

MEMORIAL

FOR

ROBERT EMMETT LOOBY

(July 29, 1880 – October 14, 1937)

**DISTRICT COURT
WINONA COUNTY**

WINONA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 4, 1938

MEMORIAL

ROBERT EMMETT LOOBY

Robert Emmett Looby was born in the City of Winona, Minnesota, July 29th, 1880, the son of John A. and Bridget (Cane) Looby. His parents resided in the City of Winona from 1870. His father was a drummer boy with Company D, 31st Wisconsin infantry and was with General Sherman on his historic march to the sea. Judge Looby received, his education in the parochial schools and the High School of the City of Winona, and studied law in the office of H. M. Lamberton in the same city. He passed his Minnesota law examination on July 20, 1910 and was admitted to the Minnesota Bar in 1911. In the same year, he became a member of the firm of Lamberton & Looby and continued to practice law in the City of Winona until 1915, when he was appointed Probate Judge of Winona County, by Governor Hammond, to succeed Judge D. E. Vance, who died during his term of office. Judge Looby held that office continuously from the time of his appointment until his death, October 14, 1937. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery in this city. He is survived by his sister, Miss Gertrude Looby of Winona, and his brother, James A. Looby of Chicago, Illinois. Judge Looby never married.

Judge Looby was a past president of the State Probate Judges Association and was active in that body for many years. He was also a past president of the Third Judicial Bar Association and was Secretary of that body for a long period. Among his other activities, he was actively interested in lodge work and politics; he headed several lodges and took an active part in politics as a life long Democrat. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Winona.

Although, by comparison with many of the counties of this state, the duties of his office as Probate Judge were arduous, yet he found time to successfully continue the active practice of law until shortly before his death.

In administering the affairs of the Probate Court Judge Looby brought to bear a wealth of good hard common sense; his work was done expeditiously and yet in a kindly manner. Both as judge and man, he was friendly and approachable; he had ample patience with those in distress but little for those seeking by underhanded or unfair tactics to obtain an advantage. He had an alert mind, an excellent memory for names and faces and a wealth of information regarding the history of this community and its people with whom he had come in contact. His courage and impartiality were unquestioned.

Outwardly, at least, an illness with which he suffered for more than a year before his death, cast no shadow upon his usual sunny disposition, and he will be remembered beyond the allotted time for the enviable record which he established as Probate Judge, lawyer, citizen and friend. The Bar of this district is distinctly the poorer for his passing.

/s/ Henry M. Lamberton /s/ W.-----
/s/ E. D. Libera /s/ F. W. -----
/s/ Morris J. Owen
Committee

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