

**IN MEMORIAM**

**HAROLD J. ALTON**

**(April 1, 1903 – January 24, 1937)**

**District Court  
Wabasha County  
Wabasha County Bar Association  
July 12, 1937**

**MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:**

**Your committee appointed to inform the court relative to the death of the late Harold J. Alton, desires to report and submit to this court the following, namely:**

**Harold J. Alton, a member of the Bar of this County, and a resident of the City of Wabasha at the time of his death, died on Sunday, January 24th, 1937, after an illness of one week. He was born at the City of St. Paul on April 1st, 1903, in which City he spent his childhood days. He received his education at Cretin High School and later entered St. Paul College of Law, from which institution he graduated in 1927, and shortly after his graduation, was admitted to practice his profession in the courts of Minnesota and later in the Federal court.**

**Shortly after entering the practice of his profession, he entered the employ of Boyeson, Otis & Faricy of St. Paul. In 1931 he came to Wabasha and entered the office of John W. Murdoch, attorney at law of that City, assisting him in closing up the business of the late firm of Murdoch & Lothrop. In January of 1932, he formed a partnership with Mr. Murdoch under the firm name of Murdoch & Alton, and this partnership continued to the date of Mr. Alton's death. For the past four years immediately preceding his death, he had occupied the position of City Attorney of Wabasha.**

**Mr. Alton enjoyed a wide circle of friends, both in St. Paul, where he had lived the greater part of his life, and in Wabasha, where he had lived for the last five years. He had a most engaging personality, was genial, vivacious and courteous. He made friends easily and retained them most tenaciously. As a lawyer he was inspired by the highest ideals of the profession and was most scrupulous in**

**maintaining its ethical standards. No one ever questioned his integrity. In his relations with his clients, the interest of his client was paramount and his own interest subordinate.**

**His ten years of practice had already made him a seasoned lawyer and he gave great promise of attaining eminence in his profession. His untimely death brings sorrow not only to his stricken family, but to the community to which he had devoted the last years of his life and to a wide circle of grieving friends. His death is especially and keenly felt by his brethren at the Bar and we believe that in his death this court has lost a most able, conscientious and efficient officer.**

**We recommend that a copy of this report be spread upon the minutes of the court and a copy thereof sent to the widow of the late Harold J. Alton.**

**Dated Wabasha, Minnesota, July 12th, 1937.**

**/s/ John W. Murdoch**  
**~and~**  
**/s/ James A. Carley**  
**Committee.**

