

HOWARD B. WARREN

In January, 1861, there met in the Hall of the House of Representatives at Baton Rouge the Convention which adopted the ordinance of Secession and adjourned to meet in New Orleans where their subsequent proceedings were had.

On February 18, 1861, the Convention proceeded in a body to Lafayette Square and there, in the presence of the military, saluted "the National Flag of the Independent State of Louisiana" as it was run up on the flagstaff at the City Hall.

In that Convention was William B. Warren, Representative Delegate from the Parish of Jackson. His son, Eugene F. Warren, later married Louella Calhoun, daughter of Malcolm Calhoun, a sturdy Scotchman who came to the North Louisiana hills from Clark County, Alabama, in 1850, and became a prominent man.

To this union, on April 14, 1882, twenty-one years after the Secession Convention, was born Howard B. Warren, a natural hillbilly "to the manor born," proud of his hillbilly heritage, in his time to reflect lasting honor and credit on the sobriquet of hillbilly, honor and credit on his eternal "hills o' home," and on the State of Louisiana.

Having been educated in the common schools of Ruston and at Louisiana Polytechnic Institute, he began work as private secretary

to Capt. C. C. Henderson, President of the Arkansas Southern Railroad Company. About the time the railroad was sold to the Rock Island, he went to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, to work in the law office of Austin & Danaher and study law. After a short while he returned to Louisiana and studied in the office of E. T. Lamkin, one of the fine lawyers of the Monroe Bar of his day.

After being admitted to the Bar in 1906, he joined the firm of Price, Roberts & Warren, and two years later formed a partnership with O. W. Bullock under the firm name of Bullock & Warren, and practiced law at Ruston until Mr. Bullock left to come to Shreveport in the fall of 1911.

In 1912, he was elected District Attorney of Lincoln and Union Parishes and held that office until 1920, when he was elected to the State Senate. In the Senate he proved to be a master of debate and one of the big men of the State, and after the adjournment of the session he was appointed by Governor Parker on the "Assessment and Taxation Commission," to study the tax systems of Louisiana and other States, and to have its report and recommendations ready to present to the Constitutional Convention which was to meet the next year, 1921. He was elected a member of that Convention by the people of Lincoln Parish, and his masterly support of the recommendations of his Commission in the Convention won him recognition as an authority on Taxation.

He was later appointed by Governor Parker Special Assistant Attorney General to assist in the investigation of Kuklux activities in Morehouse Parish. By appointment of Governor Simpson, he was a member of the Commission that drafted the present Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure.

Mr. Warren moved to Shreveport late in 1922, and he and Mr. Bullock revived their old partnership of Bullock & Warren. In 1924, on the death of Arnold Barksdale of Ruston, his firm was consolidated with the firms of Barksdale, Clark & Van Hook under the firm name of Barksdale, Bullock, Warren, Clark & Van Hook at Shreveport, and Barksdale, Warren & McBride, later Barksdale, Warren & Barksdale at Ruston.

As a representative citizen Howard Warren knew the heart and soul of his people, and he measured up to the needs of every occasion. He held the common good above private gain and no man was ever more generous to the public with his time and talents. As a public official and in any capacity he assumed, he stood out as one man whom no man's money could buy, as one man whom no administration's political influence nor threats could swerve.

As a friend, he was sincere and loyal and true. As a man he was candid and kind and just. And he carried with him always, somewhere in his breast or brain or brawn, an imperturbable poise.

He was always direct and straight in his thinking, careful and precise in his pleading, modest in his demeanor, loyal to his client,

generous to his opponent, respectful to the Court, and, as an all-round civil and criminal lawyer, a valiant fighter on any front.

Howard Warren died in Baltimore, Maryland, at 2:30 a. m.,

Friday, September 1, 1939.

Respectfully submitted,

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J. D. BARKSDALE, Chairman

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O. W. BULLOCK

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A. E. VAN HOOK

Committee