

DECKER, A Biography of Sheriff Bill Decker of Dallas County 1898-1970



Ace crime fighter, Sheriff Bill Decker of Dallas County, the J. Edgar Hoover of the Southwest, was armed with a phenomenal memory aiding his unique ability of deduction. In addition to his uncanny ability to solve crimes, he kept files! If you were a Dallas power broker, a judge a politician, con man, or gambler, Bill Decker knew about your back room deals, your white envelopes, your mistress, or your son in rehab. Decker was a stern, yet benevolent, master of the art of accumulating information, storing it and knowing how to use it. When you needed help, advice, or if it was time to surrender, Decker was the man to see. It was a mystery how any man could have so many friends inside prison walls. He had his own prison rehabilitation plan for Dallas County. When he strapped on his first pistol, the primary mode of transportation was horseback or buggy. The main qualifications to be selected as a lawman were to be the best fighter in your neighborhood, tough enough to subdue and smart enough to make a judgment call on the spot. No two-way radio was available to get advice. Within the covers of this book, you will get the story of the Devils Back Porch, where all the streets had names, but there were no street signs. West Dallas was a no mans land not yet annexed by the city of Dallas and spawned the most deadly desperados of the Southwest. Alice Hamilton, a West Dallas mother, raised two sons who both became Public Enemy No. 1.

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