



**HOMER CHRISTIAN EBERHARDT** served on the Court of Appeals of Georgia from 1961 until 1974. He was born in Banks County, Georgia, October 31, 1904, and died January 6, 1975.

He attended the public schools of Jackson County, Georgia, and was recognized as the "most outstanding student" by the U. D. C. in 1920. He was graduated from the University of Georgia with a B.S. degree in 1925. He was a member of the Demosthenian Society, Gridiron Society, and Sigma Delta Kappa legal fraternity. He was awarded the Supreme Debater Medal. He received his LL.B. degree from Mercer University and was an associate professor of English while there.

He was married to Ruby Camp Jones of Valdosta on October 14, 1941; she died July 17, 1958. They had two daughters and numerous grandchildren, whose names are set forth in the memorial dated January 5, 1976, in 137 Georgia Appeals Reports, pages XXVII, LI. On August 1, 1959, he married LaForrest Wynel Smith.

He practiced law first in Macon and in Valdosta. He was a member of several distinguished law firms and was senior partner when appointed to the Court of Appeals. He was associate editor of Park's Code and was trial attorney for OP A during WWII. He was a past president of the Valdosta and Georgia Bar Associations; a member of the State Board of Bar Examiners and a fellow of the American College of Probate Counsel; was active in many areas of the law too numerous to list; was a trustee at Mercer; served on the Valdosta Board of Education; assisted Valdosta State College; was active in the Methodist Church, Elks Lodge, and Elks Aidmore Hospital; was a member of the Lowndes County, Atlanta, Georgia, and Southern Historical Associations.

One of his colleagues said, "He will be classed with the few great judges of Georgia." A former legislator and trial advocate put Bleckley, Powell, and Eberhardt in a class of "giants among giants." Others said, "His judgments and opinions were sound, thorough and learned." Another colleague observed that he was "a judge's judge...one of the finest that Georgia has ever produced." He was compared to Mr. Justice Holmes and Judge Learned Hand.