



COTT, JOSEPH, Attorney-at-Law, Los Angeles, California, was born at Penrith, County of Cumberland, England, July 16, 1867. His father was Joseph Scott, and his mother, Mary (Donnelly) Scott, was a native of Wexford, Ireland. On June 6, 1898, he married Bertha Roth at Los Angeles, California. To them were born eight children: Joseph, Jr., Mary, Alfonso, George, Cuthbert, John Patrick, Helen and Josephine Scott.

Mr. Scott received his first education in his native country, where he attended Ushaw College, Durham, from 1880 until 1888. He matriculated with honors at London University in 1887, being the gold medalist of his class. At St. Bonaventure's College, Allegany, N. Y., he received the degree of A. M. in 1893, and the honorary degree of Ph. D. at Santa Clara College, Santa Clara, Cal., in 1907.

Mr. Scott came to America from England in 1889, and entered into journalistic work in New York City. In this he had more success than remuneration and about that period he had the hardest struggles of his life. He was unused to manual work, but during his financial difficulty he took employment of various kinds, in some cases consisting of the hardest kinds of physical labor. In 1890 St. Bonaventure's College, Allegany, N. Y., accepted his application for the position of Senior Professor of Rhetoric and English Literature. He held this position until 1893, when he resigned and removed to Los Angeles, where he took up the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in April, 1894, and his strong personality soon brought him to the front in civic affairs, in which he has been a leading factor, especially in matters educational and those furthering the interest and growth of Southern California. His energy in this line won for him from President Taft the compliment of being "California's greatest booster."

Mr. Scott's professional life is a big and

busy one. A case especially worthy of mention in which he is playing a prominent part is at this time in course of preparation. It is the world-famous "McNamara Case," involving charges of murder growing out of the explosion of the Los Angeles Times building. Mr. Scott has been engaged by the defense. This case, it is expected, will be one of the most bitterly fought cases that was ever tried

in the United States and the attention and interest of the world is centered on it—the public out of general interest and the legal profession out of professional interest.

Mr. Scott is a fluent and versatile speaker, his addresses being marked for their sound logic and wit, and he has frequently been called upon to represent the city upon social and civic occasions. He was Speaker at the banquet to President Taft upon his visit to Los Angeles in 1908, and Toastmaster at the banquet given to the officers of the battleship fleet during its stay there upon the trip around the world in 1908. He represented California at Washington in the successful fight for the Panama-Pacific Ex-



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position to be held at San Francisco in 1915, and his work in this won praise at every hand.

He has taken deep interest in educational matters and is at the present time president of the Board of Education, which office he has held five terms, although no salary is attached thereto, and has been instrumental in the building and directing of Los Angeles' splendid school system. He was first elected to the Board in 1905.

Mr. Scott is a director of the Equitable Savings Bank. He was a member of the Charter Revision Committee in 1903; is a member and director of the Chamber of Commerce, of which he was president in 1910; a member of the Executive Committee of the Southwest Society, Archaeological Institute of America and vice president Southwest Museum. He is a member California, Union League, Sunset, Newman and Celtic clubs.