

Harvey H. Matter

The fact that a whole state knew him as "Harve" Matter - an affectionate and familiar curtailment of his first name which clung to him without regard to any dignities, public or private, which he might hold - was the best index to the place of Harvey H. Matter in the hearts of his fellow Kansans.

A business man first, and a politician afterward, he nevertheless played the game with a peculiar elan all his own, and with an enjoyment which grew out of a sheer feeling of sport, coupled with a quiet but sincere conviction of the sacredness of public duty. Where possible, he preferred to be the power behind the throne, and he usually was busy advocating the interests of some one else at the hustings.

He loved to win, but he was a graceful and good-humoured loser. The geniality of his nature endeared him to countless friends in all parts of the state and in every stratum of political belief. His was the inborn love for people. Nearly always one or more of his cronies sat beside his desk, and the rickly humorous quip was an indigenous part of every conversation in which "Harve"