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FIRE PROTECTION HISTORY-PART 109: 1929 (A TRIBUTE TO ALLEN M. SCHOEN)

By Richard Schulte

The thirty-third Annual Meeting of the National Fire Protection Association convened on May 13, 1929 in the Hotel Peabody in Memphis, Tennessee. Among the presentations at this meeting was a tribute to Allen Schoen. The following is the text of the tribute:

"The President: Next is the Memorial to President Allen M. Schoen. Mr. S. L. Nicholson will present this.

1870

Allen M. Schoen

1928

It is fitting that we pause to pay tribute to the memory of a departed friend and a beloved associate whose passage to the Great Beyond was a severe shock to our membership and a definite loss to this Association.

*Allen M. Schoen was a gentleman in the best sense of the word, he was honest and direct in thought and deed, loyal to his friends and to his work, and kindly and considerate in his dealings with others. **His was a life full of useful work, well performed, he had the instinct of honor, the habit of duty, and gave freely of his time and ability to advance the purposes of this Association.** He well deserved the high office of President to which he was raised a year ago by unanimous vote. We miss his presence today, and shall long cherish his memory and value the part which he played in the constructive work of the Association during his entire connection with it.*

Wherefore, Be It Resolved, that the foregoing Minute be spread upon the records of the National Fire Protection Association, and Be It Further Resolved that a copy, appropriately inscribed, be sent to the widow of our deceased associate with an expression of our sympathy.

*W. E. Mallalieu,
William H. Blood Jr.,
S. L. Nichololon,
Committee.*

The President: It is fitting that we ask Mr. Dunbar of the South-Eastern Underwriters' Association to say a few words in reference to Mr. Schoen and give him the opportunity of seconding these resolutions.

Mr. W. F. Duxbar (Atlanta):

[TEXT OMITTED]

High minded and clean minded, he seems to have taken as a lesson for his life these words of General [Robert E.] Lee, whose memory he held in profound reverence:

"There is a true glory and a true honor; the glory of duty done, the honor of the integrity of principle." (Applause.)

The President: We have heard these beautiful words of tribute so well voiced by our Committee and by Mr. Dunbar. The question is now on their adoption, thereby making them the words of this Association. All in favor of their adoption, signify it by rising. (Applause as all stood.)

We will ask that there be transmitted to Mr. Schoen's family a copy of the resolutions and also the beautiful words of Mr. Dunbar."

Although Mr. Schoen's accomplishments have long since been forgotten, of particular interest in this tribute is Mr. Dunbar's quote of General Robert E. Lee. ". . . integrity of principle" is indeed of importance.

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Source: "Proceedings of the Thirty-third Annual [NFPA] Meeting", Memphis, Tennessee, 1929.