
After his admission to the Bar on August 3, 1939, Neckley practiced law alone and with Samuel P. Love before entering the United States Coast Guard as an officer in the Second World War. The greater part of his military service, which included tours of duty in North Africa and Italy, was related to his legal training as he served on numerous occasions as a hearing examiner for the Coast Guard in matters involving the United States Merchant Marine. His interest in the Coast Guard continued after his return to civilian life and he was for several years the Commander of the local unit of the Coast Guard Reserve. His belief in military preparedness is further evidenced by the fact that he served as an uncompensated member of the Selective Service System of the United States for twenty-five years.

Neckley's service background also caused him to become deeply involved in the work of the American Legion. As Commander of Lowe-McFarlane Post No. 14 he was the driving force behind an unprecedented membership drive that made it the largest American Legion post in the world. For his leadership he was commended editorially by the Shreveport Times and the drive attracted so much attention on a local, state and national basis that Lowe-McFarlane was chosen as Shreveport's Best Advertisement of 1958. The position that Neckley enjoyed in Lowe-McFarlane was amply demonstrated when he became the first veteran of the Second World War to be elected to life membership. His interest in the American Legion continued up to the time of his death.

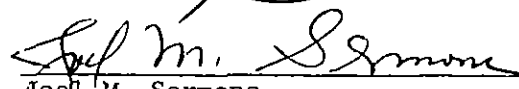
Following his return to Shreveport from the Second World War, Neckley practiced law alone and for many years with Roland J. Achee. Late in his career he served as a full time attorney for the City of Shreveport. He was an excellent lawyer of irreproachable character and integrity who represented his clients with loyalty and dedication. He diligently carried out all the tasks assigned to him by the Shreveport Bar Association and ably served by appointment of this Court for several years as Chairman of the Notarial Examining Committee.

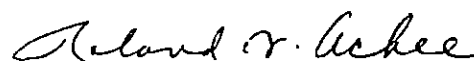
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Shreveport Bar Association, hereby affirm the respect, the admiration and the regard in which we held Neckley Michael Ferris for his character, ability, industry, skill and learning and for his example of the lawyer at his best and we extend to his surviving brother and sister our sincere sympathy in their loss.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this memorial and resolution be made a part of the records of this Court and that copies of the record hereof be delivered to the members of the family of our departed brother and friend.


Ben E. Coleman


C. P. Brocato


Joel M. Sermons


Roland J. Achee, Chairman