

= Joshua Soule Zimmerman =

Joshua Soule Zimmerman (January 16 , 1874 ? September 2 , 1962) was an American lawyer , politician , and orchardist in the U.S. state of West Virginia . In the early years of the 20th century , Zimmerman served as the Prosecuting Attorney for Hampshire County and as a Democratic member of the West Virginia House of Delegates .

Zimmerman was born in La Plata to Reverend George Henry Zimmerman , a Methodist pastor and church administrator . He began his post @-@ secondary education at Roanoke College and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Randolph ? Macon College in 1892 . He worked as a clerk in the United States Census Office in Washington , D.C. , and earned a Bachelor of Laws degree in 1896 from Columbian University Law School . Following his graduation , Zimmerman opened a law office in Romney , West Virginia , in July 1896 and engaged in the practice of law there . He provided legal services to a number of companies and organizations including Capon Valley Bank , Hampshire County 's Legal Advisory Board , the Hampshire County Food Administration , and Hampshire County orchard owners . Zimmerman was the secretary for the Winchester and Western Railroad .

While serving in the West Virginia House of Delegates , Zimmerman was appointed by West Virginia Governor John Jacob Cornwell to serve on a West Virginia Legislature select committee charged with drafting a road transportation bill known as the West Virginia State Road Law . He was again appointed by Governor Cornwell to serve on a similar select committee following the ratification of the " Good Roads Amendment " of the Constitution of West Virginia in 1920 . In addition to serving in the West Virginia House of Delegates , Zimmerman was the chairman of the Hampshire County Democratic Party Committee and a member of the Second District Congressional Committee ; he also participated in judicial , senatorial , and state conventions . Zimmerman played an active role in the commercial apple orchard industry of Hampshire County , and he operated at least three commercial orchards there .

= = Early life and family = =

Joshua Soule Zimmerman was born on January 16 , 1874 , near La Plata in Charles County , Maryland , at the ancestral home of his mother , Henrietta A. Rowe Zimmerman . His father was Reverend George Henry Zimmerman , a Methodist pastor and church administrator whose family originated from an estate in Baltimore County near Baltimore , Maryland . Zimmerman 's father presided over the Moorefield district of the Methodist Episcopal Church , South (1894 ? 1898) . Zimmerman had two brothers : Edgar Rowe Zimmerman of Ruxton , Maryland , and George Henry Zimmerman of Whitesburg , Kentucky .

The pastoral profession of Zimmerman 's father caused his family to relocate to a number of towns throughout Maryland , Virginia , and West Virginia . Zimmerman spent the majority of his youth in Woodstock and Salem , Virginia , before his father transferred to Romney , West Virginia , to preside over the Moorefield district of the Methodist Episcopal Church , South .

= = Education = =

Zimmerman attended Roanoke College in Salem , Virginia , from 1885 to 1886 , and in 1888 he began attending Randolph ? Macon College in Ashland , Virginia , where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1892 . Following his graduation , Zimmerman worked briefly as a tutor on a plantation near Shelby , Mississippi .

In 1893 , Zimmerman accepted the position of a clerk in the United States Census Office in Washington , D.C. , during the second administration of President Grover Cleveland . During his three years serving in the United States Census Office , Zimmerman completed night courses in jurisprudence at Columbian University Law School , and he graduated from the institution with a Bachelor of Laws degree in 1896 . While attending Columbian University , Zimmerman also served as editor of the 1896 Class Book and resided at 915 I Street , Northwest near Mount Vernon Square

Zimmerman was a member of the Phi Delta Theta social fraternity and of the Phi Delta Phi legal honor society . He was later made a Golden Legionnaire of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity .

= = Law career = =

Following his graduation from Columbian University Law School , Zimmerman opened his law office in Romney , West Virginia , in July 1896 and began engaging in the practice of law there . His first legal case argued before the Hampshire County Circuit Court was West Virginia v. Smith , in which his client was charged with " breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny " . Zimmerman lost this case . In Hu Maxwell and Howard Llewellyn Swisher 's History of Hampshire County , West Virginia : From Its Earliest Settlement to the Present (1897) , Zimmerman was described as " a young man " who had " made his success at the bar of Hampshire " . Zimmerman 's law practice expanded , and he began arguing cases in adjoining West Virginia county courts and in both the West Virginia state and United States federal courts .

Only seven years after starting his law practice , Zimmerman was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Prosecuting Attorney for Hampshire County , William B. Cornwell , who had resigned from the position . Zimmerman was subsequently reelected twice to the position , and he served as Hampshire County 's prosecuting attorney from 1900 until 1910 (a total of nine years and three months) . Zimmerman also served as one of three chancery commissioners for Hampshire County , during which he served with Christian Streit White , Robert White , and James Sloan Kuykendall . He was a member of the West Virginia Bar Association .

Zimmerman was the lawyer for the Capon Valley Bank , headquartered in Wardensville , West Virginia , and provided his legal services to secure the bank 's incorporation . During World War I , Zimmerman served as a member of Hampshire County 's Legal Advisory Board and was the lawyer for the County Food Administration . Following the outbreak of World War I , Zimmerman registered for the draft during the registration for men aged 18 through 45 under the Selective Service Act of 1917 . After the Winchester and Western Railroad Company received its charter on August 31 , 1916 , to build and operate a rail line connecting Wardensville and the Lost River valley of West Virginia to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the Cumberland Valley Railroad at Winchester , Virginia , Zimmerman served as the company 's secretary .

= = Political career = =

Zimmerman became a prominent leader within the Democratic Party in Hampshire County , which was the dominant political party in the county . At various times , Zimmerman served as the chairman of the Hampshire County Democratic Party Committee , a member of the Second District Congressional Committee , and attended judicial , senatorial , and state conventions .

= = = West Virginia House of Delegates = = =

Zimmerman was nominated as the Democratic Party candidate for a seat representing Hampshire County in the West Virginia House of Delegates in 1920 . Zimmerman won the seat against Republican Party candidate C. W. Rogers in the November 1920 general election and subsequently served as a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates from 1921 to 1924 . Following his election , Zimmerman was made the Democratic Party 's floor leader in the West Virginia House of Delegates .

Zimmerman was appointed by West Virginia Governor John Jacob Cornwell to serve on a West Virginia Legislature select committee charged with drafting a road transportation bill under West Virginia Senate Joint Resolution No. 21 of May 21 , 1919 , known as the West Virginia State Road Law . The new West Virginia State Road Law became necessary following the authorization of a 50 million USD bond issue during the 1920 general election . Zimmerman was again appointed by Governor Cornwell to serve on a similar select committee following the ratification of the " Good

Roads Amendment " of the Constitution of West Virginia in 1920 .

During the 1921 legislative session , Zimmerman was assigned to the Judiciary , Roads , and Game and Fish committees . Also during the 1921 legislative session , he sponsored the following bills :

H.B. 274 (Ch . 158) , which gave county courts the authority to impose a " special building levy " not to exceed 30 cents for the purpose of completing the construction or repair of county courthouses .

H.B. 392 (Ch . 49) , which provided for the establishment of a county high school for Hampshire County and authorized the Hampshire County Board of Education to impose a levy not to exceed 30 cents for three years to construct and maintain the high school .

Throughout his tenure in the West Virginia House of Delegates , Zimmerman supported legislation that strictly enforced prohibition .

= = Agricultural pursuits = =

Zimmerman played an active role in the commercial apple orchard industry of Hampshire County , in which he was responsible for the promotion of several of the county 's orchard companies , served as an officer and legal advisor to orchard companies , and owned 150 acres (0 @. @ 61 km2) of his own commercial apple orchards . In November 1906 , Zimmerman , Henry Bell Gilkeson , R. W. Dailey , Jr . , and P. J. Ruckman were incorporators of the Mill Mountain Orchard Company , which operated orchards along the top of Mill Creek Mountain west of Romney . According to the 1919 Census of the Commercial Apple Orchards in West Virginia published by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture , Zimmerman was engaged in the management of three commercial apple orchards near Romney , West Virginia : Fairfax Orchard Company , which produced Stark Delicious apples ; Gilkeson , Hart & Zimmerman Orchard , which produced York Imperial , Pennsylvania Winesap , Ben Davis , Stayman Winesap , Jonathan , Grimes Golden , and Rome Beauty apples ; and the Mill Mountain Orchard Company , which produced York Imperial , Stayman Winesap , Pennsylvania Winesap , Rambo , Northern Spy , Canada Red , Ben Davis , Grimes Golden , Jonathan , Rome Beauty , Yellow Transparent , and Stark apples .

= = Marriage and children = =

Zimmerman married Kitty Campbell Vance on October 10 , 1900 , near Romney , West Virginia . Kitty Campbell Vance was the daughter of John T. and Mary Elizabeth Inskeep Vance of Romney . Zimmerman and his wife Kitty had four children :

Mary Elizabeth Zimmerman Kump (March 21 , 1903 ? 1994) , married Garnett Kerr Kump in 1940 in Hampshire County , West Virginia

George Henry Zimmerman (February 20 , 1905 ? 1987)

Kitty Campbell Zimmerman McCracken , married James Paris McCracken of Cisco , Texas at the Romney Presbyterian Church in Romney , West Virginia on August 20 , 1946

Vance Zimmerman (August 5 , 1910 ? September 27 , 1976) , married Mildred Sites in 1937 in Hampshire County , West Virginia

Zimmerman was an active layperson in the Methodist Episcopal Church , South , and served as a steward of the Romney Methodist Episcopal Church , South congregations . He also served for a number of years as the superintendent of the congregation 's Sunday school program . Zimmerman represented the church in the Moorefield district and at annual conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church , South . Despite his involvement in the Southern Methodist church , his wife Kitty and several of his children were Presbyterian .

= = Later life and death = =

Zimmerman 's wife Kitty predeceased him in 1937 . He died in Williamsport , Maryland , on September 2 , 1962 . Zimmerman is interred with his wife Kitty at Indian Mound Cemetery in

Romney , West Virginia . He had practiced law in Romney , West Virginia , for 66 years .