WILLIAM HOLCOMBE THOMAS
Associate Justice - 1915-1945

BORN: June 10, 1867; Oakbowery, Chambers County, Alabama
DIED: December 22, 1945: Tuskegee, Alabama

William Holcombe Thomas graduated from Emory College, Oxford, Georgia, in 1886.   He then read law under Judge James Dowdell and was admitted to the bar in 1888.

Thomas practiced law in Lafayette in partnership with William J. Samford, who later was elected governor of Alabama.   In 1892 Thomas moved to Montgomery, where he practiced law with Thomas H. Clark and Fred S. Ball for several years.   He served as city court judge from 1902 to 1909, then resumed his law practice.   Elected associate justice of the Supreme Court in 1914, he took office in January of 1915 and remained on the court until his death.

Thomas wrote numerous articles on political, social, and literary topics; he also read papers before several academic, scientific and literary organizations.   When a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa was established at Emory, he was inducted as an alumnus on the basis of his service in arts and sciences following graduation.   His ***alma mater*** also conferred on him an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1936. Thomas was a charter member of ***The Thirteen***, a Montgomery literary organization, and was serving as its president at the time of his death.

In 1891 William Holcombe Thomas married Lula Marian McCurdy of Lowndesboro.   They had one daughter.