

IN MEMORIAM YANDELL BOATNER

Yandell Boatner was born in Bethlehem, Mississippi, September 8, 1892, and died November 10, 1938. He was a son of Dr. Frank P. Boatner and Mary Elizabeth Wills. He was married to Frances Robertson December 5, 1917, and is survived by her and three children of their marriage, Yandell, Jr., Frances Robertson, and Mary Elizabeth.

Mr. Boatner spent most of his life in Louisiana. He was graduated from Louisiana State University in 1913 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and then entered the law school of that institution and was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1916.

While attending the university he became interested in newspaper work and during his senior year in the academic department was editor of the university newspaper, The Reveille. While taking his law course he worked as a reporter of the Baton Rouge State Times and continued this work after graduation until the United States entered the World War. He entered the service and earned a commission in the First Officers' Training Camp at Fort Logan H. Root, Arkansas, and served overseas as a First Lieutenant in the 334th Field Artillery. At the conclusion of the war he was commissioned as a Captain in the Reserve Officers Corps.

After his discharge from active service Mr. Boatner came to Shreveport and entered the practice of law in association with Melvin F. Johnson. They later became associated with the late Joseph Moore, U. S. Attorney, under the firm name of Moore, Johnson and Boatner. Mr. Boatner served as

Assistant U. S. District Attorney and thereafter as Acting United States District Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana. In 1921 he formed a partnership with the late Crea Pugh and with J. M. Grimmet in 1926, and at the time of his death was a member of the firm of Pugh, Grimmet & Boatner.

Mr. Boatner was recognized by everyone as an outstanding member of the Louisiana Bar. He was energetic, industrious and blessed with unusual native intelligence. He was a clear thinker, sound in judgment and a forceful and convincing speaker. Although zealous and vigorous in the advocacy of his cause, he was always fair, courteous, and conscientious, and his sincerity and professional integrity were never questioned by court or opposing counsel.

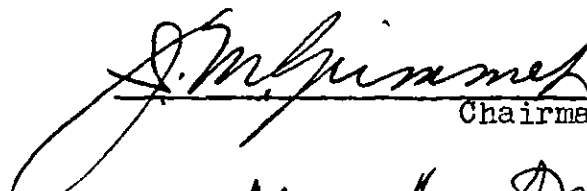
Although always a busy practitioner, Mr. Boatner gave much time to civic affairs and rendered valuable service to the community. He was very much interested in Boy Scout work and devoted much attention to furthering the aims and purposes of that organization. He served the organization as President of Norwella Council and in several other capacities. He served two terms as President of the Chamber of Commerce, and it was during his administration and under his leadership that the location at Shreveport of Barksdale Field, by United States Army Air Corps was assured. His record of unselfish public service fully justified the esteem and high respect in which he was held by the people of Shreveport.

Mr. Boatner had a very pleasing personality and an infinite capacity for making and keeping friends. His wit, modesty and kindly disposition and his cheerful and philosophical spirit endeared him to all who knew him.

In the passing of Yandell Boatner, Shreveport lost one of its best citizens and the bar of the State lost a brilliant and honorable lawyer. He will always be remembered as a man whose character was without blemish and will be mourned by many who knew him as a genial, patient, generous, unselfish friend.

Shreveport, Louisiana,

November 9th, 1939.

  
Chairman  
