

HOWARD A. HANSON

In the passing of Howard A. Hanson on November 4, 1957, the Society has suffered the loss of one of its best known and most active members.

Col. Hanson had served on this Board since 1940, both as member and Vice President, and during that time had given to the Society many hours of conscientious service.

Coming to Seattle in 1889 from Minnesota, where he was born in 1876, Col. Hanson played a leading role in the development of Washington. He was largely responsible for bringing to Seattle the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in 1909, being a member of the State Legislature at that time, and sponsoring the bill creating the Exposition.

Other civic assignments accepted by Col. Hanson included the establishment of the Naval Air Station at Sand Point, legal negotiations leading to the establishment of the Jefferson Park Golf Course, the first public golf course in the state; Seward Park, Alki Bathing Beach and several Seattle playfields.

As the chairman of a special Chamber of Commerce committee, Col. Hanson was very largely responsible for the successful development of the Eagle Gorge project, considered by many to have been his major service to the state.

Col. Hanson, a graduate of the University of Washington Law School, continued the active practice of his profession until closing his office in 1956.

He was a member of the Washington National Guard from 1905 to 1916; Phi Beta Kappa scholastic fraternity; Seattle Cadet Corps; Pioneer Association of Washington; State and Seattle Bar Associations; American Law Institute; past president of the Norwegian Commercial Club and the Puget Sound Flood Control Council; past trustee of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce.

He was a Past Master of Arcana Lodge No. 87, F & AM, and a member of the Scottish Rite bodies.

This Board never has had a member more willing to render service to the Society and he was called upon many times for legal counsel. His will be a place exceedingly difficult to fill.

At the regular meeting of the Board of Curators on December 14, 1957, this Statement was ordered to be made a part of the Minutes of the Society. The Board regrets deeply its inability to make a copy available to Mrs. Marie Hanson for the reason that she was in the hospital at the time of her husband's death and passed away November 13th. Copies are directed to be sent to other surviving relatives.