

Thursday, June 27, 1963

*Evergreen Markets*

## Louis H. (Preacher) Durst

Louis H. (Preacher) Durst, 59, a vice president and director of Brown & Root, Inc., and a native of Crockett, died Tuesday in a Houston hospital.

A descendant of a pioneer Texas family that settled in East Texas in the 1800's. Durst was born in Crockett on March 10, 1904.

Durst was a member of the operating committee of Brown & Root, and had been general manager of all construction since 1955.

He had been a national director of the Associated General Contractors of America, Inc. since 1959, and was a past president of the association's Texas municipal and utilities branch.

Durst was a frequent banquet speaker and an active leader in Texas A. and M. College alumnus activities. He received his bachelor of science and master of science degrees in civil engineering from A. and M.

In 1928 he went to work for Brown & Root in general road and paving work. In 1930, he left the company and joined the Uvalde Asphalt Co. He was a Texas Highway Department district engineer during 1933.

In 1934, he returned to Brown & Root as a design engineer and had been with the company since then. He organized the purchasing department and served as general purchasing agent from 1939 to 1941.

Before he was appointed general manager of construction, his field was primarily heavy engineering construction. He directed projects in the Houston area until he was put in charge of all construction in 1955.

Durst was a member of the Methodist church, the Arabia Temple Shrine, the Anson Jones Masonic Lodge, the Texas Society of Professional Engineering Society and the Houston County Club.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Vickory Durst; his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Durst of Shreveport, La.; a son, Louis Jr. of Houston; two brothers, Julian Durst of Crockett and Horatio Durst III of Gretna, La.; and two sisters, Mrs. Richard N. Potter and Miss Mary Elizabeth Durst, both of Shreveport.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday in Saint Paul's Methodist Church with Dr. Alfred H. Freeman and Dr. John Land officiating.

Graveside funeral services will be held at 3:30 p.m. Thursday afternoon, June 27, in the Evergreen Memorial Park in Crockett, with the Rev. E. Jewel Strong officiating.

Local arrangements by Callaway Funeral Home.

From the collection donated to the Houston County Historical Commission. This collection was part of the papers that Mrs. Nannie English had. The original is preserved to protect it from further damage.