

Mr. Serline was born at Cambridge, Minnesota, and came to Kanabec County with his parents when he was one year old. After he grew to manhood, Mr. Serline operated a successful insurance and real estate agency at Mora. In addition to his business affairs, Mr. Serline took an active part in the civic and political activities of the community. He was the first President of the Mora Commercial Club and served for some years as a member of the Village Council of Mora, and later was a member of the Kanabec County Fair Board for fourteen years.

His first political office was that of County Treasurer of Kanabec County, which office he held for three terms. In 1918 Mr. Serline was elected to the House of Representatives and held that office for two terms. In 1922 Mr. Serline was elected to the State Senate from the 55th Legislative District and held that position for three terms. During his term of office, Mr. Serline was the author of the bill creating a State Department of Agriculture and also of one which established the graduated state income tax. During his period of service in the State Senate Mr. Serline served with ability and distinction. His colleagues recognized him as a worthy and conscientious legislator.

Mr. Serline was a companionable, likable person, with all of the qualities which are attractive. He had an agile and alert mind, a delightful sense of humor, a genial, kindly and gentle disposition, and the capacity to do well in whatever he undertook. Mr. Serline was intensely loyal to his friends and would help them without any thought of reward in return. Much more might be said in extolling the virtues of Mr. Serline as a man, as a citizen, and as a former State Senator. Suffice to say, in conclusion, that all through his life he was guided in all things by the highest and noblest of ideals. In the community in which he lived the name of Charles F. Serline will always be held in cherished memory.

→ The President of the Senate then recognized the Senator from Stearns, Benton and Sherburne, Mr. Richardson, who offered the following tribute and addressed the Senate as follows:

Mr. President, Members of the Senate and Honored Guests:

I have the privilege today of presenting the Senate's tribute to a great name in Minnesota Legislative history. Henry H. Sullivan of St. Cloud, my friend and predecessor in the Minnesota Senate, served the 45th District, which includes all of Benton County, the City of St. Cloud and surrounding townships, and the 7th Ward, City of St. Cloud, Sherburne County, for twenty years, from 1935 to 1955, following but for one term a like period of distinguished service in the Minnesota Senate by his father, John D. Sullivan. Illness brought an end to Henry Sullivan's long and brilliant service in the State Senate, and he retired in 1954, urging the election of the present senator from Stearns as his successor.

It is Henry H. Sullivan whose outstanding service to his district and to the State of Minnesota is well known to most of you, whom we honor on this occasion. Entering the Senate in 1935, he soon became a powerful figure, ruggedly independent, seeking always what was best for his district and his state. One of his early projects as senator from "The Granite City" was securing legislation which classed silicosis, the dread granite dust disease, as an occupational disease, with resultant greatly improved shop conditions for granite workers.

Senator Sullivan's interests were varied as shown by his committee assignments, which over the years included General Legislation, Municipal Affairs, Motor Vehicles and Motor Tax Laws, Game and Fish, Public Highways, Soldiers' Bonus and Soldiers' Home, Railroads, Judiciary, Elections, Rules, Committee on Committees, and Finance. His service on the Finance Committee began in 1935; he became acting chairman in 1945, and was Senate Finance Chairman from 1947 to 1955. As Senate Finance Chairman he served also on the Legislative Advisory Committee to the Governor (the LAC) and on the Minnesota Public Relief Committee.

Senator Sullivan was a Conservative, but gave the strong impact of his support to worthwhile legislation by whomever offered. Some of the more recent accomplishments of which Minnesota is justly proud—our beautiful Capitol Approach, the University's Mayo Memorial and its Veterinary College, the Taconite Industry, and the State's fine Mental Health Program, to name just a few—owe much to this legislator. Some of you will remember that the Senate's long-delayed voting machine was installed only after Sullivan's friendly persuasion stilled the last opposition. Perhaps the bitterest battle of his legislative career was that to bring about a proper standard of pay for state employees.

Senator Sullivan was a man of complete integrity and great ability; he was outspoken and courageous; his stand on legislation was never in doubt. He occupied Senate Seat No. 1—chosen because his father had occupied that seat for many sessions—and from that position his clear, concise explanation of legislation, his commanding presence and fine voice, brought respectful and full attention from all. Henry Sullivan was polled as one of the five top men in the Senate, as one of the two hardest working senators, and as Senate Finance Chairman he was unquestionably the busiest senator during many a long "last day" of a session.

Election and re-election over a forty-year period is eloquent evidence of the truly fine representation given the important 45th District by Senators Sullivan, father and son.

For over forty-five years a practicing attorney in St. Cloud, Henry Sullivan left an enviable record. He had an abhorrence of injustice and took no cause in which he did not believe. For a just cause, he battled with vigor and consummate skill. Many a juror told him that he had won his case because of his personal, clearly evident belief in his client.

As law and legislative work were his vocation, helping others was his avocation. He gave freely of his time to the countless friends and constituents who brought all manner of problems to him; and the thing most frequently said of him today is, simply, "He helped so many." He derived great personal satisfaction, also, from helping persons who had made a misstep, and his encouragement and wise counseling restored many to good citizenship. In representing such persons, he entered a tribunal with a plea on his lips and a prayer in his heart. He never sought justice without mercy, nor did he seek mercy without justice.

Mr. Sullivan was a Past Exalted Ruler and Life Member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Chamber of Commerce, and of local and American Bar Associations.

No tribute to Henry Sullivan would be complete without mention of his unusual appreciation of outdoor life, of the beauty of lakes and forests, and of his great enjoyment of his lake cottage. A friend once remarked that God had truly blessed Henry in giving him such love of Nature and in having so ordered his life that he spent much time out-of-doors. Many will recall that his leisure-time conversations most frequently were joyous recountings of the fishing and hunting experiences of his wife and himself. He was an expert rifleman, a skilled oarsman and swimmer; his hobbies, hunting, fishing, and motor-ing.

Henry Holland Sullivan was born in St. Cloud, Minnesota, October 3, 1889, son of John D. and Elizabeth Sullivan, and passed away in that city March 21, 1959, survived by his wife, Ruth, by three children, Mrs. W. W. Cowan, San Jose, Calif., Mrs. R. J. Robbers, San Lorenzo, Calif., and John D. Sullivan, Jr., Santa Clara, Calif., and by a sister, Mrs. Lawrence M. Hall of St. Cloud.

This tribute, if lengthy and warmly personal, must be so, to properly commemorate this vital, very human person whom we so greatly miss. I am grateful for assistance with personal information used, and honored at having been selected to present the Senate's final tribute to this friend and statesman.

The President of the Senate then recognized the Senator from LeSueur, Mr. McGuire, who offered the following tribute and addressed the Senate as follows:

Mr. President, Members of the Senate and Honored Guests:

It is with sincere respect and honor that I humbly rise to commemorate the memory of a very devoted public servant, Senator Frank M. Wrabek.

Senator Wrabek was a pioneer in south central Minnesota. He was born in New Prague, Minnesota, in 1873 and led a very full and a very busy life for 87½ years.