



Haverford Township Historical Society



WILLIAM REILLY TOAL (1893-19xx)

Compiled by Richard D. Kerr

[The following is excerpted from A History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, Charles Palmer and Lucile Shenk, editors, published by National Historical Association, Inc., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1932.]

WILLIAM REILLY TOAL. The cause of civic advancement is one in which Mr. Toal is most deeply interested and with the duties attaching to his office as a public servant, he invariably brings into action and use those high principles that rule his business, professional and social life. The part that Mr. Toal has taken in the management of his public office, that of assistant District Attorney and the direction of his legal interests, has been marked with successful effort and in behalf of the public good. He is the son of John and Elizabeth Jessie (Reilly) Toal, natives of Ireland and both of whom are deceased.

William R. Toal was born December 9, 1893 in Dundalk County, of Louth, Ireland, and came to the United States with his parents when he was three and a half years old. The Toal family originally located in Binghamton, New York, but removed to Philadelphia in 1900 where the father engaged in the grocery business. In 1915 he removed to Upper Darby [post office, not necessarily the township], Delaware County and remained there until the time of his death. William Reilly Toal attended the public schools of Philadelphia. Graduating from the South Philadelphia High School in 1911 he entered the employ of the Quaker City Rubber Company, where he remained until 1922, when he entered the Temple Law School. While attending law school he supplemented his education as a law clerk in the offices of Mr. Howard Lutz of Media, continuing in this occupation until he was admitted to the bar in 1926. His ability and keen acumen in the legal profession won him instant recognition and in 1928 he was appointed assistant district attorney by Mr. William J. McCarter, Jr.

Mr. Toal married Miss Gertrude DePervin Getz of Farraday Park. He is a member of the Cassia Lodge No. 273 Free and Accepted Masons, Philadelphia Consistory, Lu Lu Temple 32 degree Shrine, Keystone Automobile Club, Republican Clubs of Collingdale and Clifton Heights, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Chester. Mr. and Mrs. Toal are communicants of the St. Andrews Methodist Episcopal church of Llanerch, where they make their home.

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