

## L. E. PHILLIPS

By R. H. Hudson\*

Lee Eldas Phillips, known to all of his friends and acquaintances as "L. E.," was born in Taylor County, Iowa, near the town of Conway, on August 18, 1876, became a citizen of Indian Territory in 1905, and died at Bartlesville, Oklahoma, on April 16, 1944, a respected, honored, and beloved citizen of this State.

He was a farmer, schoolteacher, insurance broker, mine operator, merchant, banker, oil man, town builder, church and civic leader, a patron of the arts, a world traveler, a patriot, a philanthropist, and a philosopher. No man ever gave more freely or more liberally of his time, his talents, his money, and his devotion to the service of his country. In the limited space available in *The Chronicles* for this sketch, only a bare outline of his life can be given.

He came from a long line of sturdy American progenitors, and he always zealously adhered to the best teachings of his race. His father, Lewis Franklin Phillips (eldest son of Daniel Phillips and his wife, Marilla Standish), was born at Downington, Meigs County, Ohio, January 4, 1844, died in Research Hospital, at Kansas City, Missouri, February 28, 1921, and was interred at Gravity, Iowa; and his mother, Lucinda Josephine Faucett, was born in Orange County, Indiana, August 13, 1849, died at Gravity, Iowa, February 8, 1934, and was interred by the side of her husband. Both were lineal descendants of the original pioneers who settled on the "stern and rock-bound" New England coast, whose offspring, down through the years, gradually found their way westward to Ohio and Indiana, and thence to Iowa and Nebraska.

When Lewis Franklin Phillips (father of L. E.) was three years old he moved with his parents to Jackson County, Iowa. His early

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\* Judge R. H. Hudson, now of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, was connected with the U. S. Land Office at Perry, Oklahoma Territory, during the period that Joseph Henry Lumpkin King was receiver of public moneys at that location. Judge Hudson removed from Perry in Noble County to Pawhuska in Osage County on the incoming of statehood for Oklahoma. In the fall of 1910, he was elected District Judge of Judicial District No. 24 composed of Washington and Osage counties, and after four years of service was re-elected for a second term. In the middle of his second term, Judge Hudson resigned to accept a position with the Empire Gas & Fuel Company, now Cities Service, and remained with the organization two years. In 1919, he became associated with Phillips Petroleum Company as its General Attorney, and has been associated with that Company ever since, —something more than twenty-seven years. Judge Hudson contributed brief biographical sketches of John Joseph Shea (1859-1928) and Thomas Fenlon Shea (1893-1938) which appeared in *The Chronicles*, Vol. XXIV, No. 2 (Summer, 1946), pp. 234-36. For reference to an article, "Joseph Henry Lumpkin King, 1855-1905" by Robert L. Williams, see *The Chronicles*, Vol. XXIV, No. 3 (Autumn, 1946), pp. 265-68.—Ed.



LEE ELDAS PHILLIPS



education was received from his mother, who was a successful schoolteacher, who sometimes taught in the common schools, but generally in what were then termed "select schools." About 1855 the family moved to Story County, Iowa, where Lewis grew to young manhood, attended the rural schools, and, in vacation, learned the trade of a carpenter, contractor, and builder. In 1861, when the Civil War came on, he responded to the call of President Lincoln for volunteers, and enlisted in the Second Iowa Battery. In 1865, after the termination of his military service, he returned to his home to resume civilian life. On July 3, 1867, at Des Moines, Iowa, he was married to Lucinda Josephine Faucett, the daughter of a Methodist minister. In 1872, Lewis Franklin Phillips, with his wife and two young children, both of whom were girls, moved to Greeley County, Nebraska, where the first son, Frank Phillips, was born on November 28, 1873.

When Lewis Franklin Phillips, with his family, moved to Nebraska, Greeley County was unorganized territory. He helped to organize the county, and at the general election in 1873 was elected county judge. The records reveal the fact that he issued the first marriage license in that county. After many severe frontier experiences, climaxed by the terrible grasshopper plague of 1874, which caused the entire destruction of all crops in central Nebraska, he returned, with his family, to Iowa, where he took up the life of an Iowa farmer, which he pursued during the remainder of his life.

Ten children, six boys and four girls, L. E. being the fourth, were born of the marriage of Lewis Franklin Phillips and his wife, Lucinda Josephine Faucett. Five of the six sons,—Frank, L. E., Ed, Waite, and Fred—became successful, outstanding, and respected citizens of Oklahoma, as did also one of the daughters, Mrs. Johnson D. Hill, of Tulsa. The other one of the six sons, *Wiate*, he and *Waite* being twins, died in his youth. The other daughters remained in Iowa.

This Phillips family constitutes concrete evidence of what may be accomplished in a land of liberty and opportunity, when native ability is coupled with vision and determination. History will record the fact that all six of these children of a farm family, who came to Oklahoma from Iowa, from very modest beginnings and surroundings, by means of sheer ability and force of character, became leaders in the business, civic, social, and financial affairs of this State and Nation, and that no six members of any other one family ever contributed more than they did to the cultural, religious, educational, civic, and patriotic life of the entire country. As patriotic citizens of this State, they were always among the first to respond when their services were needed, and their gifts to churches, benevolence, charity, education, the arts and sciences, Y.M.C.A.,

Y.W.C.A., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and many other worth-while objects, run into many millions of dollars. A mere catalogue of their gifts would require more than the space that is available for this sketch.

L. E. Phillips, born on his father's farm in Taylor County, Iowa, lived the life of a normal farm boy, performed the usual chores and farm work, and attended the rural schools. From his earliest years he received much of his schooling and training from his mother, the daughter of a Methodist minister, and a woman of the highest ideals. She inspired in him a fervent love of country, as well as pride in the part his ancestors had played in its settlement, growth, and development. She trained him to be a constant and tireless student of the Bible, which study he kept up steadfastly throughout his life, and he had an apt Biblical quotation for practically every occasion. His early education in the rural schools, other than writing, arithmetic, and geography, was based largely on the old McGuffey's Readers, of which he had a complete set. They were always an inspiration to him, and he never tired of referring to them and quoting from them.

When he was seventeen years old he enrolled in the Western Normal College, at Shenandoah, Iowa, and made his way through a two-year course by serving as janitor and waiting on tables for his meals. At the end of this two-year course he received a teacher's certificate, and, beginning at the age of nineteen, he taught school in several Iowa school districts.

But he had in mind a business career, rather than a career of schoolteaching, and, with this in view, he took a business course at the Shenandoah Commercial Institute, a department of Western Normal College, and upon completion of this course, he received from this institution a document certifying to his qualifications in accountancy and business administration, and he taught these subjects in some of the schools over which he presided. That he was an able and successful schoolteacher is evidenced by the many letters he received from members of school boards in the several districts in which he taught.

When he received from Western Normal College his teacher's certificate and his diploma in accountancy and business administration, he did not regard his education as complete, but, on the other hand, regarded it as merely having begun. He believed, with Ralph Waldo Emerson, that "the things taught in schools and colleges are not an education, but the means of an education"; and, with Matthew Arnold, he believed that culture is "to know the best that has been said and thought in the world." The discipline he was compelled to exercise and maintain in the schools he taught was the very best discipline and training for himself.

Along with his schoolteaching, the study of the Bible and Shakespeare and all of the English and American classics, both prose and poetry, became a deep-rooted, fixed habit, and as the years went by this habit was a source of unending pleasure to him. While, as said by Ben Jonson of Shakespeare, he had "small Latin and less Greek," he followed the example of Shakespeare, and read and reread Plutarch's Lives. He also read many translations of Greek and Latin classics.

He was an indefatigable student of American history, and particularly of the American form of government, and was a staunch advocate of the American Way of Life. He knew the Declaration of Independence from beginning to end, and he had a thorough knowledge of the Constitution of the United States, particularly of the first ten amendments, commonly known as the Bill of Rights. He had committed to memory many of the speeches and orations of Patrick Henry, Daniel Webster, and other patriotic American orators, and he always maintained that Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was the brightest gem of American oratory.

He was not a skimmer, but a deep, intensive reader, student, and thinker. He was a charming conversationalist and raconteur. He was an able public speaker, and an inimitable story teller, and could arouse his audiences to the pinnacles of enthusiasm, to laughter or tears. It can be truly said of L. E. Phillips that he was indeed an educated, refined, cultivated, and cultured American gentleman.

He continued teaching school until 1899, when he joined Claude Fisher, of Creston, Iowa, in the insurance business, and for several years was a successful insurance solicitor. Thereafter, he and his associates engaged in the mining and selling of coal, the sale of lumber, and other merchandising businesses, with headquarters at Knoxville, Iowa, L. E. being secretary and manager and traveling salesman for the company.

On November 26, 1902, he and Miss Lenora Carr were married at the home of the bride's parents, at Bedford, Iowa. The ceremony was performed by Rev. T. L. Faucett, of Conway, Iowa, grandfather of the groom. The *Bedford Republican*, in a report of the wedding, said:

The bride is the talented daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Carr, old and highly respected residents of this community. She is an instructress of music of more than ordinary ability, and she possesses all the graces and accomplishments which qualify one for society, and which qualifies a woman to be queen of the home circle. Mr. Phillips is an enterprising man of business, well qualified for the duties of life which lie before him.

Three children were born of this marriage: Philip Rex Phillips, who was a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy in World War II, now returned to civilian life; his home is at Bartlesville. L. E. Phillips, Jr., who resides at Wichita, Kansas; he is

married and has two children. Martha Jane Phillips, who is now Mrs. John Wilbur Starr; they live at Kansas City, Missouri, and have two children. John Wilbur Starr was also a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy in World War II.

In 1903 L. E. and his brother Frank began acquiring oil and gas leases and other interests in the neighborhood of Bartlesville, where they established an office in 1904, and thus began a close business relationship between these two brothers that was terminated only by the death of L. E. In 1905 L. E. disposed of his business interests in Iowa, and with his family moved to Bartlesville, where they established their home. After coming to Oklahoma the lives of the two brothers, L. E. and Frank, were so closely associated it is difficult to write the story of one without writing the story of both.

The coming of L. E. to Oklahoma was the beginning of a very active career as a citizen of this new country, and his life is another example of the American leadership that has originated on the farms of the nation. His life on the farm; his education, acquired the hard way, as the result of his own efforts; his schoolteaching; his experience in the insurance business, and as secretary, manager, and salesman of a coal mining, lumber, and merchandising company,—was not a case of a rolling stone gathering no moss, but was the experience of a normal country boy without specific training along some definite line, making his own way in the world, feeling his way along, learning the ways of life by the rule of contact and by trial and error, gathering experience, building character, and overcoming obstacles, in preparation for the time when he might feel that he was ready to settle down to his real vocation in life.

When L. E. and his brother came to Indian Territory in 1903, Bartlesville was a small village located on the right or south bank of the Caney River. Oil field supplies for the use of "wildcatters," prospectors, and producers were brought in on the newly constructed branch line of the Santa Fe Railroad, which had been extended from Caney, Kansas, as far south as Collinsville, but which did not reach Tulsa until 1905.

L. E., with prophetic vision, realized the need for a substantial town that would be a commercial center and a distributing point for the rapidly expanding and developing oil and gas business. And when he brought his family and established a home in Bartlesville, he and Mrs. Phillips at once began to make places for themselves in the life of the community. He was soon recognized as one of the leaders in all business and civic activities. He became president of the Commercial Club, the forerunner of the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce, of which he was always a leading and active member, and he devoted much time to bringing in and establishing new businesses, churches, schools, and public utilities, and laying the foundation for a substantial community. He and his brother and their

associates surveyed, platted, and brought into the city some of the best-known residential sections and additions, and later built some of the finest homes in the state. Largely due to his leadership and activities, the City of Bartlesville, from a very small village at the time of his coming, has grown to be a beautiful little city with a population of more than 20,000, with fine churches, splendid schools, and all the modern civic facilities and organizations. Throughout his life L. E. looked back with justifiable pride upon the part he had played in the City's upbuilding. But in everything he did he was so modest, so retiring, so unassuming, few people outside of his family and immediate friends and associates realized the tremendous amount of civic, benevolent, and charitable work he was constantly doing. In practically all matters of common public interest his leadership was taken as a matter of course. His gifts to benevolence and charity, to churches, schools, colleges, Red Cross, Salvation Army, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, YMCA, YWCA, and other such organizations, were innumerable and very substantial, but in all such matters he abhorred publicity, and seldom were his gifts made known to the public.

L. E. and his brother Frank and their associates organized the Citizens Bank & Trust Company of Bartlesville, which opened for business on December 4, 1905. In 1908 they acquired a majority of the shares of the Bartlesville National Bank, and in 1911 these banks were merged and consolidated, and became one of the eight largest banks in Oklahoma. In 1920 the First National Bank was acquired by the brothers and their associates, and the Bartlesville National and First National were consolidated, and became, at that time, the largest bank in the southwest according to population. This continues to be one of the outstanding banks of the State of Oklahoma.

L. E. came to be recognized as one of the leaders of the Oklahoma Bankers Association; he was for many years a member of its executive committee; and was president of the Association from 1915 to 1917. He was a member of the National Bankers' Association, and for many years he served as a member of the committee on membership and on various other committees of that Association.

In November, 1926, he became a director of the Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank, Tenth Federal Reserve District, and in this position he did more than any other one man to emphasize and bring into notice and prominence the importance of petroleum as a national natural resource, and as a subject for the attention of banks. He continued to be a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City until he was compelled to retire on account of the condition of his health.

The oil and gas business which had been initiated by the acquisition of leases and other oil and gas interests upon the coming of L. E. and his brother Frank to Indian Territory, after the un-



happy experience of drilling three dry holes or nonproductive wells, developed, expanded, and prospered beyond the most sanguine early expectations; and by 1917 the business had grown and expanded to such an extent it became advisable to consolidate and incorporate the various holdings of the two brothers. Consequently, on June 13, 1917, a Delaware charter was issued to Phillips Petroleum Company, to which were transferred all of the oil and gas leases and other oil and gas interests that had been acquired and held by the two brothers, Frank becoming president of the new Company, and L. E. vice president and general manager, and afterwards chairman of the executive committee.

However, on April 6, 1917, the United States Congress having declared that a state of war existed between this country and Germany, L. E., "laying aside all excuses," left the banking business, the oil and gas business, and the various other businesses of the two brothers, in the hands of his brother and other associates, and until after the close of the war devoted practically his entire time to the service of the community, the State, and the Nation. With the most intense patriotism, loyalty, and enthusiasm, with absolutely no thought of self, he became one of the leaders on the home front. He was a member of the County Council of Defense, and chairman of the local Red Cross and Liberty Loan campaigns, and a member of the executive committee of the Four Minute Men's organization. He was so successful in his efforts, Governor Robert L. Williams made him a member of the State Council of Defense, and he became chairman and manager of the Red Cross and Liberty Loan campaigns for the State of Oklahoma and the Panhandle of Texas. He established headquarters at Oklahoma City, where, in close association with Governor Williams, he devoted practically his entire time for more than a year and a half to the service of the State and the Nation, without any compensation or reward other than the satisfaction that attends a work well done.

As head of the Red Cross and Liberty Loan campaigns, and as a member of the Four Minute Men, he delivered addresses in many places in the States of Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico, preaching the doctrines of loyalty and patriotism, urging the people to support the government, to contribute to the Red Cross, and to invest in government bonds. He put his whole heart and soul into the work, and in every Red Cross and Liberty Loan campaign the quotas for Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle were largely oversubscribed. In his speeches and in his letters of instruction to his workers, he coined many phrases that became matters of common usage throughout the entire country, one of which was, "All that is needed for membership in the Red Cross is a heart and a dollar," and this phrase was adopted as a slogan by the National Red Cross organization, and was used by it in a number of campaigns for funds. In recognition of the patriotic services

rendered by him, and especially as head of the Red Cross and Liberty Loan campaigns, he received, unsolicited, many letters from people of outstanding prominence all over the country, among which letters were several from Governor Williams that L. E. prized most highly.

After the close of the war L. E., quietly and without ceremony or formality of any kind, laid down the heavy burden he had carried in the service of his country, returned to Bartlesville, and resumed his business and civic activities where he had left off.

During the war Phillips Petroleum Company, which had been organized just as the war began, was more or less quiescent, but immediately upon his return to business life L. E. again entered actively upon the duties of vice president and general manager of the Company, and, in connection with his brother Frank and other associates, set about the building of a great business organization. The Company, originally a purely local concern, at first engaged only in the drilling of wells and the production and sale of oil and gas, under the leadership of L. E. and his brother rapidly grew and expanded until it became a completely integrated unit in the petroleum industry, producing, refining, transporting, distributing, and marketing petroleum, natural gas, gasoline, and many products and by-products thereof, doing business in thirty-seven of the forty-eight States of the Union, two Canadian provinces, and, through wholly owned subsidiaries, in Mexico, Central and South America, and several other foreign countries. The Company is a monument to the vision and leadership of two brothers, Frank and L. E. Phillips.

As the result of the tremendous amount of work done by L. E. as banker, oil man, church and civic leader, chairman of the Red Cross and Liberty Loan campaigns, benevolent and charitable work of many kinds, and many and varied other activities, his health became seriously impaired, and in the early 1920's, on the advice of his physicians and upon the urgent insistence of his family and friends, he began to ease down on his work. His physicians advised him to take up travel, and to get entirely away from the surroundings where he had been engaged in such strenuous activities. In consequence of this advice, he and Mrs. Phillips entered upon a systematic course of travel, in the hope that recreation, rest, and change of scene would put him back on his feet again. In his usual methodical way, in order to get the most out of his travels, L. E. undertook an intensive study of world history and geography, and he never visited any place without making a thorough study of its local history, and its physical, political, and social conditions and surroundings.

Beginning in the early 1920's, and continuing for twelve or fifteen years, L. E. and Mrs. Phillips, sometimes accompanied by their son Phil and their daughter Martha Jane, and sometimes by

a special nurse for L. E., made trips to many different places. They made several tours around the world, and on one or two of their trips abroad they visited, in leisurely fashion, as many as thirty or more of the countries of Europe, Asia, and Africa. On a number of different occasions they visited Hawaii and the Philippines, and L. E. was offered the governor-generalship of the Philippines by Honorable Patrick J. Hurley, Secretary of War in President Hoover's administration, but the condition of L. E.'s health would not admit of the acceptance of such an offer. He visited Japan several times, and as early as the middle 1920's he foresaw that there would inevitably be a conflict between that country and the United States.

He visited many times in Canada, and spent a great deal of time hunting and fishing in its woods and waters. He visited many times in the Bahamas, the West Indies, and in Central and South America. He had been a visitor in every State in the Union, and believed that every one should be thoroughly familiar with his own country before traveling in foreign lands. He was a confirmed fisherman, and his first inquiries in any place he visited were usually with reference to fishing conditions. One of his fishing experiences was the catching of perch in the Sea of Galilee. He had fished entirely along both the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts of North America, and also in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as in many of the lakes and streams of both the United States and Canada.

Notwithstanding the fact that L. E. became a very active business man along many different lines, and became a very wealthy man, he never lost his love for the farm and for country life. One of the accomplishments of his early life of which he was very proud was that, when he was less than seventeen years old, he was proclaimed the champion cornhusker of the State of Iowa, "the State where the tall corn grows." Some years after coming to Oklahoma, he purchased a farm a few miles from Bartlesville, improved it, and stocked it with fine blooded cattle and hogs, and there he spent many happy hours, away from the bustle and turmoil of active business life. In the conduct and management of this farm he associated with him his son Philip R. Phillips, and the farm was given the name "Philson Farms." For many years, and until shortly before his death, he was chairman of the agriculture and livestock committees of the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce; he aided in the development of the cattle industry in Washington County, and particularly in the development and improvement of bluestem grass pastures; he aided in the establishment and maintenance of the Washington County Fat Stock Shows; and for many years he aided boys and girls of the County and surrounding territory in Four-H work, supplying to young people an average of twenty-five calves and a great many hogs annually. Pecans developed and grown on his farm were always prize winners. The old adage that you can

take the boy out of the country but you can't take the country out of the boy was peculiarly applicable in his case.

In spite of all that medical science, rest, recreation, and tender care could do, L. E.'s health did not improve, and in 1934 he resigned as vice president, general manager, and chairman of the executive committee of Phillips Petroleum Company; but continued to occupy the position of director of the Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank. However, it was his philosophy that a man owes more to his country than the payment of taxes; his was a philosophy of service. He was a firm believer in the adage, "He profits most who serves best," and that every man should give willingly of service in the interests of the general welfare, —service to country, to community, to home, to family, and to friends. He often said: "I should like to spend the rest of my life, if possible, for the good of others. I am proud of my American citizenship, and gladly assume the duties such citizenship entails."

He was unwilling to give up and settle down to the life of an invalid. As time went by, he interested himself, as far as his health and strength would permit, more and more in public affairs, in schools and colleges, and in all matters of common public interest. He was recognized as an able and forceful speaker, and was called upon for addresses on many occasions. He became a recognized authority on subjects of banks and banking, taxation, the relations between government and business, on what constitutes good citizenship, on the subject of the State's resources and its business and commercial interests, and on the subjects of loyalty and patriotism. He delivered many addresses before the Oklahoma Bankers Association, the American Bankers Association, Bankers Associations of Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and other States. He was frequently called upon to address chambers of commerce, petroleum associations, and other public and commercial bodies, in many different States, and he was always in demand as a popular after-dinner speaker. He delivered commencement addresses to the high schools in his old home town of Conway and in other places in Iowa; and to graduating classes of the University of Tulsa, Phillips University, of Enid, Oklahoma, and to Washburn College, of Topeka, Kansas. Honorary degrees were conferred upon him by Phillips University and by Washburn College. He was one of the trustees of the Endowment Association of the University of Kansas, from which University his two sons and his son-in-law were graduates.

One of the finest things in the life of L. E. Phillips was his devotion and steadfast loyalty to the friends of his youth. In the early 1890's, in the little town of Conway, Iowa, four young boys, all in their teens, of whom L. E. was one of the leading spirits, who had grown up together, gone to school together, learned to swim and skate together, and who had camped and hunted and fished

together, formed an organization under the somewhat inelegant title of "The Never Sweat Club." It was facetiously said that the club was "organized to combat certain insidious propaganda that was being circulated by some of the gossips of the town with reference to the industry or reliability or lack of it, of the several members." When the club was formed, the way was left open for the admission of new members, the chief qualification for membership being that the applicant "had come under the ban of the village gossips, most of whom were mothers or relatives of the young ladies in whom the members of the club were interested."

By 1898 three additional members had been admitted; but as the years were going by, some of the members began leaving to enroll in schools of higher learning than were available in the local community, some entered upon business careers at other places, and one enlisted in the armed forces of the United States for service in the Spanish-American War. It had become apparent that, in the ordinary course of events, the members of the club would drift apart, and it was the unanimous desire that some arrangement be made that would keep them in touch with each other, no matter how widely separated they might become.

In December, 1898, at a reunion of the membership, held at Creston, Iowa, an eighth member was added. At that meeting the name of the organization was changed to Anchor Club, "it being thought that the old name was no longer appropriate, since all of the members had finally gone to work." At that meeting it was agreed that there should always be an annual reunion, as long as any of the members survived, and that between meetings the members should be kept in touch with each other by means of a chain letter. This agreement was carried out consistently and continuously for more than forty-five years. An annual meeting was held at a predetermined time and place, usually in the home town of one of the members; three or four times a year a chain letter made the rounds of the membership, a running commentary upon the times, the manners and customs of the country, national and local gossip, and the personal affairs of the members, and finally came to rest in the possession of L. E., and were lodged in his files. Nothing ever kept a member away from an annual meeting other than illness of himself or some member of his immediate family. As the years went by the membership was gradually reduced by death, until only two of the original eight members are now living. However, in later years, Frank, Ed, and Waite Phillips were added as associate or honorary members, and are all living.

This organization was entirely unique, eight young boys banding themselves together solely in the common bonds of friendship, keeping in close and constant touch with each other for more than forty-five years, each of them becoming a successful business man

and an outstanding citizen of the community in which he lived. Although scattered through as many states as there were members, wherever they were they were always honored and respected citizens of the communities in which they lived.

For many years, beginning in the late 1890's and continuing down to within two or three years of the time of his death, L. E. kept scrapbooks in which he preserved a wealth of information, consisting of clippings from newspapers, magazines, periodicals, and publications of various kinds, relating to national, international, state, and purely local affairs; and also souvenirs, programs, printed menus, passenger lists of steamers, letters, telegrams, greeting cards, Christmas cards, and odd scraps of information of many kinds picked up at different places in the world. A mere glance at these scrapbooks would show how utterly impossible it would be to give a fair outline of L. E.'s life in a brief sketch like this.

L. E. Phillips was a real man. He hated sham, pretense, and hypocrisy. He was entirely at home amidst the humblest surroundings, and his head was unbowed in the presence of the great. A saying he often quoted was: "Don't take yourself too damn seriously." He loved Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Church-Yard." He often recited the entire poem, but the lines he quoted most frequently were:

"The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,  
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,  
Awaits alike the inevitable hour:  
The paths of glory lead but to the grave."

His rule and guide of conduct throughout his entire life was expressed in the concluding words of William Cullen Bryant's great poem, "Thanatopsis":

"So live that when thy summons comes to join  
The innumerable caravan that moves  
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take  
His chamber in the silent halls of death,  
Thou go not, like the quarry-slave at night,  
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed  
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave  
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

At his request, these lines were read by one of the ministers who officiated at his last services. If any one ever lived up to such a standard of life, surely L. E. Phillips did. It was his earnest request that his last rites be brief and as simple as possible. It was his expressed wish that there be no pomp or ceremony of any kind.

In Memorial Park Cemetery, on a hill east of town, looking down upon the home and the little city he loved so well, lies all that was mortal of L. E. Phillips. Requiescat in pace.