

IN MEMORIAM SERVICE

House of Representatives - April 19, 1973

BIOGRAPHY OF J. WILLIAM TRYGG

1905-1971

(Delivered on House Floor by Rep. Douglas Johnson)

J. William Trygg, a former legislator in the House of Representatives, died in Washington, D.C. on April 11, 1971. He was elected to this body in 1966 and served one term from the old 62nd Legislative District.

In the summer of 1968 he was in Washington, D.C. testifying on an Indian claims case and became ill -- an illness which his widow says he tried to ignore, but which resulted in major kidney surgery in late August of that year. He never completely regained his health but continued in business as a land use consultant and appraiser.

J. William Trygg had been a U.S. Professional Forester for 28 years. He was considered by his friends to be a great conservationist and felt that conservation meant the wise use of resources for the good of the people as well as the good of the land and that proper use would conserve both.

Born September 17, 1905, at Cook in St. Louis County, Minnesota, he was reared on a farm in northern Minnesota. His parents had immigrated from Varmland, Sweden in 1903 to become among the first pioneers who settled on a homestead which they developed into a diversified farm.

It was on this farm and in this area that he gained a basic knowledge of the rigors of pioneer life and a love of the forest area which were later to become the source of his career.

After college training in forestry, he did land surveying, road construction, logging, lumber scaling and other related jobs before entering the U.S. Forest Service in 1926. As a District Ranger from 1942 to 1954, he had charge of the Central Fire Control Equipment Service Center serving the Superior National Forest. He was considered one of the pioneers of the aerial photo

system, set up in 1935, for inventorying and classifying timber and forest lands.

Mr. Trygg conducted a special appraisal in 1963 for the U.S. Steel Corporation involving the Soudan Iron Mine property which was an underground mine from 1884 to 1962 and has since been donated to the State of Minnesota as the 1,000-acre Soudan Mine State Park. As an appraiser, he also handled special Indian claims appraisals in north central Minnesota involving 10 million acres for the Chippewa Tribe of Minnesota.

He finished out his career as a land use consultant and appraiser for natural resources, an expansion of his life-long interest in the forest lands of northern Minnesota.

Surviving him are his widow and a son, William R., who was associated with his father in the Trygg Land Office of Ely, and which he has continued to operate since his father's death. Also surviving are three granddaughters.