

Why Beer for the Bench?

.... YOU BE THE JUDGE!



John Barnes Osgood

William John Beer

BUT THERE ARE OTHER REASONS TO VOTE FOR BEER AS CIRCUIT JUDGE

Here are these reasons:

A JUDGE MUST BE A PATRIOTIC CITIZEN. He is part of our government. In 1942, Mr. Beer, though married and with small children, left his law practice to enlist in the Navy. He became a Gunner Officer experiencing enemy action in the North Atlantic. Because he was a Lawyer, he was called upon several times as defense counsel in Court Martial trials. At the close of World War II and after his discharge, Mr. Beer was Oakland County's representative to the State of Michigan \$30,000,000.00 Veterans' Trust Fund. He was Attorney for the Veterans' Rehabilitation Committee in Oakland County, and was Judge Advocate of the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Board at Royal Oak, Michigan. He is presently a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and AmVets. **WILLIAM JOHN BEER HAS PROVEN HE IS A PATRIOTIC CITIZEN.**

A JUDGE MUST KNOW THE LAW. From the time he graduated from Law College in 1930 until 1937, William John Beer was an associate with a Detroit Law firm; although even then residing in Royal Oak, Oakland County, Michigan. In 1937, he opened his own law offices in Royal Oak where he remained until he enlisted in the United States Navy in 1942. After his discharge from the Service, he practiced Law in Rural Northern Michigan for three years. There he handled legal problems of the farmers and miners as well as city business problems. For the past few years he has practiced law at your county seat, Pontiac, Michigan, where he is senior member of the Law firm, "Beer and Osgood." Mr. Beer has been President of the South Oakland Bar Association. He is a respected member of the Oakland County Bar, Michigan State Bar, and American Bar Associations. He has been a Circuit Court Commissioner, a City Attorney, and Royal Oak School Board Lawyer. He was instructor in advanced Law at The Business Institute. He is a member of the United States Supreme Court Bar. **WILLIAM JOHN BEER KNOWS THE LAW.**

A JUDGE MUST SERVE THE PUBLIC. William John Beer has served in many capacities. He has been a Boy Scout Counselor, a Director for the Oakland County Chapter of the American Red Cross, a Director of the Michigan Children's Aid Society, a Chamber of Commerce Director, and President of the Royal Oak Kiwanis Club. He was Trustee of the Royal Oak School Board. Among the many using his counsel is the Oakland County 4-H Club, Farm youth organization. **WILLIAM JOHN BEER WILL SERVE THE PUBLIC.**

A JUDGE MUST BE ALERT. Age is important! Remember, the Judges elected April 6, 1953, take office January 1, 1954, for a six year term. William John Beer, although he has been a lawyer for 22 years, is only 44 years of age. He is in his prime. **WILLIAM JOHN BEER IS ACTIVE AND ALERT.**

A JUDGE SHOULD BE PATIENT AND HAVE PLEASANT DIGNITY. Impatience has no place on the Bench. The people and their Lawyers should have the "ears" of the Court, but seldom his "voice." He must be sober and industrious on and off the Bench. He must be fair minded and courteous. **WILLIAM JOHN BEER, WHO IS JUST BUT SCHOLARLY, KINDLY BUT FIRM, HAS THE PATIENCE AND DIGNITY FOR A GREAT JUDGE.**

A JUDGE SHOULD BE A FAMILY MAN. Many problems coming before the Court concern children and families. William John Beer is married; Dora Beer is his wife. They have three sons, Dick, 22 years; Wally, 18 years; and Johnny, 8 years and 2 dogs. He knows the sympathy, understanding, but firmness necessary when dealing with children today. For years he has been a member of the Domestic Relations Committee of the Michigan State Bar. He is recognized as an expert in solving

For 18 long years you have had no election of Circuit Judges.

You have not been able to select Circuit Court Judges at an election as is your right under the Michigan Constitution. Why is this true? Frankly, because under our Law, only a Lawyer may be a candidate for the Circuit Court Bench. Able Lawyers generally have discouraged themselves from trying to unseat any Circuit Judge, be he good or bad. Lawyers know it is about impossible to beat out a Judge at election when he carries the ballot label of "Circuit Judge."

State Senators Blondy and Hutchinson said at Lansing, February 25, 1953, "A lot of good lawyers would like to run for the Bench, but the incumbent designation on the ballot perpetuates those in office."

When these good Senators attempted to remove this unfairness from the Judge ballot, the Lansing News Bureau reported, February 26, 1953, as follows: "In the Senate, pressure from Judges stymied a proposal to eliminate their designation as incumbents on the nonpartisan election ballot."

It is time for a change.

Because a man is designated "Incumbent" or "Circuit Judge" does not mean he is best fitted for the high honor and privilege of serving as Oakland County Circuit Judge. Mr. Beer respects the present Judges. So do I. But the citizens of Oakland County should have opportunity to vote for someone else as Judge if they desire. Several thousand citizens of Oakland County, by constitutional nomination, asked William John Beer to give them that opportunity. Mr. Beer has accepted their nomination. He believes the voters always will do the right thing when given the chance.

divorce matters. Divorce cases involving the Nation's children are the largest group of cases brought before the Circuit Courts. **WILLIAM JOHN BEER IS A FAMILY MAN. HE BELIEVES IN STRICTER COMPLIANCE WITH DIVORCE LAWS.**

WILLIAM JOHN BEER IS AN OAKLAND COUNTY LAWYER. Although he was born in Detroit, Michigan, Mr. Beer is of a well-known Oakland County pioneer farming family. Stella (Looney) Beer was his mother. He has an older brother, Edmund Beer, and a younger brother, Jim Beer. His father, Bert Beer, is remembered for his many years of work in the churches of Oakland and Wayne Counties as a vocalist and director of music. Mr. Beer was graduated from the Royal Oak High School. He now resides in South Oakland County at Berkley, Michigan.

WE KNOW HIS HONESTY AND ABILITY. For nearly 20 years he has been the Lawyer for the Barnes Check Printing Company, which is our family organization. But more than that! I am now associated with him in the general practice of law, at the County seat, Pontiac, Michigan. I know Mr. Beer. I know he is honest. I know he will work hard, serve well, and be a good and honorable Judge for our Circuit Bench.

WHY HAVE I PUBLISHED THIS ARTICLE? Well, as Lincoln said, "I have faith in my fellow voters to do the right thing when they get the facts." I have tried to give you the honest facts about Mr. Beer. Though the present Judges are again running for election, I am sure for the six years ahead starting January 1, 1954, we need Mr. Beer on the Bench. **I URGE THAT YOU VOTE FOR WILLIAM JOHN BEER AS CIRCUIT JUDGE AT THE SPRING ELECTION APRIL 6, 1953. BUT ABOVE ALL, WHOEVER YOUR CHOICE, DO NOT FORGET TO VOTE AT THIS SPRING ELECTION APRIL 6, 1953.**

Respectfully Submitted, John Barnes Osgood