

# Memory of Attorneys Preserved at USC

By DAVID E. ABEEL  
(USC News Service)

The memory of the character, professional qualifications and achievements of South Carolina's ablest lawyers — and one from North Carolina—is being enshrined in a Memorial Repository in the library of the School of Law at the University of South Carolina.

Palmetto cities represented are Greenville (3), Columbia (10), Charleston (2), Greenwood (3), Anderson (4), Marion (2), Wedgefield, Barnwell, Sumter, Winnsboro, Spartanburg and Beaufort.

The repository is a gleaming dark-red mahogany chest. It is about table-high — longer and narrower than an office desk.

In the top of the repository is a glass-covered enclosure containing a specially bound book. Its pages are of highest-quality rag paper, and its leather-covered binding is assembled in a way that enables the pages to lie flat, no matter at what point the book is opened.

It is on these pages that the great lawyers will be remembered, as soon as lettering details are worked out. Each lawyer will be assigned two pages, the left one will repeat the legend inscribed on the book's cover, "Memory Hold the Door," and the right page will begin, "In memory of . . ." and continue with the lawyer's name, a thumbnail sketch of his life and achievements, and a quotation indicating his high professional standing.

Each day when the law school librarian, Miss Sarah Leverette, enters the room, she will unlock the glass-covered enclosure with a thin gold key and turn a page in the memorial book. Thus, each day the law students and others in the library will have another outstanding member of the profession before them, until the cycle is completed and begins again.

Dean Samuel L. Prince of the School of Law said the Memorial Repository "is an effort by the Law School and the South Carolina Bar Association to retain for law students and members of the bar something of the fine ethics and principals of selected members of the profession."

The memorial book rests on a foam rubber cushion five inches thick, and beneath this is another book containing the names of those who sponsored a memorial to a lawyer with an endowment gift of \$1,000 or more to the School of Law, and others who have contributed to the endowment.

Already the Law School endowment resulting from gifts of sponsors amounts to more than \$35,000. Thirty lawyers of the past are listed, along with one living law-

yer—former Dean J. Nelson Frierson of the School of Law.

"But," Dean Prince emphasized, "the repository exists to honor these people, not just to establish an endowment."

The endowment is sponsored by the S. C. Bar Association through its Law School Committee. David W. Robinson, Columbia attorney, originated the idea.

The university provided the repository, thus enabling all memorial gifts to be applied in full to the endowment. The USC Trustees are also trustees of the endowment funds.

Dean Prince said the endowment is being used by the Law School for further development of its faculty by study, research and training, and to bring to the Law School "lecturers of national and international fame."

Another endowment recently received from Miss Moida Hodges in memory of her brother, Edward P. Hodges, is a separate fund. This amounts to \$28,000 at present, and is expected to increase following liquidation of real estate assets.

Dean Prince pointed out that the USC Law School is in fact "South Carolina's law center." As such, he said, it is a "fitting place for these memorials to our great lawyers."

Persons proposed for a memorial are considered by a special committee which determines whether the qualifications of the lawyer meet the high standards of the repository project.

Many of the lawyers so far selected were judges, deans, professors and so on. But since equal honor is accorded all who are memorialized, in this listing titles are omitted and the names appear in alphabetical order.

Martin F. Ansel, Greenville; William Thomas Aycock, Wedgefield; G. Duncan Bellinger, Sr., Barnwell; Christie Benet, Columbia; Milledge L. Bonham, Anderson; F. William Cappelman, Columbia.

Ernest F. Cochran, Charleston; Thomas P. Cothran, Greenville; C. C. Featherstone, Greenwood; George Benjamin Greene, Anderson; F. Barron Grier, Greenwood; Harry J. Haynsworth, Greenville; Benjamin Deland Hodges, Sumter.

Edward Pegues Hodges, Washington, D. C., and Columbia; Lanneau DuRant Lide, Marion; James Edwin McDonald, Winnsboro; Moffat Grier McDonald, Greenwood; William D. Melton, Columbia; M. Herndon Moore, Columbia; John J. Parker, Charlotte, N. C.

Joseph Daniel Pope, Columbia; George E. Prince, Anderson; David W. Robinson, Sr., Columbia; Elbert Marion Rucker, Columbia; Thomas S. Sease, Spar-

tanburg; Thomas H. Spain, Columbia; John P. Thomas, Columbia.

William Joseph Thomas, Beaufort; Henry Hitt Watkins, Anderson; Charles A. Woods, Marion.

And the only living lawyer honored in the project, former Dean J. Nelson Frierson of the USC School of Law, Charleston.



**LEGAL SHRINE:** Miss Sarah Leverette, librarian, and Dr. Samuel L. Prince, dean, display the Memorial Repository at the University of South Carolina. Pages of the book will bear inscriptions attesting to the personal qualities and professional accomplishments of South Carolina's ablest lawyers. (USC photo—McGrail)

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The State: