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FORMER REP. ARNE WANVICK
1890--1971

(Served in House of Representatives - 1933-1963)
(Served in Senate - - - - - 1965-1969)

Mr. Speaker, Members of the House - Mrs. Wanvick and distinguished guests.

I am very honored today to speak about a great former member of this body. Mr. Arne Wanvick was born on July 4th, 1890 in Duluth and was a graduate of the Duluth Central High School. He was a life-long resident of Duluth where he was an active member of the Democratic-Farmer Labor Party, his church, the painters union, the Duluth Central Labor Body, Moose Lodge and many other clubs and organizations.

Mr. Wanvick served in the House of Representatives from 1933 to 1963, except during the 1941 legislative session when he ran for the office of St. Louis County Commissioners. He also served in the State Senate from 1965 to 1969. His more than 35 years of distinguished service in these legislative bodies are well remembered by his fellow legislators who are convened here today to pay honor to his memory.

He served in the legislature - not because it was a lucrative job but because it was in these bodies where he was able to do something for the people. His main interest was obtaining justice for the working people and the poor. He fought very hard against the Old Age Lien Law which has remained on our books for many years.

I am sad that he died last year, that he did not live to see the bill repealed by this legislature and signed into law by Governor Wendell Anderson.

As I campaigned last year in the territory he knew so well, I personally found out from his former constituents the high esteem in which they held the late legislator, Arne Wanvick.

He was a humble, sincere, hardworking, just man who always kept in touch with the people whom he represented.

Ladies and gentlemen, if while I serve in this legislature, I can do at least a portion of what he accomplished in his years here, I would consider myself worthy of following in his footsteps.

His survivors are his widow and a sister. They are here today in these chambers for this service.