

KONTA
Geoffrey

1887-1942

Son of Alexander
Konta

(55 yrs)



GEOFFREY KONTA
MacDonald

GEOFFREY KONTA, AN ATTORNEY, DIES

Once Retained as Personal
Lawyer to W. R. Hearst—
Also on Publisher's Council

FORMED HIS OWN FIRM

Served in Interests of Motion
Picture Companies in the
Early Days of Industry

1942 Nov. 25
Geoffrey Konta, lawyer, who was at one time personal attorney to William Randolph Hearst, the publisher, and a member of the executive council of the Hearst organization, died yesterday in Lenox Hill Hospital after a short illness. Mr. Konta was a member of the law firm of Konta, Kirchwey & Engel, 7 East Forty-fourth Street, and lived at 290 Park Avenue and East Meadow, Hempstead, L. I. He was 55 years old.

Born in St. Louis, Mr. Konta was the son of the late Alexander Konta, banker, and the late Mrs. Annie Lemp Konta. He prepared for col-

lege at the Lawrenceville School and was graduated from Yale College in 1908 with an A. B. degree and honors in philosophy and foreign languages. He received an LL. B. degree from Columbia University in 1911.

Formed Own Firm

Mr. Konta was associated with the law firm here of Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett from 1911 to 1915. In the latter year he and Karl W. Kirchwey formed the firm of Konta & Kirchwey here. In 1919 the firm took in as members Jepome Michael and Royal W. France and continued under the name of Konta, Kirchwey, France & Michael. In 1923, after the withdrawal of Mr. France and Mr. Michael, Irving M. Engel became a partner and the firm became Konta, Kirchwey & Engel.

Specializing in corporate and income tax practice, Mr. Konta for many years was tax counsel of the Hearst organization as well as personal attorney to Mr. Hearst. He was for several years a member of the executive council of the Hearst organization, which acted as Mr. Hearst's "cabinet" of intimate advisers.

He was for some years attorney for Arthur Brisbane, Hearst writer and editor, until Mr. Brisbane's death in 1936. Since then the firm has represented the Brisbane estate.

Acted for Film Interests

In the early days of the motion-picture industry Mr. Konta was active as a lawyer for screen interests. He was attorney, successively, for the World Film Corporation and for the late Lewis J. Selznick and his various enterprises.

Mr. Konta acted as a referee at the direction of the Appellate Division, First Department, in one of the proceedings growing out of the "ambulance chasing" investigation conducted some years ago by the court. He belonged to the American and New York State Bar Associations, the Bar Association of the City of New York and the New York County Lawyers Association. He had been a director of the county association.

He belonged to the Yale and University Clubs and the Zeta Psi and Phi Delta Phi Fraternities.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Phyllis Goodhue Konta, whom he married in 1912, and two daughters, Mrs. Anne Marie Lucci and Mrs. Phyllis Olivieri, both of New York, and two grandchildren.