

# Judge Shook In Line For Top Court Post

With the elevation of Thomas M. Anderson to the new Maryland Court of Special Appeals, Kathryn J. Shook is in line to become Senior Resident Judge of the Montgomery County Circuit Court.

Mrs. Shook, one of the county's best-known jurists, will become the court's administrative official because she is the senior judge on the court. As a distinguished legal authority, she is expected to introduce a number of changes in the court's operation.

The Senior Judge-to-be is known as a hard battler for principle, and a determined believer in fair enforcement of the laws.

Judge Shook is married to Donald Gleason Shook and has two children and three grandchildren. She studied law at the Washington College of Law of American University, graduating in 1936. In 1950 Judge Shook sought her first political office and was elected to the Montgomery County Council. She served as an officer of the Council during the two-year period of her incumbency, during which time she was instrumental in forming the Association of County Commissioners of Maryland.

In 1953 she was appointed to the House of Delegates of Maryland by Governor Theodore McKeldin and served two years, during which time she sponsored progressive legislation, particularly as it related to the Maryland State Tax Commission. The present State Tax Court and Department of Assessments and Taxation is based upon the bill she introduced while a member of the General Assembly where she served on the Judiciary Committee.

In 1955 Governor McKeldin appointed her to a vacancy in the



Judge Shook

Sixth Judicial Circuit of Maryland and she became the first woman to serve on Maryland's highest trial court.

In 1956 she was elected to a full 15-year term as Judge in that Circuit.

Judge Shook is well acquainted with state and local affairs and has a thorough understanding of Maryland Government, having served in the executive, legislative and judicial branches.