

Judgeship Of Bailey Brown Exceeds Lifelong Ambition

CA 3-13-61 By THOMAS MICHAEL

When Bailey Brown becomes Federal Judge Bailey Brown, which Senators Albert Gore and Estes Kefauver have indicated will be soon, he will be going a step beyond a lifetime ambition.

Even as a boy he knew he wanted to be a lawyer, but it was only recently that it came to him that he wanted to be—and could be—a judge.

His real start on the journey to the judgeship came on a summer day in 1958 with two telephone calls. One was from a close friend and supporter of Senator Albert Gore asking if he would like to manage the senator's campaign for re-election, and the other was from the senator himself confirming the appointment.

He had already been, as he puts it, a private in the rear ranks in Senator Kefauver's earlier campaigns, and he subsequently worked with diligence and finesse in the 1960 campaigns of President John F. Kennedy and Senator Kefauver. Thus he was clearly fitted for service in the front ranks of the army of deserving Democrats.

Proud Tribute

So were many other lawyers in Tennessee, but it was Bailey Brown who was picked for this fine promotion—a tribute to be proud of.

The man picked has been a Memphian all of his 43 years. He traveled extensively as a Navy officer in World War II, and was away at college for seven years before that, but otherwise he has always lived in what might be called the Central High School neighborhood of Memphis. His addresses have included 1422 Vance, where he was born, 1483 Goodbar, where his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Goodlett Brown Sr., still live, and the Kimbrough Towers, where he now lives.

After attending Bruce School, Bellevue Junior High, and Central, he felt that he needed to branch out a bit. He therefore chose the University of Michigan for his undergraduate work, majoring in economics. Again feeling the need for a change, he chose Harvard for his law studies.

The next change of scene was dictated by the United States, the year being 1942. He went from Cambridge to Tokyo, by way of Guam and some other places, and from ensign to lieutenant.

After the war Mr. Brown was a trial attorney with the Office of Price Administration for six months. Then, as a result of a casual street conversation with another lawyer, he became a member of the law firm of Burch, Porter and Johnson. By 1951 he was a partner, and in 1957 his name was added to that of the firm.

Mr. Brown is, to use another of his phrases, an opera bug. He has a fine hi-fi rig in his apartment and a fine record collection to go with it. Also, he is president of the Memphis Orchestral Society, which sponsors the Memphis Symphony Orchestra.

For exercise, Mr. Brown prefers handball. "You get a good workout fast," he says.

Legion Member

He is a member of the University Club, the American Legion, the board of directors of the Civic Research Committee, the Urban League, and is a director and past president of the Public Affairs Forum.

To the not inconsiderable chagrin of a number of young ladies, Mr. Brown has remained steadfastly a bachelor. Long high on the city's "most eligible bachelor" list, he will doubtless become even more of a prime target when he becomes a Federal judge, with a publicized salary of \$22,500 a year for life. But he remains unworried—perhaps because he is secure in the belief that man who has dodged matrimony for 43 years can go on dodging, or perhaps because he really wouldn't mind getting caught. He did not specify.

Mr. Brown's father and mother came to Memphis from Middle Tennessee in 1912. His father is a retired American Snuff Co. auditor. He has two older brothers, Goodlett Brown Jr. of 681 Rozelle, a real estate man and Robert L. Brown, who is in the foreign service with the State Department and is being transferred to New Zealand.



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MUSIC MAN—Listening to great music is a favorite hobby of Mr. Brown. An elaborate record player, a collection of classical records, and a bust of Richard Wagner have featured places in the living room of his apartment at the Kimbrough Towers. —Staff Photos by Barney Sellers

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(Apparently for files of Memphis Public Library.)

He was presiding Judge at the Oatis Park (Coty vs Volpe) "remand" trial of 1971. Sept.-Oct.?

File 71

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Bailey Brown, District Judge (Federal)