

Presentation of Portrait
To The
United States Court of Appeals
Seventh Circuit
on Tuesday, April 10, 1951

Present Circuit Judges:

Honorable J. Earl Major, Chief Judge,
Honorable Otto Kerner,
Honorable F. Ryan Duffy,
Honorable Philip J. Finnegan,
Honorable Walter C. Lindley, and
Honorable H. Nathan Swaim.

Mr. Kenneth F. Burgess, of Chicago, Illinois
Addressed the Court on Behalf of
The Bar Association of the United States
Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit.

The memorial ceremony for Judge Evan A. Evans was held in this Court on November 4, 1948, two and a half years ago. Today, we of the Bar desire to present to the Court the portrait which has since been painted by Fritz Werner, the artist who also painted the portrait of Judge Sparks which has just been presented. It is indeed fitting that the same artist should have depicted both of these judges who for so long were colleagues and companions on this Bench. The re-

marks which Judge Sparks made at the funeral services for Judge Evans at Spring Green were a sincere and moving tribute of high regard and deep affection.

It is now almost three years since Judge Evans' life ended. With the lapse of time, the facets of his life and character as he sat upon this Bench are even clearer than they were then. He presided as Chief Judge of this Court for twelve years, which is a long time for one to occupy a position of such dignity and responsibility. For thirty-two years he was a judge of this tribunal, and throughout that period the discharge of judicial duty was the primary undertaking of his life.

His judicial career coincided with a succession of national crises—the two World Wars, the great depression, and recurrent efforts at reconstruction. These brought to the Court for decision new controversies, which fascinated him with their novelty and far-reaching importance. Fortunately, he was sufficiently resilient in mind and spirit to analyze each situation, as it was presented, in a common-sense sort of way, and to apply established principles to the solution. Without doubt, his capacity in these difficult times helped to preserve and add to the confidence of the public in this Court and to the high regard in which it has continued to be held throughout its history.

In retrospect we see Judge Evans as a rugged and durable man, the product of the school of hard knocks and day-by-day living, a lawyer who had made an early and distinguished success while practicing in a small county-seat town in his native State of Wisconsin. We see him as he sat upon this Bench, searching always

for the controlling facts to which he might apply the principles of law and equity so as to produce what seemed to him to be a just decision.

He was no doctrinaire. Life, law, business, government, were to his mind intensely practical in their operations and in the problems that they presented to him as a judge. He sought the answers with a fine sense of impartiality and intelligent understanding. The impress which he has left is wholly good. He was an outstanding American who always kept the faith—and it is most fitting that this fine portrait of him should have a place of honor in the home of this great Court, which for so many years was his home, as well.

We of the Bar now present a portrait of Judge Evans to this Court. It is the work of one of our country's best portrait painters, Fritz Werner, of Woodstock, N. Y. It is thought that Mr. Werner has succeeded in depicting on this canvas an excellent likeness, revealing the kindness and strengths displayed by Judge Evans in his lifetime.

Chief Judge Major, on behalf of this Court, accepted the portrait, and stated that it would be hung at an appropriate place in the Court of Appeals Building.