

**JUDGE KERSTEN
FOUND INSANE
BY COMMISSION**

**Jurist Is Placed in
Care of Wife.**

[Editorial on back page.]

Court Judge George Kersten, veteran of the Cook county bench, was declared insane yesterday morning and was placed at his home last night in the presence of County Judge Jacob J. Jacobs.

The commission, which consisted of Drs. L. B. Diamond and Edward Foley, was named by Judge Jacobs to investigate Kersten's mental condition at the request of Dr. William A. Kohn, for the past year one of Judge Kersten's closest friends. Dr. Kohn has been caring for Judge Kersten for the past two weeks. His good friend suffered a long illness.

In Care of Wife.

"The sanity hearing became necessary as a result of the statement my husband," Dr. Kohn said last night. "It was a kindly thing done in a case of this kind."

Judge Kersten, who is 72 years old, was committed to the care and custody of his wife, Anna, and his son, Dr. Kohn, who is to stay near the judge in a private residence within the next few days.

"We have no fear that his condition will improve in a short time," Dr. Kohn said.

Recently in Hospital.

Judge Kersten recently obtained permission for his physical breakdown at the American Hospital here. Prior to that he was a patient at the Sacred Heart Hospital.

Judge Kersten is one of the picturesquely dressed on the local bench and is known for his wit and his cynical courtroom sense of humor. Once he caused a sensation by a violent quarrel with Assistant State's Attorney William H. McLaughlin over the trial of a murder case. Later, in March, he drew a sharp rebuke from the bar. At the time his friends said the Judge had been weakened by his illness.

Once, in 1922, he was in a partner's case, Judge Kersten clashed with the attorney, who was a member of the Committee of Fifteen, calling the reformer a "damned lawyer, a liar and a scheming old dog."

Born Here in 1852.

Judge Kersten was born in Chicago in 1852. He has been on the Circuit Bench since 1901 and prior to that was a lawyer for twenty-three years, several years being spent in the bar work. In politics he was a Democrat and once the party candidate for sheriff.

During his years on the bench Judge Kersten tried some 1,000 and one-half cases in Cook county, including the trials of the Karpis gang and the trial of William and Alexa Gandy. His reputation for leniency was the first obtained in 1911 and 1912, while conducting the trial of the notorious gangster, Alvin Karpis. Judge Kersten's first wife died in 1908. He has a son, George, who resides in Milwaukee, Wis. In 1912 he married Anna Minnie Starry.



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