

[Jt. Res. No. 6, S.]

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2, S.

Relating to the death of the Honorable Theodore Roosevelt.

In the death of Theodore Roosevelt there passed away the most picturesque and the most inspiring figure of his times. The people of Wisconsin in common with those of the entire nation mourn his untimely taking off.

Theodore Roosevelt was born into circumstances which made unnecessary a struggle for material existence, yet his life was one of unremitting toil and whatsoever his hand or mind found to do he did with his might. Life opened for him, also an assured social status yet he became the exponent and embodiment of a genuine democracy which acknowledged merit only in what a man did and was. Democracy to him was not a mere sentiment or emotion, but the living faith of man in the essential equality of his fellows.

His patriotism, like his democracy, was not to be worn as an ornament, but rather it was a vital essential element of his character to which zeal and intensity was added with the years.

From the time in 1884 when Theodore Roosevelt first commanded country-wide attention until the day of his passing he was a distinguished figure in the public life of this nation. During all those years which were strenuous ones for him as well as for the country, his dominating aggressive personality brought him in constant conflict with the effete customs and more reprehensible practices in the administration of public affairs. But while in all this the fierce light of publicity beat upon him it revealed no blot upon his patriotism, nor shadow upon the probity of his private life.

Theodore Roosevelt entered the public life of his country at a time when his robust enthusiasm and the high rectitude of his motives were clearly needed. He leaves as one of the most enduring legacies of his public life the new vision he opened for his countrymen of the potency of moral force in national and international dealings. He taught with an energy and clearness which none might misunderstand that "Righteousness Exalteth a Nation."

While in the larger field of statesmanship and world politics he was a great moral tonic, he became the usher-in of the revival of civic morality in his own country. He touched to life the consciences of the people concerning their civic responsibilities.

Theodore Roosevelt's dynamic personality and abounding joy in life made him a reviving, freshening influence in all the legitimate and wholesome activities of his time. He represented

“the highest type of the youth, the vigor and the promise of a great country and a great age.” He possessed in a marked degree “the strong man’s hand for labor and childhood’s heart of play.”

“And round the common show
of earthly things
He threw the radiant halo
of the dawn.”

It is in no sense of disparagement of his contemporaries in the public life of the country to recognize in him the most potent single influence in the awakening in his countrymen of the spirit which so promptly and so adequately met the demands of the great world war.

We may not see his like again, but to us he has bequeathed a noble heritage. Generations yet unborn will be inspired by the fine integrity of his private life, his passion for justice and the “square deal” for rich and poor, the distinguished and the obscure, alike, his penetrating sense of the need of militant honesty in civic life, and his insistence that moral principles underlie all great national and international dealings. Just as his phrases coined in the intensity of his feeling, have enriched our language, so has his fruitful life added to the moral wealth of the nation.

Resolved, That this memorial be spread upon the journal of each house and an engrossed copy be transmitted to Mrs. Roosevelt.

[Jt. Res. No. 7, S.]

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3, S.

In memory of Charles Richard Van Hise.

May 29, 1857—November 19, 1918

WHEREAS, President Van Hise was a Wisconsin man, born and reared on one of its farms, educated in its schools and university, throughout his life a citizen of the state and devoting his energies to its service. He became a member of the university of Wisconsin in 1875 and there continued until his death, forty-three years later, as student, teacher, investigator, and president.

As student he won the highest honors of the university, and as teacher he made his department a power both in general education and in the production of professional geologists. Trained as a geologist in our university and in the study of problems offered by our state, his ability and insight earned for him the recognition of the scientific world of all nations for his masterly solution of the most difficult and fundamental problems of geology.