

JOHN WHITE DIES AT 63

Was In House Of Delegates From 1935 To 1945

John S. White, a member of the House of Delegates from 1935 to 1945, died yesterday at Nassau, the Bahamas, where he was vacationing because of poor health.

Mr. White, who was 63, served three terms in the House, where he was majority floor leader at three sessions and speaker at two. He lived in Colmar Manor, Md.

Dissatisfied with the candidates running for mayor in Colmar Manor, Mr. White entered the race himself in 1927 and won his first public office.

Conducted Singing Campaign

He was a member of the Prince Georges county delegation to the Maryland Legislature in 1935. From 1939 to 1943 he served as majority floor leader and chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. In July 1943, he was elected speaker at a special session.

Mr. White conducted a singing campaign in his first effort for a House seat.

At the time, the Legislature was receiving various versions of "Maryland, My Maryland" for adoption, and the candidate promised to sing the official version if he was elected.

During his career in Annapolis, he led a block of eighteen border counties in a fight against the proposed sales tax, and he championed an enlargement of the State police force.

Stumped State For O'Connor

Mr. White stumped the State in 1938 for the late Herbert R. O'Connor. When Mr. O'Connor won, Prince Georges county was in line for special consideration.

Mr. White was given chairmanship of the powerful Ways and Means Committee. Floor leader went along with this position.

He gained much publicity in 1935 when he charged that communism had infiltrated American education. "Even our Maryland colleges could stand a little investigation," he said.

Mr. White ran unsuccessfully for attorney general in 1946 and also lost a race in 1952 for Congress in the Fifth district in Prince Georges county.

A native of Philadelphia, he attended Philadelphia Central High School and the Wharton School of Finance. He enlisted in the Navy in World War I.

Studied Law

Mr. White studied law at Georgetown University, Washington. A short time after his graduation in 1923 he bought a home in Colmar Manor and opened a law office in nearby Hyattsville.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Mary C. White; a daughter, Mrs. Calhoun J. Killeen, of Colmar Manor; two sons, John S. White, Jr., of New York, and Thomas P. White, who is attending the University of Mexico, and three grandchildren.