

HENRY A. P. FISCHER

By Harold J. Kress

Henry A. Picking Fischer, a member of the Bar of Northampton County for almost a half-century, died, after a short illness, on August 4, 1959, at the age of seventy-three years.

Mr. Fischer, the son of Rev. A. H. Franke Fischer and Annie Picking Fischer, was born September 18, 1885 in New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pennsylvania. The family moved to Easton about 1894 when Rev. Fischer began his pastorate of twenty years at Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, on North Fourth Street, Easton.

Henry prepared for college at Lerch Academy in Easton. Matriculating at Lafayette College in 1902, he was awarded its degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1906. Shortly thereafter, he entered upon the study of law in the office of Hon. Henry J. Steele of Easton.

Mr. Fischer was admitted to the Bar of Northampton County on February 4, 1910. In 1913, he was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Although he is remembered by most of the Bar as a civil practitioner, early in his practice he did represent defendants charged with crime. But during most of his years of practice he concentrated his attention in the areas of real property and estate law.

Mr. Fischer's interests, however, were not confined to the law. Early in life he was active in the affairs of the Easton Y.M.C.A. Throughout his adult life he was constant in his solicitude for his alma mater and for his church. He was a member of the First (Brainerd) Presbyterian Church and for twenty-three years was a trustee. He was a Lecturer on Real Estate at Lafayette from 1928 to 1930. He was a charter member of the Lafayette College Faculty Club, and for many years was secretary of the Class of '06. In addition to his membership in the county and state bar associations, he was a member of the Northampton County Historical Society.

Mr. Fischer further contributed to community affairs, albeit indirectly, through the activities of his wife, the former Martha DeHart of Mauch Chunk, Carbon County. Since her marriage to Mr. Fischer in 1916, she has not only been active in the Easton Hospital, but also as Regent of the George Taylor Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, she has assisted those seeking naturalization to appreciate the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship.

In addition to his widow, Mr. Fischer is also survived by a son, James Henry Fischer, Principal of New Hope - Solebury High School, New Hope, Pennsylvania and by two grandchildren, James H. Jr., and Nanette Lee.

This Bar, the community and his family will miss his unique personality and his exemplification of honest virtues.