MEMORIAL

HONORABLE MILES N. PIKE

To the Honorable the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada:

In accordance with your Order of March 24, 1970, in which the undersigned Committee was appointed to prepare and present a Resolution on the life and public service of the late Honorable MILES N. PIKE, we respectfully submit the following Resolution on behalf of all of the members of the State Bar of Nevada in memory of the late Honorable MILES N. PIKE who passed away on May 27, 1969. In expressing our high esteem for him as a lawyer, judge and a man, we must at the same time try to put into words our profound sorrow and deep sense of loss.

MILES N. "JACK" PIKE was born in Wadsworth on November 24, 1899, the son of Judge and Mrs. W. H. A. Pike. The family moved to Reno in 1902 and he continued to make his home there throughout his life. Following graduation from Reno High School, he served in World War I as a midshipman in the United States Navy. After the war was over, he entered the University of Nevada and graduated in 1923. He attended Hastings College of the Law and received his LLB degree in 1928. He was admitted to the practice of law in both California and Nevada and after practicing in San Francisco for a brief period, he returned to Reno and entered the law firm of Ayres and Gardner which later became Ayres, Gardner & Pike; Pike, McLaughlin & Furrh and since 1961 Pike & McLaughlin.

He was married in 1932 to Marchand Newman and they had two sons, Russell, who is practicing law in Reno, and Roy Robert who is presently serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

In 1934, Judge PIKE was appointed first assistant United States Attorney under the late E. P. "Ted" Carville, and in 1939 he was appointed United States Attorney for the District of Nevada. He served four years before resigning to volunteer his services in the Infantry during World War II. Following his discharge as Lt. Colonel he was reappointed United States Attorney and continued to carry out the duties of that office until he resigned in 1952.

He returned to his law firm, but in 1959 was again called

into public service. Because of his talent, qualities of leadership and impeccable integrity, the Governor of this State appointed him to serve as the first chairman of the highly sensitive and vitally important Nevada State Gaming Commission.

Judge PIKE did not permit his extensive law practice to lessen his interest and activity in County and State Bar work. His many contributions to Bar activities led first to his election as President of the Washoe County Bar Association, then to the Board of Governors, and finally culminated in his being elected President of the State Bar in 1952.

He genuinely believed that a lawyer's role in society demanded something more than just practicing his profession; throughout his career he gave unselfishly of his time, energy and ability to civic and charitable activities. He served as President of the University of Nevada Alumni Association and Chairman of the Board of the Nevada Historical Society from 1961 to May 27, 1969. In addition he was also District Chairman of the Boy Scouts of America and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Nevada Heart Fund Association in 1965.

He was a lifelong and ardent Democrat and actively participated in the affairs of his party in this State.

When Justice Charles M. Merrill was named to the Ninth United States Circuit Court of Appeals, Governor Grant Sawyer appointed MILES N. PIKE to succeed Justice Merrill as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Nevada. While serving on the Court, he was always and unfailingly courteous and helpful to others, with an easy and natural dignity. His manner was forthright and friendly. On the bench, he was fair and just, and invariably courteous. His conduct, both as a lawyer and as a judge was always characterized by his wisdom, ability and integrity. His warm genial nature coupled with a delightful sense of humor and keen interest in people and his concern for the problems of others brought him many friendships with people in all walks of life.

In June 1961, Judge PIKE resigned from the Supreme Court and returned to his old firm where he continued to practice law until his death.

More than most, JACK PIKE lived by the Golden Rule. Generous and sympathetic, he was never too busy to give the aid of his services regardless of any monetary reward. His life was characterized by thoughtfulness of others. Nothing finer can be said of any man.

He has joined the ranks of other eminent lawyers and jurists who have gone before him, always remaining steadfastly true to his conception of right and justice. When William H. Seward made his great plea for justice in the trial of William Freeman, he expressed the hope that when he shall have paid the debt of nature and his remains were put to rest with those of his kindred and neighbors, that some wandering stranger might erect over them a humble stone and inscribe thereon the epitaph "He was faithful."

Truly, these same words also described the life and public service of MILES N. "JACK" PIKE of Nevada.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That this Resolution be approved by this Court and become a part of the permanent record thereof.

THOMAS A. COOKE, *Chairman* JOHN T. MCLAUGHLIN
JOHN W. BARRETT EDWARD C. REED, JR.
BRYCE RHODES