

Senator Virgil B. Seward was born in Indiana, in 1854, and came to Mankato, Minnesota, in 1855 and was there educated; chose legal profession for his life work; was admitted to the Bar at Mankato, and there commenced the practice of his profession; shortly thereafter he moved to Marshall, Lyon County, Minnesota, then a growing community, and there spent the remainder of his life in the practice of his chosen profession. Mr. Seward was married, and his wife survives him.

Mr. Seward held, in his life time, various county and municipal offices, all of which positions he ably and creditably filled. He was elected from Lyon County to the Senate in 1906 and served in the 1907 and 1909 Sessions thereof.

Mr. Seward was an able lawyer and actively practiced his profession up to the time of his death. In the local affairs of his city, he was always active; always ready to render service when requested and was always true to the best interests of his community; he was broad minded, petty things never disturbed him; he was of a genial character and made many friends who always remained true and loyal to him.

Mr. Seward during his service in the Senate was always active for the best interests of the State; he was a diligent and influential member of the Senate, active in committee work, and his dominant personality made him a valuable floor leader thereof; to cope with Mr. Seward in debate, his opponent had to be sure of his ground.

Mr. Seward because of his character, geniality, and learning held the esteem and warm friendship of all of the members of the Senate during his service therein, and it is simply a deserving tribute to him to say that in his death, his community and State has been deprived of a useful and honored citizen.

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Senate, of the State of Minnesota:

That through the death of the Honorable Virgil B. Seward, the State has lost one of its ablest citizens, a man who devoted his best ideals and service to the State, and those who served with him in Legislative work and all others who intimately knew him, will always mourn his loss and the State, its citizens, and his community will always remember him as an able officer and citizen whose life and labors were devoted to their interests.

That with the deepest sympathy we convey to his bereaved wife and family, our sincere condolence in the great personal loss suffered by them through his death.

That the citizens of his community and of his State will always remember him as a good citizen and one who in public service always acted for the best interests of the public.

And be it further resolved, that this report, together with the resolutions forming a part thereof shall be spread upon the Journals of the Senate, and an engrossed copy thereof be forwarded to the family of the departed Senator.

JAMES H. HALL,
G. H. SULLIVAN,
FRANK E. PUTNAM,

Committee.

Mr. Hall, James H., then moved the adoption of the foregoing memorial resolution.

Which memorial resolution was then unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

IN MEMORIAM—HONORABLE, E. W. DURANT.

Mr. Sullivan, G. H., announced the death since the last session of the Honorable E. W. Durant and moved that a committee of three be appointed by the President to prepare an appropriate memorial to be spread upon the pages of the Permanent Journal.

Which motion prevailed.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The President announced the appointment of Messrs. Sullivan, George H., Sageng and Peterson as members of the committee in accordance with the foregoing motion.

IN MEMORIAM—HONORABLE EDWARD WHITE DURANT.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

To the Honorable State Senate of the State of Minnesota:

Your Special Committee appointed for the purpose of preparing a memorial resolution commemorative of the life and service of the late Honorable Edward White Durant, of Washington County, who was a former member of the Senate of the State of Minnesota, respectfully submits the following:

Edward White Durant, a member of this body for three terms, died December 9, 1918, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Henrietta Barclay, at Stillwater, aged eighty-nine years.

Senator Durant was born in the town of Roxbury, Mass., April 8, 1829. His ancestors were patriots and gained a distinguished reputation for bravery in the struggle of the Colonies for Independence, one of these ancestors having been a member of and a participant in the famous Tea Party of 1773. Some of his forefathers took part in the war of 1812. His grandfather was in command of a fort in Maine during the Revolutionary War, and a great uncle was a surgeon on the United States sloop of war Essex, lost at sea.

When Senator Durant was but two years of age his father moved with his family to Cincinnati and later to Illinois where his boyhood was passed in braving the hardships of a frontier farmer's life. In April, 1848, he sought his fortune in the beautiful valley of the St. Croix and began his life in Minnesota by engaging in what was then the sole industry in the locality of Stillwater, the lumber trade. With his associates he formed the firm of Durant, Wheeler & Co. This concern built and ran steamboats between Stillwater and St. Louis and cut logs on the St. Croix and its tributaries. Interests on shore were not neglected and during the years that passed Mr. Durant held many positions of trust and importance. He was appointed mayor of Stillwater in 1861 and was subsequently elected to that office for three successive terms. He served in the House of Representatives three terms and a like number of terms in the Senate. He was also a candidate of the Democratic party for Lieutenant Governor and for United States Senator. Senator Durant was a Mason; he was elected Grand Master of Minnesota Masons at the session of the Grand Lodge in 1878. He was also elected in 1874 Grand Chancellor of Knights of Pythias of Minnesota.

Such in brief is the history of the life work of Senator Durant.

Of his great service to the State and the community in which he lived so long it is only necessary to say that no man was more public spirited

or had the welfare of his City, State and Country more at heart than had he.

Senator Durant came to Minnesota when the State was a wilderness. He was a pioneer, a builder, one of the founders of this great empire in which we dwell. He was honored and respected by all who knew him and was among the last of the early settlers to solve the great mystery.

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that in the death of the Hon. Edward White Durant, the State and Nation loses one of its wise counsellors, devoted servitors and a valued citizen.

That the people of the State whom he served so long and so well will long remember him for his devotion to their interests, with an eye single to their welfare.

And be it further resolved that this report, together with the resolution forming a part thereof, shall be spread upon the Journal of the Senate and an engrossed copy thereof be forwarded to the family of the departed Senator.

GEORGE H. SULLIVAN,
OLE O. SAGENG,
FRANK H. PETERSON,
Committee.

Mr. Sullivan, George H., then moved the adoption of the foregoing memorial resolution.

Which memorial resolution was then unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

IN MEMORIAM—HONORABLE J. Q. BRIGGS.

RESOLUTION BY JOHN W. HOPP.

Whereas, We have learned with regret of the death of Hon. J. Q. Briggs, of Houston, Minnesota, who served as a member of this body during the sessions of 1907 and 1909; and

Whereas, In his death, the state has lost a faithful servant, and those who knew him a sincere and earnest friend, his whole life being marked by genial friendships, kindly human relations, whole-hearted regard for the principles in which he believed, and an unswerving devotion to the best interests of the state as he saw them; and

Whereas, He will be greatly missed in the community in which he lived, where his counsels were honored and appreciated, and where his spirit of fairness, conscientiousness and consistency impressed his fellow-men with respect even in disagreement; therefore

Be It Resolved, That the Senate hereby officially declares its sense of loss in his death, expresses its deep appreciation of his many sturdy and virtuous qualities; and that it extend to the bereaved family our sympathy; and that this resolution, as adopted, be sent to his family in token of our action and as a mark of our esteem and affection for our departed friend and brother; and

Be It Further Resolved, That the Secretary be and is hereby authorized to have an engrossed copy of this resolution prepared and the same be sent to the family of the deceased.

Mr. Hopp moved the adoption of the foregoing memorial resolution.

Which memorial resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS--CONTINUED.

Mr. Benson moved that the Journal of Thursday, April 21st, 1921, the 80th day, as corrected by the Secretary, be approved.

Which motion prevailed.

Mr. Rockne moved that the Senate do now adjourn sine die.

Which motion prevailed.

The President thereupon announced the Senate adjourned sine die.

GEO. W. PEACHEY,
Secretary of the Senate.