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TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,
CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA

W. L. Beath
DEPUTY CLERK

IN MEMORIAM

JAMES SAMUEL ATKINSON

James Samuel Atkinson, a member of a family prominent for many years in the legal, educational and public affairs of Louisiana, was born in Whiteburg, Georgia, on the 19th day of February 1876, and came to Louisiana with his parents at an early age, settling at Ruston.

Sam Atkinson was a member of the State Legislature from Lincoln Parish from 1908 to 1912, where he was outstanding as an advocate of good government and liberalism in public affairs. Retiring from politics at the end of his term, he removed to Shreveport where he attained prominence at the Bar, the last twenty-odd years of his life standing at the head of his profession in his representation of oil interests. Another side to him is that, while a student at Louisiana State University, of which he was a graduate, he was an outstanding football player, having been a member of the championship football team in 1896.

Sam Atkinson was recognized as a trial lawyer of unusual ability, and as an authority upon the law of oil and gas. His force of character, high standard of ethics and strict integrity made him a power before court and jury, and frequently in a closely contested case it spelled the

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difference between success and failure. As a counsellor he was sound and wise, and had the respect and confidence of those whom he was counselling. He possessed a broad human sympathy, he liked people and was especially interested in young men. In his quiet way he assisted many of them to realize their ambitions by extending financial assistance and sound advice with a sympathetic understanding of their difficulties.

In Sam Atkinson's passing, the members of the Bar have lost a friend. The State has lost one devoted to the ethics and highest principles of the profession and a lawyer interested in the maintenance of a high standard of legal administration. His loss will be felt by all who knew him.

Mr. Atkinson is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Annabel Atkinson Pankey, Mrs. Rebecca Atkinson Forrester, Mrs. Martha Atkinson Tennison and several grandchildren, to whom sympathetic condolences of the Bar are tendered.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest L. Stewart
Chairman
Legal Society
Alex. Smith
W. Bennett
E. J. Mills
Committee