

Dr. Benjamin Louis Norden

1st State Deputy of Oregon 1908-1910



DR. BEN L. NORDEN

Benjamin Louis Norden was the only son of Benjamin and Mary and born in 1879 in Portland, OR.

He was qualified both in Law and in Medicine. Dr. Norden was intern and house surgeon at St. Vincent's hospital in 1907 and 1908, and took post-graduate work at the New York Post-Graduate hospital and Polyclinic hospital. He won a law degree in 1915. He was elected coroner in 1908 and again in 1910. During World War I he was a surgeon in the navy aboard the U. S. S. South Dakota. After the armistice, he served on the U. S. S. Aeolus, in the transport service between Virginia and France. In 1921 he returned to Portland, and private practice. He was local coroner. Unlike his father who was an active Democrat, Ben Junior was a Republican.

Dr. Norden never married and made his home with his sister, Frances Norden, at 2134 N.W. Flanders Street.

He was a member of the Multnomah medical society, Knights of Columbus, Elks, Royal Arcanum, Multnomah post, American Legion, and Alpha Kappa Kappa medical fraternity.

Dr. Norden was the third Grand Knight of the Portland Council #678 from 1906-1907

Dr. Norden became Territorial Deputy with the advent of the Order into Oregon, June 15, 1902 and served in until the establishment of the State Council, May 11, 1909 when he was elected 1st State Deputy at the First State Convention at the K of C Club room at the Portland Council #678. He gave a brief but enthusiastic speech thanking the four attending councils of Portland, Baker City, Astoria and Coos Bay. Under Dr. Norden's administration, the order made rapid progress and advanced to a strong position, having secured the membership of a long list of the most prominent Catholic men in Oregon.

Dr. Norden continued to work within two weeks of his death when he died at the home of his sister Frances of acute coronary thrombosis. Dr. Ben L. Norden died October 19, 1951 at the age of 72. He is buried at the River View Cemetery in Portland, OR. Apparently the name Norden, in Oregon, died with him.



Benjamin Louis Norden's grave in Portland

