

DEATH OF MR.

An Honorable and Useful Career. Unswerving Devotion to Duty.

Frequent sorrow was expressed among all sections of the community yesterday when it became known that his Honor Mr. Justice Poole died of his illness about a year ago. His Honor had for many years been in indifferent health for many years, but being imbued with a strong sense of duty and conscientious to a fault, he continued his arduous work, although physically unable to do so. He was in his fifty-fifth year and left a widow and three children.



Mr. Justice Poole.

During his professional career, all his work was done with conscientiousness and with the greatest attention, and at the same time with unflinching thoroughness and efficiency. His knowledge of the law was profound, and he was at all times tempered with a deep human understanding and sympathy in the most delicate cases. He was an excellent judge and a most valuable arbitrator. As Justice Chief Justice during the time he was Chief Justice, he was the South Australian judiciary, and filled his office with dignity and success. He was a member of the Bar, Queen's Counsel, and a member of the Legislative Council in 1874, and an illustration of his extraordinary scholastic attainments is found in the fact that the same country boy was a lecturer in classics at the Adelaide University when he was 20 years of age.

He was a member of the Bar, Queen's Counsel, and a member of the Legislative Council in 1874, and an illustration of his extraordinary scholastic attainments is found in the fact that the same country boy was a lecturer in classics at the Adelaide University when he was 20 years of age. He was a member of the Bar, Queen's Counsel, and a member of the Legislative Council in 1874, and an illustration of his extraordinary scholastic attainments is found in the fact that the same country boy was a lecturer in classics at the Adelaide University when he was 20 years of age.

he was, as returned to this city, and relinquished his law course for a time in order to act as lecturer in classics. He still pursued his studies, and on returning to Melbourne took his M.A. degree in 1896, and in 1897 obtained his degree of Bachelor of Laws. He had done his legal work so well that he received his degree when he was appointed associate to Mr. Justice Buxton, and in this capacity gained a wide experience. He was managing clerk for Messrs. Symon, Rousselle & Cleland, he showed a grasp of the law, and his professional ability was recognized, and when, a few years later, he became a junior partner in the firm, his gifts had been recognized throughout the Commonwealth. In 1909 he joined Mr. F. E. Johnston, and practised in partnership with him. He was the draftsman of the Local Courts Bill, as a Parliamentary draftsman, and he was especially accurate. He wrote every contingency, however remote, which might be involved in new legislation, and throughout his career he was a model of his profession's conscientiousness and his courtesy. In his cross-examination of a witness there was never the slightest intimation of any personal bias or insinuation. When he took silk he received the sincere congratulations of his fellow-practitioners and the general public. His elevation to the Bench in 1915.

"The Advertiser" wrote concerning the new judge: "He has the reputation of being an English lawyer, and his legal fraternity of being one of the most courteous men in practice. When in court his demeanor to the bench was that of a gentleman." These were words of appreciation which he pressed throughout his lifetime because they represented the strong opinion of all those brought most into contact with him. He was briefed in a number of important cases during the recent years one of the most interesting from a professional standpoint was Buckley versus the Transvaal, which he achieved a success which attracted much attention. Notwithstanding a formidable array of talent against him, he fought his way from the Supreme Court to the High Court, and finally won. Well-remembered cases in which he took the lead were the cases of Moore v. Married Insolvency and the Henderson Insolvency proceedings. He had briefs in a large number of taxation cases, including the cases of the Wallaces and Moonia Mining Company's appeal, the Monia Pastoral Company versus the Commissioner of Taxation, and the case of Brown versus the Commissioner of Taxes.

He handled with great skill the intricate case of the Corporation of Adelaide versus the Corporation of Port Adelaide, and Murphy versus the Slevoering Company, and he appeared on the bench in connection with the Criminal Court. A brief for the defence was held by him in connection with the case of H. H. Hann. He also had a good deal of experience in arbitration matters. He was one of the arbitrators in the case of the Wilsons dispute before Mr. Justice Power as arbitrator, and he appeared for the insurance companies concerned in the complications which arose with the Corporation of Adelaide in connection with the fire at the rubbish destructor.

On the departure of the Chief Justice (Mr. Justice Murray) for England and he assumed the office of Acting Chief Justice. His task in its turn entailed the onerous duties of the Administrator of South Australia during the absence of His Excellency the Governor. The scrupulous attention which he gave to his duties during this period which was most conscientious in his personal and professional qualities was

During the visit of the Governor-General, Lord Forster, his Excellency the Administrator reported that his Honor had acted with conspicuous tact and discretion. Despite his increasing indisposition of late he insisted on carrying out his manifold duties, and his devotion to duty had much to do with the shortening of his life.

A STATE FUNERAL.

When the news of the death of Mr. Justice Poole was known to His Excellency the Premier (Hon. R. L. Butler) he got in touch with the widow, and offering the condolences of the Government, suggested a state funeral should be held. This suggestion was gratefully accepted by Mrs. Poole, and the funeral will leave the city tomorrow at noon to-morrow for the North-road Cemetery.

CIVIL COURT ADJOURNED.

"The Bench was not occupied by the Judge at the usual time this morning. The Chief Justice (Mr. Justice Powell) stated that the business of the court would be adjourned until that morning of Mr. Justice Poole.

"IMPOSSIBLE TO GO ON TO-DAY." On the Criminal Court assembling on Tuesday the bench was occupied by the Chief Justice (Mr. Justice Powell). Instead of Mr. Acting Justice Stuart, his Honor said, had come to him with his commission on account of the lamented death of Mr. Justice Poole.

"A GREAT MAN." The Premier (Hon. R. L. Butler), when referring to the death of Mr. Justice Poole, said: "He was one of the most distinguished judges that we have ever had in the South Australian judiciary."

"A CAREER OF DEVOTED SERVICE." The Attorney-General (Hon. H. Homebrough) said: "From the moment of his appointment as a judge he devoted himself to his work, from which he never relaxed until death obliged him to take a year's—cannot say until he was forced to resign."

"A LOVABLE DISPOSITION." The Lord Mayor (Mr. Wallace Bruce) said: "The death of Mr. Justice Poole is no doubt come as a shock to a great number of citizens, although quite a number of his associates and colleagues are in a dejection state of health for some time. Nevertheless the loss of a gentleman so highly respected and esteemed by the community is a great sorrow to the community. It was my good fortune to enjoy a somewhat intimate acquaintance with the late judge, particularly when he was acting as arbitrator in a case of mine, and his unswerving and sound opinions on many intricate legal matters were largely the cause of my great respect for the comradery of the city."

"ONE OF THE ABLEST JUDGES IN AUSTRALIA." Mr. H. G. Alderman, as the senior practitioner on behalf of the bar, expressed the deep regret which was felt by the members of the bar who was admittedly one of the ablest judges in Australia. His unswerving devotion to his duty shortened his life, and members of the legal profession know how many occasions he struggled to do his work when all were conscious that he should have been a little more selfish. He had a wonderful capacity for winning the friendship of everyone who was associated with him. There was a side of his life which was not known to a great number, and that was the private charity which he gave to those who were in need. The death of Mr. Justice Poole was a great loss to the community, and he will be missed for an hour as a mark of respect.

REFERENCE IN ADELAIDE POLICE COURT. The Adelaide Police Court adjourned on

by everyone who met him, and to this was added in the case of those who knew his character of a strong and loyal feeling of affection. As a member of the Council of the Law Society, and vice-president for many years, his services to the profession were of a high order. When he was elevated to the Supreme Court Bench the legal profession, not only by his own choice, but also by the fact that he had not refrained from congratulating those colleagues and the general public. The high hopes which were entertained of his career as a judge have been amply justified by the level of his service in that office, and in every respect Mr. Justice Poole lived up to the highest standard and was one of the most distinguished and justly entitled to high rank in the history of the great judges of Australia. His industry and his devotion to his duties, without doubt, seriously affected his health, and hastened the end. To his family and to relatives the council and members of the profession will extend their deepest and sincere sympathy."

A SEVERE LOSS.

Mr. A. W. Piper, K.C., said a severe loss had been suffered by the State by the death of Mr. Justice Poole, and his death was a great loss to the community of which it was not easy for one of them to speak. His life was ruled by an all-round sense of duty, and in every relation he gave all the best of himself. His talents at the expense of his physical endowments. To the Supreme Court bench he brought the highest level of knowledge of men gained in an industrious professional career. He strove to improve his qualifications so as a faithful and conscientious judge to render to his Majesty. Mr. Piper added that besides being in the touch with Mr. Justice Poole in his legal education he had had the pleasure of being with him in Freeman's Bay in 1904. His breakfasts may be continued to-morrow, and even in the craft would long and affectionate remembrance of his work and the loss the court has suffered, said his lordship Honor. "I formally adjourn this court and was adjourned he had given them, until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning."

"A LOVABLE NATURE."

The Crown Prosecutor (Mr. E. M. Millar) said that the death of Mr. Justice Poole was a great loss to the community, and his death was a severe loss to the community. He was one of the most distinguished judges that we have ever had in the South Australian judiciary. His position would be very hard to fill.

"OUTSTANDING ABILITY."

The Public Solicitor (Mr. C. A. Sandery), in supplementing the remarks of Mr. Justice Poole, said that his death was a man of great distinction in his profession as a solicitor, and of outstanding ability as a judge. He was kind and considerate to the junior members of the profession, and was one of nature's gentlemen. But, "after his fitful fever he slept well," concluded Mr. Sandery.

"AN EXTREMELY HONORABLE MAN."

Mr. S. D. Ronald, S.M., who presided in the Local Court, said before calling on formal business he would like to refer to the death of the Hon. T. Slaney Poole, judge of the Supreme Court. He had known the late judge personally since he was a boy, and he had known him as a kind and a most honorable man. He had been right through his life. He was an extremely honorable man in every shape and form, and a good father and husband. So far as the professional side of his life was concerned, Mr. Ronald said it was hardly necessary for him to say that the late judge was a man to be regarded. He was a most brilliant student, and became a very prominent practitioner. As a judge he had done everything to uphold the very high standard for which the British judiciary were so well known. His work on the bench was most untiring and apart from his duties he had no personal affairs in his life in the interest of his duties. It was with very great regret that he referred to the death of Mr. Justice Poole.

"ONE OF THE ABLEST JUDGES IN AUSTRALIA."

Mr. H. G. Alderman, as the senior practitioner on behalf of the bar, expressed the deep regret which was felt by the members of the bar who was admittedly one of the ablest judges in Australia. His unswerving devotion to his duty shortened his life, and members of the legal profession know how many occasions he struggled to do his work when all were conscious that he should have been a little more selfish. He had a wonderful capacity for winning the friendship of everyone who was associated with him. There was a side of his life which was not known to a great number, and that was the private charity which he gave to those who were in need. The death of Mr. Justice Poole was a great loss to the community, and he will be missed for an hour as a mark of respect.