

GEORGE ROSSMAN

Born, March 8, 1885, Chicago. Son of George J. and Mary Rossman. His parents moved to Seattle when he was two and a half years of age, later to Tacoma, Wn. At the age of 17, he entered Whitworth College, Tacoma, graduating in 1907, B.S. Thereafter he entered the University of Chicago Law School and graduated in 1910.

Admitted to the Oregon Bar upon examination May 10, 1910, locating in Portland, Oregon. Practiced law in partnership with A. King Wilson and O. A. Neal, until 1917, when appointed Municipal Judge by Mayor George Baker. In 1922, he was appointed Circuit Judge for Multnomah County by Governor Ben W. Olcott to fill vacancy upon death of Judge He was thereafter elected for a six year term.

On September 1927, he was appointed Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court by Governor I. L. Patterson, to fill vacancy by reason of the death of Justice George H. Burnett Sept. 10, 1927. This position he has held since then by re-election in 1928, 1934, 1940, 1946 and 1952. Served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from January 1947 to December 31, 1948.

Nationally known among lawyers and jurists as an authority on evidence, administrative law and judicial procedure, Justice Rossman is now one of the Board of Editors of the American Bar Association Journal. He has been chairman of both the Judicial Administration and Administrative Law Sections of the American Bar Association. He was a member of the association's committee whose work resulted in passage of the existing federal administrative procedure act. In Oregon, Justice Rossman, as chairman of the committees appointed by the late Governors Meier and Martin, played a part in bringing about changes in Oregon legislation serving to improve the administration of justice in all courts of the state.

Active in civic affairs in Salem, where he has made his home since 1927, he has served as chairman of the Marion County Chapter of the American Red Cross for about 19 years. He is president of the Board of Directors of Pacific University, Forest Grove, Oregon. A director of Freedoms Foundation of Valley Forge, Penn. For ten years prior to his appointment to the Supreme Court he was an instructor in Northwestern Law School, Portland, Ore., subjects, evidence, corporations and pleadings. Later in 1945-46, he assisted the Oregon State Bar in a refresher course given for returned lawyer veterans, teaching administrative law.

Justice Rossman has been a member of the American Bar Association since 1927, and a member of the Multnomah County Bar Association, Oregon State Bar, Congregational Church, Masonic and Elk Lodges.

In June 1915, he was married to Miss Loretta Showers, in Portland, Oregon. They reside in Salem, 910 N. Capitol Street.