



Senate Journal
March 29, 1917

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

Senator Wilson offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Whereas, Richard Hastie, one of the bright and efficient pages of the Senate, was called this morning from time into eternity by an unfortunate accident, and

Whereas, his bright and cheerful countenance is this morning and will be for the remaining days of session, sincerely missed from among us, now, then

Be it Resolved, That we deplore the tragical death of this bright, cheerful and genial young boy.

Be it Further Resolved, That we tender to the relatives of our faithful young friend and employee of this body, our sincere sympathy in these dark hours of bereavement. So far as human words and feeling may go, to the bereaved ones we tender the fullest measure of sympathetic thought and consideration. To them, we can only commend the loving care of the Heavenly Father who said when on earth in human form, "Suffer little children to come unto me", and

Be it Further Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to procure a suitable and appropriate floral tribute, as a token of respect for the memory of the deceased, and

Be it Further Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, properly engrossed, be furnished to the family of our deceased young friend.

By unanimous consent the resolution was taken up, considered and unanimously adopted

Richard and three other Pages crawled along this ledge frequently. He had been warned by his mother numerous times to stay away from this ledge.

Richard Hastie's Certificate of Death states that he died from a "fractured skull and other injuries caused by a fall from a 3rd floor balcony window ledge south side of Statehouse."

He was 12 years, 9 months and 14 days old at the time of death.

The front page of the Des Moines Tribune that evening read:

YOUTH FALLS TO DEATH AT STATE HOUSE

Richard Hastie, a Page, Plunges from 15-Inch Ledge 50 Feet to Ground

Climbing to Locked Fourth Floor Room

Loses Balance in Rounding Pillar with Chair—Died Almost Instantly