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Report of the Necrology Committee

Wyoming State Bar

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The Code is divided into nine articles. Article I deals with the construction, application and subject matter of the Act, including definitions and principles of interpretation. Article II deals with sales. Article III with commercial paper, Article IV with bank deposits and collections, Article V with documentary letters of credit, Article VI with bulk sales called "bulk transfers." Article VII deals with warehouse receipts, bills of lading and other documents of title. Article VIII deals with investment securities, Article IX deals with secured transactions, contract rights and chattel paper and Article X relates to effective date and repealer.

H. Glenn Kinsley
Alfred M. Pence

REPORT OF THE NECROLOGY COMMITTEE

Since our last meeting, the death of twelve members of the Wyoming State Bar have been reported and, as always, they will be missed most by those who knew them best and worked with them, but the lack of their presence as members of our Bar will be a loss to all. Of this group some have given a lifetime of service, while others were taken in the prime of life with their service before them and yet had carved their place in the community in which they lived, in the State of Wyoming and the Wyoming State Bar. The sum total of their existence has been a benefit to mankind.

THOMAS OWEN MILLIGAN

Thomas Owen Milligan was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming, November 19, 1906, and received his preliminary and secondary schooling in Cheyenne, and in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and later attended the University of Wyoming, being graduated there in law, in 1930.

He practiced law in Cheyenne twelve years prior to World War II, serving as a Municipal Police Judge from 1934 until 1940. In 1938 he was married to Miss Lillian Lauten.

He entered the army June, 1942, as a Private, attended Officer's Training School in Battle Creek, Michigan, and served as a Captain in World War II in the European Theatre with the 1222 M. P. (Aviation) Co., 9th Air Corps. After his return to Cheyenne, he was engaged as an Adjudicator for the Veterans Administration, until an attack of grand mal seizure, due to a war injury in Germany. He had been hospitalized in eight hospitals in the United States prior to his sudden death, September 16, 1952.

He was buried with military honors September 19, 1952, at Beth El Cemetery.

He was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, the Potter Law Club, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Disabled American Veterans.

He was survived by his wife, Lillian Milligan; his father, Joseph Milligan, one sister and three brothers, all of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

He was an honored member of the Wyoming State Bar.

EVERETT TAYLOR

Everett Taylor, who practiced law in Torrington since 1917, died at the Goshen County Memorial Hospital on the 26th day of January, 1953, after an illness of about seven months.

Mr. Taylor was born at Branchport, N. Y., October 7, 1888, and was graduated from the Albany Law College of the Union University at Albany, New York. He was married to Cecile Stoll on October 13, 1910.

Prior to his arrival in Goshen County in 1917, he practiced law in Goshen, Indiana and served as Assistant State's Attorney there. He was engaged in government service during World War I which brought him to the Rocky Mountain region and ultimately to the practice of law in Torrington.

Mr. Taylor was active in civic affairs, having served as Exalted Ruler of the Torrington Elks Lodge, as President of the Goshen County Bar Association and as County Chairman of the Democratic party. He was a member of the American Bar Association, Wyoming State Bar and of All Saints Episcopal Church of Torrington. He was also District Court Commissioner for twenty-two years.

He is survived only by his widow, Cecile, of Torrington.

AMBROSE D. HEMINGWAY

Ambrose D. Hemingway of Casper was born April 30, 1870, near Solon, Iowa, son of David Park Hemingway and Malissa Ann Hemingway. He died at Casper, Wyoming, October 2, 1953, at the age of eighty-three. He was a real pioneer in central Wyoming, having lived in Wyoming for sixty-three years.

During his younger days he had been a farmer, school teacher, coal miner, soldier, engineer, rancher and lawyer.

Before 1890 he moved from Nebraska to Laramie, Wyoming, where he entered in the practice of civil engineering, which profession he followed for a number of years. His practice, however, was interrupted by his enlistment with Torrey's Rough Riders, during the Spanish-American War. After the war he returned to Wyoming and settled in Casper, where he continued with his engineering practice and during which time, he superintended some of the early constructions in that vicinity. During this time

he entered into the ranching business, along with his other activities, and when he had any spare time, he studied law. Finally, he moved to Tennessee, where he entered the school of law of Cumberland University. But later moved back to Wyoming and settled at Casper, where he practiced until a few years before his death.

He was a member of the 19th State Legislature of Wyoming, first president of the Natrona County High School Board, served as County Surveyor a number of terms, active in the organization of the Boy Scouts in Natrona County, and compiled a history of boy scouting in Wyoming. He was a past master of Casper Masonic Lodge No. 15, and member of the Order of Eastern Star, and served his community in all branches of civic endeavor.

He left surviving him his wife and two daughters.

He was a long-time member of the Wyoming State Bar.

CHARLES H. HARKINS

On Wednesday, October 14, 1953, Charles H. Harkins died in a Denver, Colorado, hospital, having been confined there for medical treatment since May, 1953.

Mr. Harkins was born on November 5, 1877, in Muskegon, Michigan, the fourth son of Daniel and Bridget Harkins. He was graduated from the John Marshall School of Law, Chicago, Illinois, in 1905. He first came to Worland, Wyoming, in 1907 to investigate the condition of the Hanover Canal Company for the Chicago Bonding Company of Trowbridge and Niver. In 1911 he returned to Worland to make his home. The next November he was elected County and Prosecuting Attorney of the newly formed Washakie County. He served as County and Prosecuting Attorney from 1913 to 1929 and again in the 1930s; a total of twenty years.

Before retiring in June, 1952, he had formed a partnership with his two sons, Donald J. and Charles D. When his son, Donald J. Harkins, became District Judge of the Fifth Judicial District, his father administered the oath of office.

Mr. Harkins was a member of the Wyoming State Bar, a Mason, an Odd Fellow and a public spirited citizen beloved by all who knew him.

On October 2, 1889, Mr. Harkins and Gertrude Royce of Muskegon were married at Hiles, Michigan.

He was survived by his widow, his two lawyer sons, three grandsons, five granddaughters and three great grandchildren.

LEONARD S. STRAHAN

Leonard S. Strahan, a member of the Wyoming State Bar and former state senator, was stricken with a heart attack at his home early Christmas day, 1953, and passed away before he could be removed to the hospital. He was 62 years of age. Strahan was a tireless worker who attended to his local practice and extensive law cases in Montana, the west coast and Washington, D.C. He had been warned to slow up his working schedule, but found it difficult to relax when his cases required travel which amounted to several thousand miles per month.

Leonard Samuel Strahan was born near Collins, Mississippi, May 17, 1891. He began his college education at the age of 16 in Mississippi. His pre-legal training was at Valparaiso University and he obtained his LL.B. degree at the University of Chicago. He spent considerable time in college obtaining a number of degrees in education and science as well as in law.

He did some teaching while in college, later coming to Greybull, Wyoming, where he held the position of superintendent of schools for several years. While in Greybull he married Olive Florence Nutter of Summersville, W. Virginia in 1919. To this union, one son, Theodore Prentiss, was born. Mrs. Strahan died in 1925.

He established his law practice in Lovell in 1920, representing the drainage districts of the Lovell area for nearly thirty years, being particularly active in the Sidon Irrigation district and represented Indian tribes of the Pacific Northwest in their suits against the U. S. Government during the last five years. Strahan served in the Wyoming State Senate in 1929 and 1931, where he distinguished himself through instigating several forward-looking legislative measures. He was active in various fields of industry such as oil, farming and real estate, in addition to his extensive law practice. At his death he was a member of the Greybull Lodge No. 34, A. F. & A. M., which he joined when residing there.

He married Mary Elizabeth Hammett in 1944 and to this marriage one daughter was born, Sandra Elizabeth.

The members of his family who remain to mourn his passing are: his wife, Mary Elizabeth; one son, Prentiss; one daughter, Sandra; a sister, Mrs. Alma Napier of Collins, Miss.; one brother, W. S. Strahan of Jackson, Miss.; and two grandchildren.

JOHN LEROY SAWYER

John LeRoy Sawyer commenced the practice of law at Torrington, Wyoming, in 1906 shortly after he was graduated from the Nebraska College of Law at Lincoln, Nebraska, and continued active in his profession until his death January 7, 1954.

His life during the practice of the profession was filled with many

activities which promoted the welfare of his community and state. He served in the House of Representatives and the State Senate during the time that Goshen County was a part of Laramie County and was the first County and Prosecuting Attorney of Goshen County when it was created. He was a pioneer of the legal, business and social development of south-eastern Wyoming.

His activities included work in the Methodist Church, the Masonic Lodge, of which he was a Past Master, the Order of the Eastern Star, of which he was a Past Patron. Other masonic organizations in which he held membership are the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Knight Templar and the Mystic Shrine. He served the Torrington Masonic Lodge for 29 years as secretary and was a Past Grand Master of the Grand Masonic Lodge of Wyoming.

He was also past president of the Torrington Lions Club, a member of his church board and of the Cemetery Board. All of his activities did not prevent him from developing and maintaining a high type practice of law, which he pursued with diligence and understanding. He was a student of the law and legal system, always seeking to find a path of justice when dealing with life's difficult problems.

Mr. Sawyer was married to Myrtle Pettijohn, May 24, 1913, and to this union was born George P. Sawyer, a son, who has followed the footsteps of his father as a lawyer in Torrington, and was practicing with him at the time of his death. His first wife died in 1936, and on September 20, 1938, Mr. Sawyer was married to Mrs. Luella Freadrich, who survives him.

John L. Sawyer was a member of the Wyoming State Bar, and the American Bar Association. His passing is mourned by his family, and the host of friends that he had made through the long years of his practice and residence at Torrington.

ERLE H. REID

Erle H. Reid, 66, prominent Torrington and Goshen County attorney for many years, died at his home March 4, 1954. Mr. Reid was born in Tarkio, Missouri, in 1887. He moved with his parents to Colorado in 1899. He graduated from high school in Denver, Colorado, and later came with his parents to ranch near Lingle, Wyoming. Fred Wright, a Scottsbluff, Nebraska lawyer, was a frequent visitor at the ranch and inspired Mr. Reid to follow in his footsteps. He entered law school at Lincoln, Nebraska, at the age of 21 and was graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1911.

Mr. Reid was a member of the Masonic Lodge, B. P. O. E., and All Saints Episcopal Church. He helped to organize the Wyoming Taxpayers' Association and was president of this organization for 13 years. He also was a past president and charter member of the Torrington Rotary Club,

and former State and County Chairman of the Red Cross. He was active in all civic enterprises. For twenty-eight years he gave the words at the county spelling contests. He was a past president of the Wyoming State Bar Association.

Mr. Reid is survived by his widow, a son, Erle H. Reid, Jr., Albuquerque, New Mexico, and a daughter, Mrs. Mary Maiden McGuire, New York City, New York.

GEORGE DOBLER

George Dobler was a native of Vail, Iowa, where he was reared and educated. He attended Iowa State College at Ames, and then enrolled at the University of Nebraska Law School, where he received his LL.B. in June, 1903.

Dobler practiced law in Omaha until November, 1905, when he moved to Wyoming. He worked at Wind River and Arapahoe until the spring of 1907, when he went into the mercantile business at Riverton. He sold the mercantile business in 1914 and opened a law office in Riverton. He was married in 1908 to the former Grace L. Sessions.

Dobler was active in Riverton civic affairs, being a member of the town council, justice of the peace, school board, and was city attorney. He also was a stockholder and a director of the First State Bank of Riverton.

In 1916, Dobler was elected to the state legislature and served as chairman of the judiciary committee for the House of Representatives.

He lived in Long Beach, California, from 1925 to 1930. He returned to Lander, where he entered law practice with the late A. H. Maxwell. He was a director of the Stockgrowers State Bank in Lander and was president of the institution.

Dobler's first wife died in Long Beach in 1932. In June of 1935, he married Mrs. Effie E. Peck. He died at the age of seventy-five on April 5, 1954.

Survivors include his wife; two daughters, Miss Lavinia Dobler and Mrs. J. A. Finigan, both of New York City; a stepdaughter, Mrs. W. I. Christian of Lander; and a stepson, George Peck of Dubois.

EDGAR EARL WAKEMAN

Edgar Earl Wakeman died in Denver, Colorado, on April 24, 1954, and was born May 8, 1885, in Spearfish, South Dakota. His parents were Edgar Carson Wakeman and Mary Frances Mulholland. He attended schools in Sundance, Wyoming, and was united in marriage to Mary Joy of Sundance in 1912.

Mr. Wakeman served as County Treasurer, Crook County, and later,

upon moving his family to Gillette, was United States Commissioner of Lands. He also practiced law with his brother, Don Wakeman, in Gillette.

In December of 1918 he moved to Newcastle where he later served sixteen years as County Attorney.

He was a member of the Wyoming Library Board, belonged to the Consistory and Shrine at Sheridan. He was a charter member and past president of the Newcastle Lion's Club, Past Master of Newcastle Lodge No. 13, A. F. & A. M., was a member of the Knights of Pythias, Elks, the Wyoming Historical Society and the Inyan Kara Shrine Club.

He was survived by his wife, Mary; two daughters and three grandchildren.

He was a prominent member of the Wyoming State Bar.

DONALD LEE TAYLOR

Donald Lee Taylor was born at Lusk, Wyoming, on January 15, 1925, the son of Donald C. and Ethel Taylor. He died as the result of an auto accident near Lusk about 11:25 p.m., Thursday, May 20, 1954.

Mr. Taylor was graduated from Lusk High School in 1943 and shortly thereafter entered the United States Army to serve 30 months during World War II. Most of his Army service was on European fronts with the 297th Engineer Combat Battalion, being in five major battles, including the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded the Purple Heart, a Bronze Star Citation and two unit commendations.

On July 5, 1946, he married Janie Noah and moved to Laramie to enter the University of Wyoming. By continuous and hard study he received his law degree, being admitted to practice law in Wyoming in February, 1951. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and Potter Law Club.

He first established a practice in Natrona County at Edgerton, moving to Lusk in September, 1951, to practice his profession.

Mr. Taylor was active politically both at the University and after his graduation. He was Democratic County Chairman of Niobara County and a member of the Wyoming Democratic Central Committee.

At the time of his death he was serving as Town Attorney of the Town of Lusk, had just completed a term as Commander of Wieten-Dupes Post of the American Legion and had been Adjutant of the same organization and secretary of the Lusk Commercial Club.

He was an active member of the Lusk Congregational Church, the Masonic Lodge of Lusk and a charter member of B.P.O. Elks Lodge No. 1797.

He is survived by his wife and two daughters, Janis Lee, 6, and Cynthia Susan, 2; his parents and two brothers, Alfred and James.

THOMAS F. KENNELLY

Thomas F. Kennelly, 48, president and founder of the Tri-County Federal Savings and Loan Association, attorney, councilman and educator, died at his home at Torrington, June 2, 1954.

Mr. Kennelly was prominent in all civic affairs in his home town. He was a 32nd degree Mason, a Past Master of Lodge No. 29, A. F. & A. M., a sponsor of DeMolay, a past president of the Torrington Rotary Club and active in Boy Scout work.

At the time of his death, Mr. Kennelly was president and manager of Tri-County Federal Savings and Loan Association, secretary of both the Wyoming and National Savings and Loan Associations, a member of the Goshen County and Wyoming State Bar, a member of the Pacific Northwest Savings and Loan Association, and for the past six years, a member of the Torrington Town Council.

Thomas Franklin Kennelly was born April 1, 1906, at Freeport, Illinois, the son of Alvah F. and Sylvia Kennelly. The family later moved to Newell, South Dakota, where he received his grade and high school education.

He was graduated as an honor student from the University Wyoming Law School in 1931. Following his graduation he took an additional year of post graduate work in education. He held a lifetime teaching certificate. After completing his education, Mr. Kennelly taught for six years in the commercial department of the Torrington High School.

On August 25, 1931, he was married to Elda Riley. He is survived by his widow and two sons, Thomas A. Kennelly, 21, and Joseph Kennelly, 12. One son died in infancy.

REUBEN J. SHAY

Reuben J. Shay was a member of the Wyoming State Bar, the Utah State Bar and the New Mexico Bar. Mr. Shay was employed by the Veterans Administration after World War II and served in New Mexico, coming to Wyoming in 1951 and returning to New Mexico about two years later. He died in New Mexico in August of this year, the exact date being unknown to your committee.

He had been a successful practitioner for many years in Iron County, Utah, having been County Attorney of that County and a moving figure in the Utah State Bar.

He was well respected both as an individual and a member of the Bar by those who knew him.

He is survived by his wife and two daughters who now live in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wyoming State Bar at its regular annual meeting assembled in Rock Springs, Wyoming, September 15, 16, and 17, 1954, pay its respect to: Thomas Owen Milligan, Everett Taylor, Ambrose D. Hemingway, Charles H. Harkins, Leonard S. Strahan, John LeRoy Sawyer, Erle H. Reid, George Dobler, Edgar Earl Wakeman, Donald Lee Taylor, Thomas F. Kennelly, and Rueben J. Shay, and recognize their contribution to the legal profession in the State of Wyoming, that our sympathy be hereby extended to their bereaved relatives and that their memories be perpetuated by extending this resolution upon the minutes of the meeting of the Association.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the members of the families of each.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee S. Nebeker, Chairman
Thomas O. Miller
Joseph Farst.