

Harry Wahlstrand, State Senator, Dies

Special to the Minneapolis Star

WILLMAR, Minn. — State Sen. Harry L. Wahlstrand, who served nearly a third of a century in the Minnesota Legislature, died Wednesday night at the St. Cloud Veterans Hospital.

Services are to be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Bethel Lutheran Church, with burial in Willmar Cemetery.

Mr. Wahlstrand was born

in Kandiyohi County in 1890, and its voters sent him to the state House of Representatives for the first of four terms in 1929.

In 1938, he was elected to the state Senate and won successive terms although a stroke in 1960 prevented him from participating in the 1961 regular and special sessions.

A bulwark of the senate's Conservative majority, he was elected president pro tempore for the 1959 session, was a member of the controlling Rules Committee, chairman of the Welfare Committee and of the Legislative Interim Committee on Public Employe and Employer Relations.

A history and social science teacher first at Minneota, Minn., and then for 32 years

at Willmar, Mr. Wahlstrand took a special interest in legislation dealing with education.

He also was a consistent foe of legislation extending liquor licenses.

Gustavus Graduate

Mr. Wahlstrand attended Northwestern College at Fergus Falls, Minn., and was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College. Following Army service in World War I, he attended the University of Birmingham, England.

He had served the National Education Association as director for Minnesota and in recent years, following his retirement from teaching, was educational director for the Minnesota Hospital Service Association. He was a member of the American Legion, Kiwanis Club and Bethel Lutheran Church of Willmar.

Survivors included his widow, Ruth; sons, Myron, San Jose, Calif., and Owen, Willmar; daughter Harriet, San Jose, and sister, Mrs. Andrew Norstrom, Willmar.

Gov. Andersen said Sen. Wahlstrand was long respected "as one who could speak articulately and forcefully for his views."

The senator was widely respected, Andersen said, "as a scholar of American history and deeply concerned with the need to keep America independent and self-reliant."



Mr.

Wahlstrand