

= Samuel Lightfoot Flournoy ( West Virginia lawyer ) =

Samuel Lightfoot Flournoy ( January 17 , 1886 ? May 17 , 1961 ) was an American lawyer and politician in the U.S. state of West Virginia . He was a prominent lawyer in Charleston , where he practiced law for over 50 years . Born in Romney in 1886 , Flournoy was the son of West Virginia State Senator Samuel Lightfoot Flournoy . Flournoy was a grandson of Hampshire County Clerk of Court John Baker White and a nephew of West Virginia Attorney General Robert White and West Virginia Fish Commission President Christian Streit White . He was also a relative of Thomas Flournoy , United States Representative from Virginia .

Flournoy relocated with his family to Charleston in 1890 during his father 's second West Virginia Senate term . Flournoy was educated at Fishburne Military School , Hampden ? Sydney College , and West Virginia University College of Law . He was admitted to the Kanawha County bar in 1911 and at various times during his law career , Flournoy was appointed special master , arbitrator , or commissioner for several high @-@ profile court cases . In 1935 , Flournoy was an unsuccessful Democratic candidate for an at @-@ large seat on the Charleston City Council . In 1937 , Flournoy was selected by Governor Homer A. Holt as a member of the Charleston Civil Service Board , which regulated the appointments of police and fire personnel . Flournoy served as an incorporator of the New Homes Corporation of Charleston in 1931 and was later president of the Mortgage Exchange Corporation . He was involved in the establishment of a local mortgage business association in 1952 . Flournoy died in Charleston in 1961 .

= = Early life and education = =

Samuel Lightfoot Flournoy was born on January 7 , 1886 , in Romney , West Virginia . He was the son of West Virginia State Senator Samuel Lightfoot Flournoy and his wife Frances " Fannie " Ann Armstrong White . Through his mother , Flournoy was a grandson of Hampshire County Clerk of Court John Baker White and a nephew of West Virginia Attorney General Robert White and West Virginia Fish Commission President Christian Streit White . Through his father , he was a relative of Thomas Flournoy , United States Representative from Virginia . Flournoy was of English and French ancestry through his father , and of Scottish and Swiss ancestry through his mother .

In 1890 , during his father 's second term in the West Virginia Senate , Flournoy and his family relocated from Romney to Charleston , where his father continued practicing law after his resignation from the senate .

Flournoy received his primary education at Fishburne Military School in Waynesboro , Virginia . Following his graduation from the military school , he received his secondary education at his father 's alma mater Hampden ? Sydney College in Hampden Sydney , Virginia , and went on to study jurisprudence at the West Virginia University College of Law in Morgantown , West Virginia . Flournoy was a member of the Chi Phi fraternity .

= = Career = =

= = = Law career = = =

Flournoy became a member of the Kanawha County bar in 1911 and commenced the practice of law in Charleston . Flournoy was a partner in the Charleston law firm of Flournoy and Porter , where he practiced law for over 50 years .

At various times during his law career , Flournoy was appointed special master , arbitrator , or commissioner for several high @-@ profile court cases . In 1932 , Flournoy was appointed special master in a suit involving the estate of Mercy J. Keller , the widow of Benjamin Franklin Keller , a judge for the United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia . Flournoy authored a report allowing for the distribution of funds to Keller 's heirs and beneficiaries from Charleston National Bank . In December 1932 , Flournoy provided mediation for several business

and home owners who sued the city of Charleston over the widening of Virginia Street between Summers and Capitol Streets . He was unable to attend one of the lawsuit mediation conferences due to an ankle injury . In addition to his role as a special master and mediator , Flournoy was also selected to serve as a special commissioner in several Charleston lawsuits .

Flournoy continued to expand his law practice by winning large contracts . In March 1933 , he offered the lowest bid of \$ 3 @, @ 745 for a contract that supplied certificates of land title in Kanawha and Fayette counties within the Huntington federal engineering district . The lands within the federal engineering district were to be utilized by the Federal government for river work .

= = = Political career = = =

In 1935 , Flournoy was a West Virginia Democratic Party candidate for an at @-@ large seat on the Charleston City Council . Flournoy actively campaigned for the at @-@ large seat , and spoke to several local organizations , including the First Ward Negro Democratic Club and Beck 's Mission on Charleston 's West Side . Flournoy was ultimately unsuccessful in his bid for election to the at @-@ large city council seat .

During a controversial re @-@ indexing of Kanawha County records by Works Progress Administration officials in 1935 and 1936 , Flournoy served as chairman of the Charleston Bar Association 's Re @-@ Indexing Committee , which completed an independent investigation of the re @-@ indexing progress , as ordered by the bar association 's executive committee . Under Flournoy 's leadership , the committee completed its review in January 1936 .

In 1937 , Flournoy was appointed by West Virginia Governor Homer A. Holt as an at @-@ large member of Charleston 's Civil Service Board , which had been empowered by an act of the West Virginia Legislature to regulate the appointment of police and fire personnel in Charleston . While serving on the board , Flournoy was its president and spokesperson .

= = = Business career = = =

On July 14 , 1931 , Flournoy was an incorporator of the New Homes Corporation of Charleston , a building and construction firm , which was headquartered in the Davidson Building and was chartered with a capital stock value of \$ 50 @, @ 000 . Flournoy was later president of the Mortgage Exchange Corporation of Charleston . In his role as president of the Mortgage Exchange Corporation , Flournoy was involved in the establishment of a local association of mortgage businesspeople in February 1952 . Flournoy was named by the association as one of three men appointed to the by @-@ laws committee .

= = Later life and death = =

At the time of his appointment to the Charleston Civil Services Board , Flournoy resided at 8 California Avenue near the West Virginia Capitol Complex in Charleston . He later relocated to 4100 Kanawha Avenue SE in Charleston 's Kanawha City neighborhood , where he resided at the time of his death .

Flournoy died of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis at the age of 75 on May 17 , 1961 , at Kanawha Valley Memorial Hospital in Charleston following a prolonged illness . He was survived by his wife , his son , and his sister Frances Flournoy Preston . Flournoy 's funeral services were held at the Barlow @-@ Bonsall Funeral Home and his family requested that memorial donations be made to Marmet Hospital in his honor . He was interred at Spring Hill Cemetery in Charleston on May 19 , 1961 .

At the opening of the September 1961 term of the Kanawha County Circuit Court , Flournoy was eulogized by Kanawha County Bar Association member Roy M. Sams .

= = Personal life = =

Flurnoy married Sarah Katharine Cotton in Charleston in 1913 . He and Katharine had two children , one son and one daughter :

Samuel Lightfoot Flurnoy , Jr . ( March 23 , 1924 ? December 27 , 2014 ) , married Virginia McManaway Cox of Thaxton , Virginia on June 14 , 1964

Nancy Margaret Cotton Flurnoy Moore , married Webster Hamilton Moore of Greensboro , North Carolina , on December 3 , 1949

Flurnoy was a practicing Presbyterian and was a member of the Ruffner Memorial Presbyterian Church in Charleston .