

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Memorial Service
April 19, 1973

MEMORIAL TO: Hilberg Peterson

PRESENTED BY: Representative Delbert F. Anderson

Hilberg Peterson served in the House of Representatives in 1951 as the representative from the Forty-seventh District, Glenwood, Minnesota.

Hilberg was born in Norway in 1889. His people were very poor and he lived in a one-room log house. He related that as a boy he seldom saw such delicacies as meat and butter on the table, such foods being reserved for Christmas and Easter only, and his bed was a hard floor with no mattress. He came to this country in 1908 and worked in various positions, earning his way through school. He was a streetcar conductor and motor-man with the Minneapolis Street Railway Co., worked for the Milwaukee Railroad and took jobs on farms or wherever they were available in his determination to finish school. After service in World War I he was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1920, thereafter serving as Superintendent of Schools at various places in South Dakota and Minnesota, traveling field representative for the Sons of Norway and City Assessor at Glenwood. Subsequent to his service in this House he was appointed doorkeeper in the U. S. House of Representatives in Washington, D. C. Later he became Glenwood's City Clerk and was appointed County Superintendent of Schools, a position he held for two years before retiring.

He wound up his varied career serving as a Justice of the Peace in Glenwood and as a substitute teacher in the Glenwood Schools for twelve years prior to his death.

Besides his many other activities Mr. Peterson was a long-time active member of Glenwood Lutheran Church, serving the men's club as secretary and president, singing in the church choir and teaching Sunday school.

Mr. Peterson was married to Blanche Merrell of Glenwood who survives him (and is with us here today).