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## William Taylor Muse

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## WILLIAM TAYLOR MUSE

*Honorable Harold F. Snead\**

WHEN Dean William T. Muse departed this life on October 31, 1971, the University of Richmond and the Commonwealth of Virginia suffered a major loss. His many valuable contributions to the University of Richmond, especially the Law School, are a living monument to him. When he was appointed Dean of the Law School in 1947, he resolved to make it one of the finest law schools in the nation. Because of his outstanding legal and administrative ability, devotion to his duties and unimpeachable character, he accomplished his goal. The fact that the Centennial campaign for \$500,000 was a success is a tribute to this beloved and dedicated man. It is most fitting that he was often referred to as "Dean of the Deans."

Dr. Muse was a wise counselor and he freely shared his many talents. He was always ready and willing to serve when called upon. I think it fair to say that he believed service to others was the common duty of all. He served the Virginia Bar Association as its secretary-treasurer for a number of years. Later, he was elected its president. In this high office, he served with distinction. For years he taught a Bible class at the Tabernacle Baptist Church. There, as well as at the Law School, he had a wholesome influence on the lives of hundreds of men. In many other capacities, too numerous to mention here, he gave himself freely to the task at hand. Whatever capacity in which Dr. Muse served, he gained the devotion and admiration of all. A successful business executive, who was a long time member of Dr. Muse's Bible class, recently contributed \$50,000 to the University of Richmond in recognition of his friendship. In addition, a number of other gifts have been received by the University in his memory.

In the months and years ahead Bill Muse will be missed, but his accomplishments and contributions will not be forgotten. In so many ways he touched so many lives. Not only this generation, but those that follow, will be richer because there was a Bill Muse.

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\* Chief Justice of the Virginia Supreme Court.

