

*It takes more than a good resume to get a government contract.*

## Archibald Wanless Frater (1856- )

From “Seattle and Environs”<sup>i</sup>

*Few men have made a more lasting impression upon the legal history of Washington than has Judge Archibald W. Frater, who for many years has presided with dignity and ability over the superior court of the state of Washington, for King county. He is a native of Belmont County, Ohio, and of Scotch descent. Early representatives of the name in America settled in West Virginia, near the Ohio line. Choosing the legal profession for the exercise of his talents, he qualified for practice and on leaving Ohio he made his way to Crow Wing county, Minnesota*

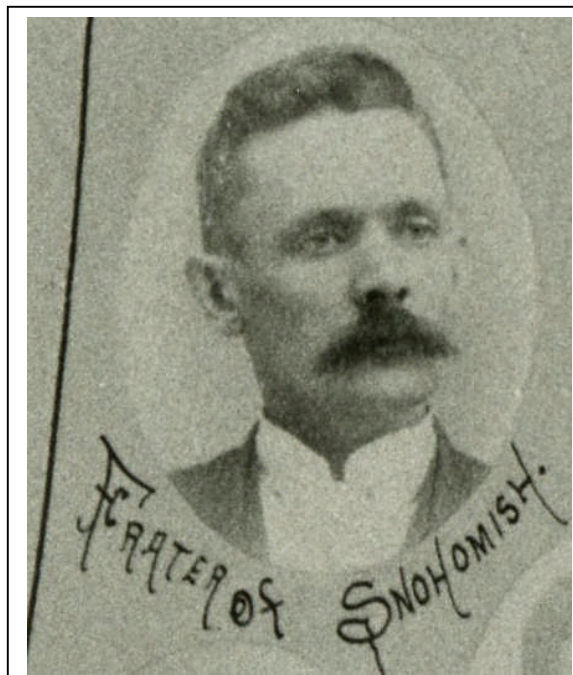


Figure 1 Archibald W. Frater from photos of Washington House of Representatives 1891

*where he practiced law for five and a half years. He next went to Kansas, where he also followed his profession, and for about two years was financially interested in the Bank of Webster, that state.*

*On the 1st of May, 1888, Judge Frater came to Washington, first locating in Tacoma, and a year later he removed to Snohomish. For some time he maintained a law office in the latter place and in 1891 he was elected to the state legislature from that district. He became resident of Seattle on the 1st of April, 1898, and his professional ability led to his selection for the office of judge of the superior court, which he is now filling, his long retention therein being proof of the high quality of the service which he is rendering the state.*

*Judge Frater was married near Mount Gilead, Ohio, on the 29th day of June, 1881, to Miss Emma Brooks, a native of Seneca county, Ohio, and a daughter of William and Hannah Brooks, who became early settler of that state. The father was an honored veteran of the Civil War and a representative of an old New England family of English extraction. To Judge and*

*Mrs. Frater were born three children: Ralph P., whose birth occurred on the 13th of June, 1882, and who is deceased; John and Helen, who was born at Snohomish, January 20, 1890, and became the wife of Charles R. Lewis, who served as superintendent of school at Kent, Washington, prior to the World war. After his discharge he engaged in the practice of law at Shelton, Washington, and is prosecuting attorney of Mason County.*

*Judge Frater has been a prominent figure in both local and state political circles of Minnesota and Washington and has become a recognized leader in the republican ranks. He belongs to the University Congregational church of Seattle, of which he has been a deacon, and his influence is ever on the side of progrand uplift. He is a member of the Arctic Club and is one of the best known Masons in Washington. He belongs to the commandery, has taken the thirty-second degree in the consistory and is a past grand master of the Grand Lodge of Washington and a past grand patron of the Order of the Eastern Star of Washington. He occupies a position of distinguished preferment in his profession and is recognized as a man of high intellectual attainments, with whom association means expansion and elevation.*

*John A. Frater, the only surviving son in the family, was born in Kansas, May 28, 1887, and his early education was acquired in the grammar and high schools of this city. Later he became a student at the University of Washington, from which he received the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1910, and three years later he was graduated from that institution, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. In 1913 he entered the office of Charles H. Winders, general attorney for the Northern Pacific Railway Company, with whom he remained until February, 1915. He then became associated with Edwin H. Flick in the general practice of law and later was appointed assistant United States district attorney. He is also a Congregationalist in religious faith and belongs to Beta Theta Pi, also to Phi Delta Phi, an honorary legal fraternity. He married Ruby E. Cannon, daughter of J. W. Cannon, M. D., of Boise, Idaho.*

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<sup>i</sup> Hanford, C. H. (Cornelius Holgate), 1849-1926, "Seattle and environs, 1852-1924": Chicago, Pioneer Historical Pub. Co., 1924