

Chief Justice John W. Kephart

1872-1944

Term

January 16, 1919-1940; Chief Justice 1936- January 1, 1940

Education

- Allegheny College, two years
- Dickinson Law School, LL.B., 1894

Professional Experience

- Admitted to Cumberland County bar, 1894; Cambria County bar, 1895; Philadelphia bar, 1938
- Law office of W. Horace Rose, Johnstown, 1895
- Private Practice, 1895-1914
- Solicitor, Cambria County, 1907-1914
- Elected Judge, Superior Court of Pennsylvania, November 1913
- Judge, Superior Court of Pennsylvania, 1914-1920
- Elected Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, November 1918
- Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, 1919-1940
- Kephart and Kephart, 1940-1944

Honors and Awards

- Honorary LL.D. degree: Dickinson College, Allegheny College; Lafayette College, University of Pennsylvania, Villanova College, St. Francis College, University of Pittsburgh, Juniata College

Memberships and Associations

- American, Pennsylvania, Cambria County Bar Associations
- Historical Society of Pennsylvania
- American Law Institute
- Loyal Legion of America
- President, Dickinson Alumni Association
- Associate Advisor, Dickinson Law School
- Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity
- 33rd Degree Free Mason
- Member, later Chairman, Pennsylvania Supreme Court Procedural Rules Committee
- Art Club
- Clover Club
- Union League
- Lincoln Club
- Whitemarsh, Philadelphia, Ebensburg Country Clubs

Publications

- A Story, 33 Dickinson L. Rev. 109 (1928)
- Judge Wilbur Fisk Sadler, 36 Dickinson L. Rev. 145 (1932)
- The Law Schools' Part in Excluding the Unfit from the Bar, 40 Dickinson L. Rev. 220 (1935)
- Appellate Court Decisions on Constitutional Issues. 40 Dickinson L. Rev. 217 (1936)
- Unauthorized Practice of Law, 40 Dickinson L. Rev. 225 (1935)
- The Supreme Court. 27 Pa. Bar Assn. Q. 345 (April 1936)
- The Constitution. 85 no. 21 Pittsburgh L.J. 3 (May 22, 1937)
- The Judiciary Under the Constitution 171 (1938)
- The Chief Justice Addresses the Bar. 11 Pa. Bar Assn. Q. 7 (1940-1941)

Sources

83 Pa. Manual 1010 (1937 ed.); Memorial Ceremony, 350 Pa. xxiii; 51 Report of the Fifty-First Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Bar Association 171 (1945); 1 Pennsylvania Superior Court Ceremonial Sessions 79 (John T. Bender, ed., 2009); Hon. John W. Kephart, 111 Legal Intelligencer 1 (August 8, 1944); John W. Kephart, Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_W._Kephart; William C. Petit, Supreme Court Opinions of Justice Kephart, 39 Dickinson L. Rev. 67 (1935); Ruby R. Vale, The Contribution of Chief Justice John W. Kephart to the Law, 40 Dickinson L. Rev. 205 (1936); W. H. Hitchler, An Orphan Became Pennsylvania's Chief Justice, 49 Dickinson L. Rev. 60 (1944).