MEMORIAL

HONORABLE FRANK McNAMEE

To the Honorable the Supreme Court of Nevada:

In compliance with your order of March 24, 1970, the undersigned Committee, members of the State Bar of Nevada, appointed to prepare a suitable memorial concerning the late Justice FRANK MCNAMEE respectfully submits the following memorial and requests the Court to cause the same to be spread upon the records of the Court as a mark of the esteem and respect of the Bench and Bar of this state and to have a copy thereof printed in the next published volume of Nevada Reports.

RUSSELL W. MCDONALD, *Chairman* RICHARD W. BLAKEY
HAROLD O. TABER JOHN H. MCNAMEE
JOSEPH W. MCNAMEE

MEMORIAL

On November 4, 1968, FRANK MCNAMEE died at Las Vegas. The former Justice of the Supreme Court of Nevada was born in Lincoln County in 1905. Shortly after his graduation from the law school at Stanford University in 1930 he became Municipal Judge of the City of Las Vegas. In 1933 he entered the full-time private practice of law, in which he engaged with success until he entered the Army as a private at the outset of World War II. Four years later he was discharged as a decorated veteran with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Justice MCNAMEE embarked upon his distinguished judicial career with his appointment to the Eighth Judicial District Court on July 11, 1946. His service on the trial bench soon gained him the respect and esteem of both lawyers and fellow judges. When on December 15, 1958, Governor Charles H. Russell elevated him to Associate Justice of the Supreme Court the appointment received widespread approval among the members of the bar and the judiciary.

Between the day of his appointment to the high court and February 17, 1965, when he was the victim of a tragic

criminal assault from which he never recovered, Justice McNamee wrote 178 opinions. Those opinions seldom departed from the high standard of excellence which the Justice imposed upon himself. All members of the bench and bar are familiar with the clarity of analysis and economy of words which marked his judicial work. Yet few were aware that he read the complete transcript of almost every case which came to the Court while he was one of its members. He promptly dictated a summary of the material facts and noted his preliminary conclusion. The quality of his mind and the breadth of his learning were such that only rarely was he obliged to modify his first judgment.

Justice McNamee's quick perceptions and sense of humor made him a delightful gentleman. When Justice Edgar Eather retired from the Supreme Court and Frank McNamee succeeded him, he said, "Regarding Judge McNamee, I have always had the highest regard for him as an attorney and as a judge, and I know that he will be a credit to this Court." He was more than a credit; he was an adornment to the Court.