

In Memoriam

EDWIN L. BLEWER

FILED

SEP 18 1961

W.R. Jones

Deputy Clerk

Presented at the Shreveport Bar Association
Memorial Exercises Held in the First Judicial
District Court on September 18, 1961.

- - - - -

Edwin L. Blewer was born on September 3, 1897, in Shreveport, Louisiana. He attended the public schools in Shreveport and graduated from Brown University with a B.S. Degree in 1917.

Shortly before his graduation he volunteered in the U. S. Army, World War I, and received an honorable discharge at the conclusion of the war. He was admitted to the practice of law in 1924 upon passing the State Bar examination, having studied law for several years in the office of Cook and Cook of Shreveport. He later practiced with another firm and subsequently went into private practice by himself until he entered public office in 1938.

Meanwhile, he married Miss Mildred Sewall and their marriage was blessed with three sons and two daughters, all of whom survive him except an older daughter who passed away before he entered public office. The surviving children are: John R. Blewer, Edwin L. Blewer, Jr., Robert Blewer and Elizabeth Blewer, all of whom are now graduates of Louisiana State University.

Edwin L. Blewer passed away in Shreveport on September 13, 1960, leaving behind a host of friends and many admirers. He served as an Assistant District Attorney for the First Judicial District from May of 1938 until December 1942, when he was elected District Attorney the first time he ran for a public office. He

was re-elected without opposition for District Attorney twice, in 1948 and 1954. He was completing his third full term as District Attorney at the time of his death.

Edwin Blewer took a deep interest in his work as District Attorney, both from the standpoint of thorough and meticulous preparation of criminal cases and also in studious research in representing various public bodies on civil matters, such as the Caddo Parish Police Jury and the Caddo Parish School Board.

His painstaking investigation into criminal matters was always from the standpoint of seeing that charges were not filed against innocent persons as well as enforcing the law against those who were violating it.

His impartiality and thoroughness in investigation of crimes was so well known that he enjoyed the respect not only of law enforcement officers but also of defense lawyers and the public.

Being a hard worker he participated in all of the major trials during his three terms of office, conducting the prosecutions personally on those occasions. He was also determined at all times to do everything possible to suppress organized gambling activities because of the many evils that result therefrom. His intelligence, diligence and integrity was such that the entire district was honored and benefitted by his having served as an outstanding public official.

At the same time, Edwin Blewer was a most gentle, thoughtful and considerate man, even to the extent of purchasing with his own funds shoes and other clothing for children of men whom he had been compelled to prosecute. This was done privately, unostentatiously

and without the knowledge of the general public. It was only by sheer accident that one member of his staff learned of such purchases.

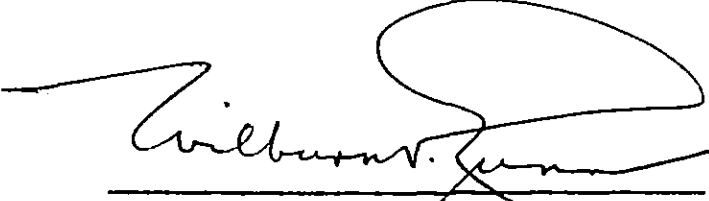
But enforcement of the law and protection of the innocent was not his only contribution to this community. He was interested in many activities of the City and State. He was an active member of the American Legion, 40 & 8, Shreveport Beautification Foundation, and Men's Camellia Club of Shreveport. In fact, he spent many hours growing camellias and other plants. He was awarded the Silver Beaver award from Norwela Council of Boy Scouts of America, which is the highest award given to men by that organization. He supported the Shreveport Symphony Society. He enjoyed good music as a hobby and was a "High Fidelity" enthusiast.

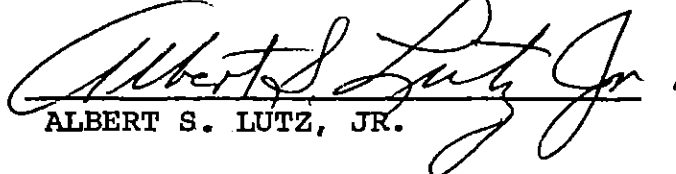
Most outstanding was his loyalty to his church. He was a faithful member of the First Presbyterian Church where he served as President of the Men's Club and also as an officer, first as Deacon and subsequently as Ruling Elder. He likewise had been on several committees of Red River Presbytery, the governing body for all of the Presbyterian churches in North Louisiana.

He had worked on several committees of the Louisiana State Bar Association. He was an active and interested member of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, in which organization he was chairman of several active committees. He was an active member of the National District Attorneys Association.

Edwin Blewer enjoyed the respect and cooperation of the

Judges, the admiration of lawyers and the complete confidence of all citizens who knew him and who had dealings with him. He cannot be replaced and his unexpected death is regretted by the Bench, Bar and the citizens of this State and this community.


WILBURN V. LUNN


ALBERT S. LUTZ, JR.


JOHN A. RICHARDSON
Chairman