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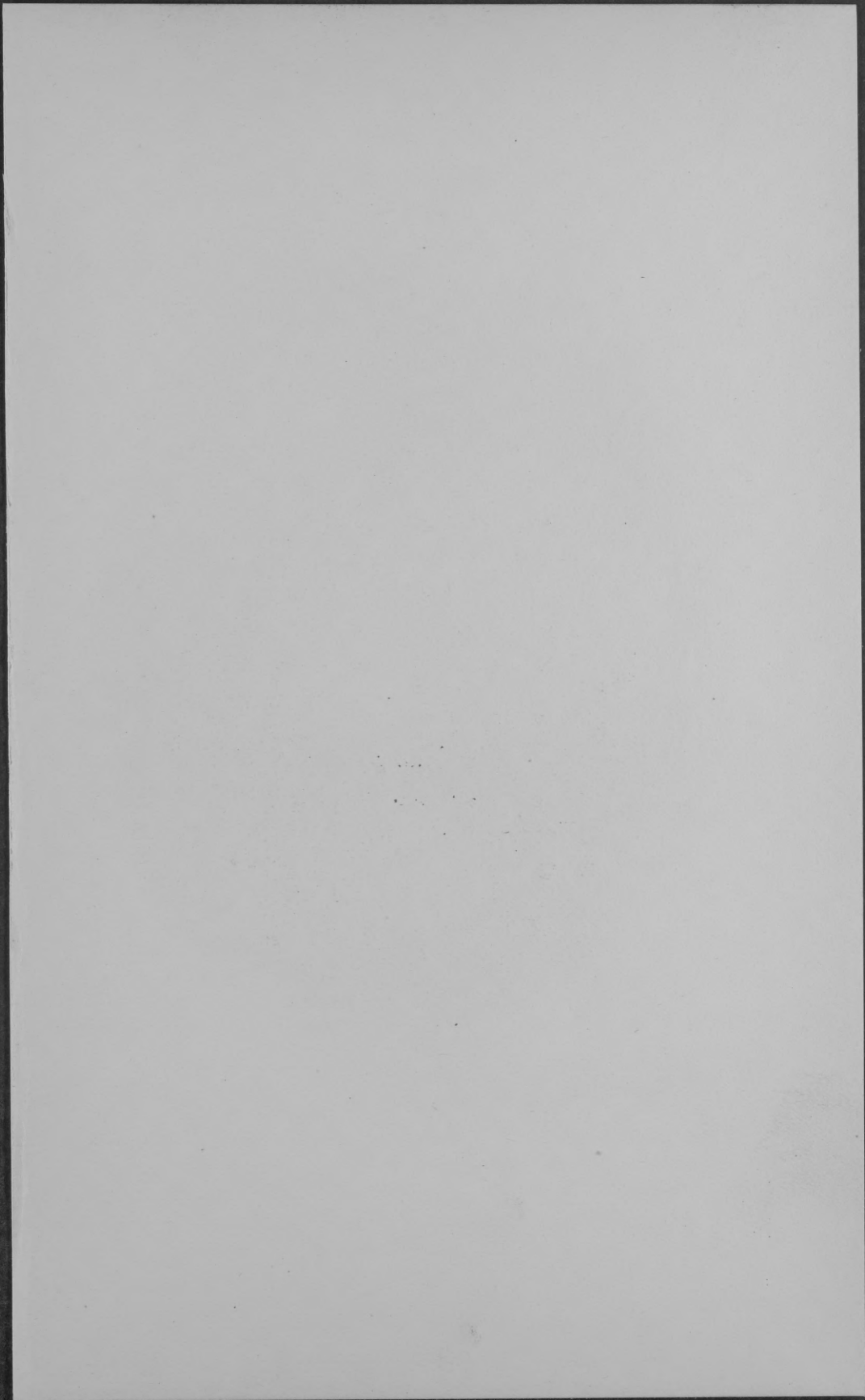
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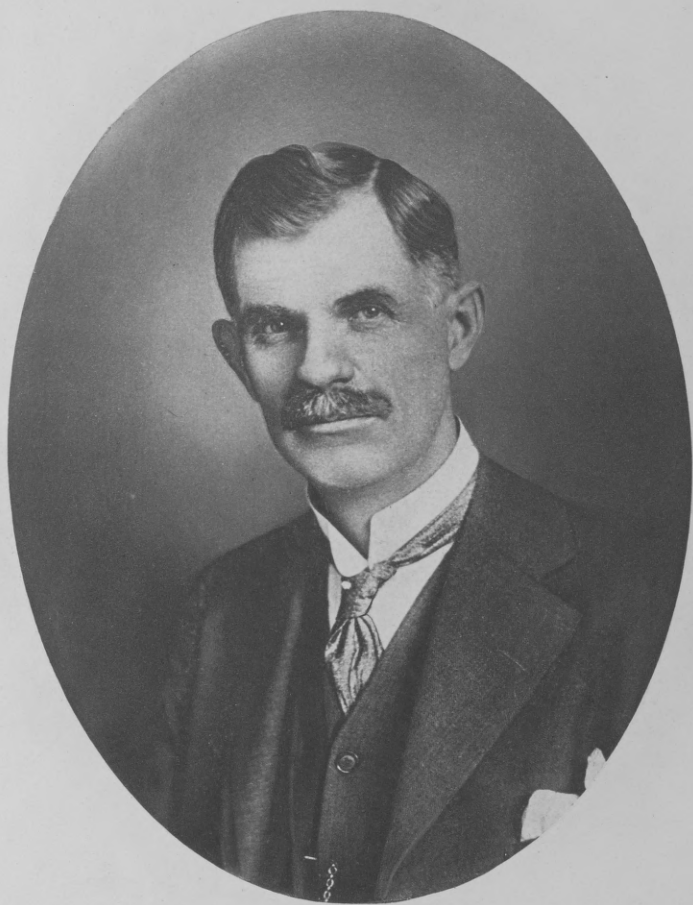
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# James C. Cantrill



## Memorial Addresses DELIVERED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN MEMORY OF JAMES C. CANTRILL

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE  
FROM KENTUCKY



Sixty-Eighth Congress

MARCH 1, 1925



GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON  
1925

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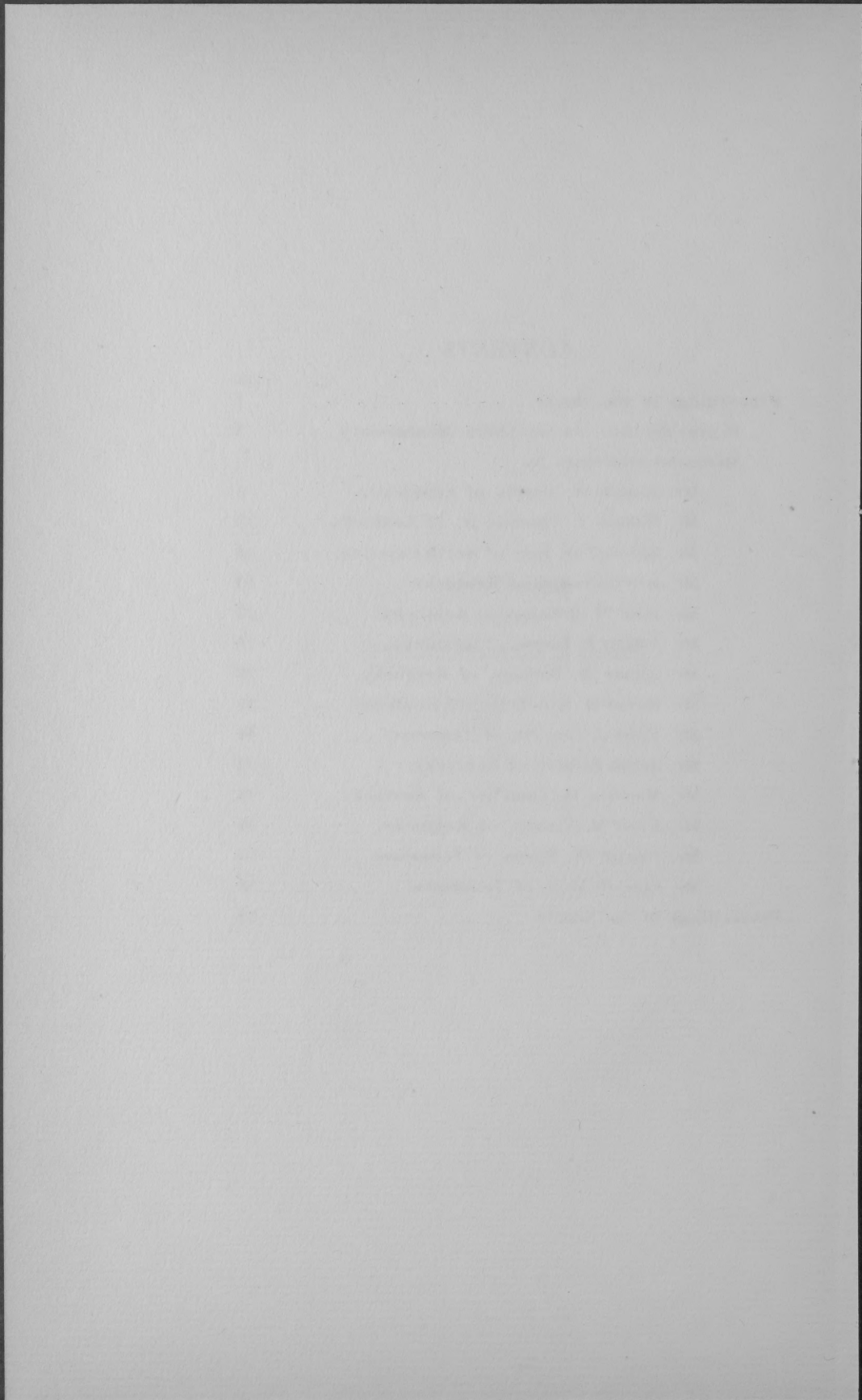
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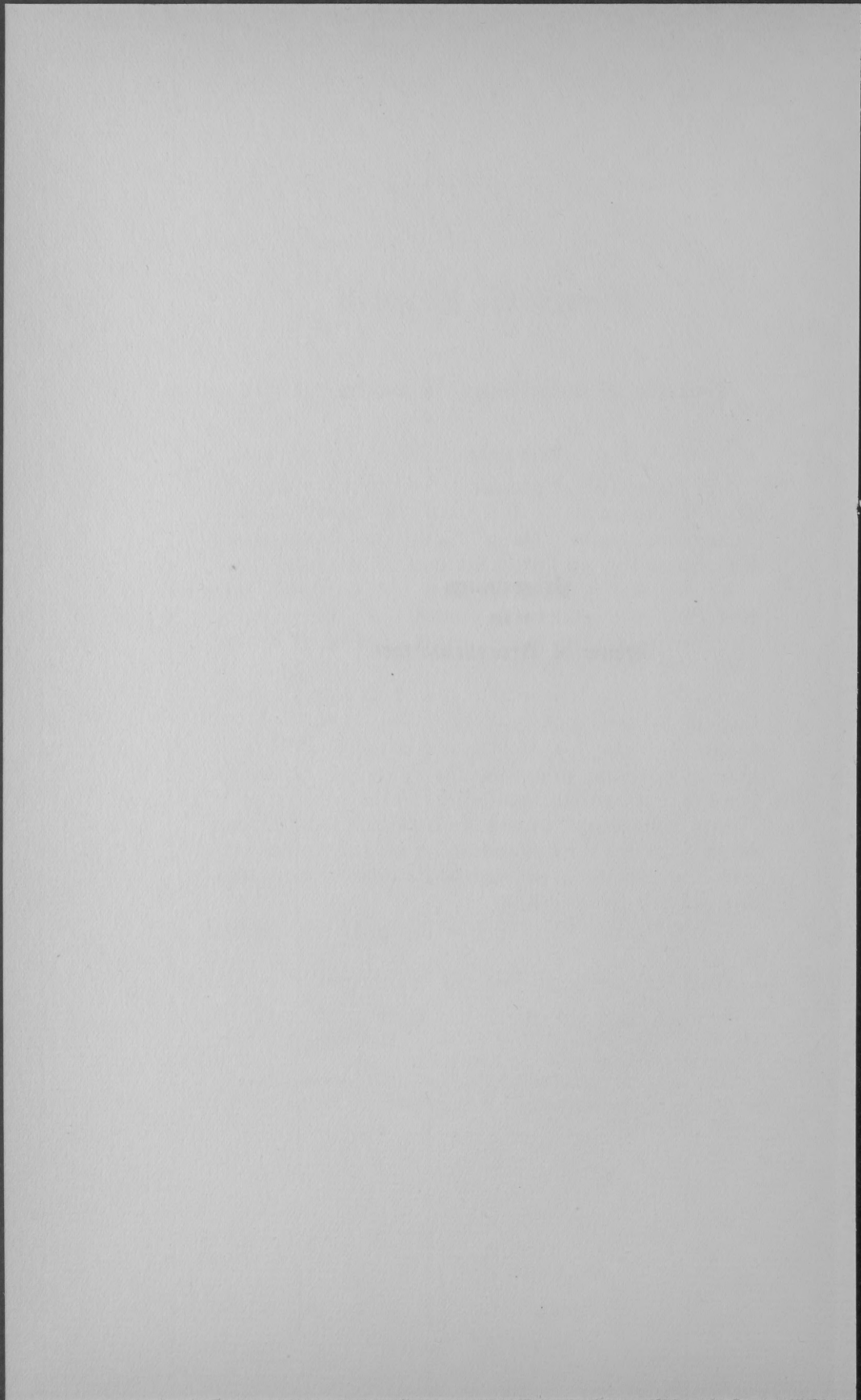
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Proceedings  
in the  
House of Representatives





# James C. Cantrill



## Proceedings in the House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, December 5, 1923.

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, it becomes my painful duty to announce to the House the death of our former colleague, JAMES CAMPBELL CANTRILL, a Representative from the State of Kentucky.

At the last general election Mr. CANTRILL was reelected to a seat in this body. At the primary election in August last he was nominated by his party for the office of Governor of the State of Kentucky. He died, and a few days later he was buried in the cemetery at his home town, Georgetown, Ky. In his death the Nation suffers a grievous public loss and the State of Kentucky loses an eminent and valuable Representative.

At a subsequent time I shall ask that the House set apart a day for eulogies upon his life and public services. I send to the Speaker's desk a resolution and ask for its adoption.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read (H. Res. 17) as follows:

*Resolved*, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. JAMES C. CANTRILL, a Representative from the State of Kentucky.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. LONGWORTH. Mr. Speaker, as a further mark of respect to the memory of our deceased colleagues and Senators, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 40 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned until to-morrow, Thursday, December 6, 1923, at 12 o'clock noon.

THURSDAY, *December 13, 1923.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Craven, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. JAMES C. CANTRILL, late a Representative from the State of Kentucky.

*Resolved further*, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

SATURDAY, *February 14, 1925.*

Mr. MORRIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Sunday, March 1, be set aside for memorial services on the life, character, and public services of the late JAMES C. CANTRILL, a Representative from the State of Kentucky.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Kentucky asks unanimous consent that Sunday, March 1, be

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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set aside for memorial exercises for the late Mr. CANTRILL, of Kentucky. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

SUNDAY, March 1, 1925.

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m. and was called to order by Mr. Johnson of Kentucky, Speaker pro tempore.

The Chaplain, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, D. D., offered the following prayer:

*Blessed Lord God, Thou art infinite in wisdom and in love and far too wonderful for human understanding, yet there are none so wounded but can be helped by Thy spirit. Thou dost heal the broken heart and bind up with many balms the toiling hands of mortals. Give us a sweet un murmuring faith in all Thy providences. In our disappointments, in our sorrows, and through our tears may we behold the cross on which is the heartbreak of the world's Saviour and the Father's message to the children of men. Be with all hearts that are afflicted and with all firesides that are saddened, and when we reach the hilltop of eternity's morning may we see Thy face and hear Thy voice. Amen.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the special order.

The Clerk read as follows:

On motion of Mr. Morris, by unanimous consent—

*Ordered*, That Sunday, March 1, 1925, at 2 o'clock p. m., be set apart for memorial addresses on the life, character, and public services of the Hon. JAMES C. CANTRILL, late a Representative from the State of Kentucky.

Mr. MORRIS. Mr. Speaker, I offer the following resolution, which I send to the desk and ask to have read.

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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read (H. Res. 460) as follows:

*Resolved*, That the business of the House be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for tribute to the memory of Hon. J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL, late a Member of this House from the State of Kentucky.

*Resolved*, That as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his distinguished public career, the House, at the conclusion of these exercises, shall stand adjourned.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the adoption of the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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**Address by Representative Morris**  
*Of Kentucky*

Mr. SPEAKER: Sixteen years ago this month J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL and I came to Washington, he the Representative of the seventh district of Kentucky and I his secretary. From that date until his death we were like brothers, and never during this time was there an unkind word between us.

Mr. CANTRILL was born at Georgetown, Scott County, Ky., July 9, 1870; was educated at Georgetown (Ky.) College. He was twice married. His first marriage was to Miss Carrie Payne, who died December 8, 1913; and his second marriage was to Mrs. Ethel Gist Ripy, of New Castle, Ky., who now survives him. His only child, James Edwards Cantrill, resides at Georgetown, Ky. Early in life Mr. CANTRILL engaged in farming, in which he continued until his death. He loved the farm and was recognized as one of the best farmers in the blue grass region of Kentucky. He was fond of politics and always manifested a keen interest in civic affairs. In 1897 he was elected a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives and served two terms in that body. In 1901 he was elected a member of the Kentucky Senate from the twenty-second senatorial district, where he was soon recognized as a leader not only in the senate but in the Democratic Party of the State.

In 1908 Mr. CANTRILL was elected to Congress, where he served continuously until his death.



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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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During his service in this body he was a member of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds; was chairman of the Committee on Industrial Arts and Expositions; and from the year 1913 (Sixty-third Congress) to the end of his congressional career he was a member of the important Committee on Rules.

I feel that the older members of that committee, as well as the older Members of this House in general, will concede that he was an active, able, and influential member of the Committee on Rules and of the House. While it was not his privilege to serve as a member of the Committee on Agriculture, his interest was always centered in legislation designed to aid agriculture, and the farmers of his district and of the entire country realized that they had in him a loyal friend and an able champion.

His efforts were particularly directed to the interests of the tobacco growers of the country, and he secured the enactment of laws from which they derived immeasurable protection and countless benefits. He represented the greatest agricultural district of his State, and his devotion and untiring efforts in behalf of the farmers of the country made him the idol of his constituents.

In the presidential campaign of 1916 Mr. CANTRILL was chosen chairman of the campaign for the State of Kentucky, with headquarters in Louisville, where he worked day and night for months, perfecting one of the greatest organizations ever known in Kentucky, in virtue of which Woodrow Wilson carried the State by a majority of 28,000.



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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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In the presidential campaign of 1920 Mr. CANTRILL was called by the National Democratic Committee to New York City, having been selected as chairman of the committee on organization, where he rendered valuable aid to his party.

He became a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Kentucky in 1923 and was nominated in the State primary of that year. Prior to the primary election, at Corbin, Ky., Mr. CANTRILL suffered a physical breakdown, which resulted in a long illness, from which he died on September 2, 1923, just one month after receiving the nomination.

It was my privilege to be associated with Mr. CANTRILL during all these years, which gave me an opportunity to study and to know him, and to love him as few men could. Mr. CANTRILL was a man of superior intellect, unfaltering courage, and sound judgment. His chief characteristic was to weigh carefully and analyze thoroughly every problem that confronted him. He never overlooked defects because of his advocacy of a proposition nor magnified them because of his opposition thereto.

One of my greatest pleasures would be when he would so often say to me, "Well, Joe, we will now have a cabinet meeting and go into executive session." By this he meant that something had taken place during the day and we were to discuss and analyze it. It was at these cabinet meetings, where only the two of us were present, that I saw him at his best. As a husband and father he was kind and affectionate; as a neighbor he was ever ready to serve his fellow man, and was always

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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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noted for his kindly consideration of and assistance to those needing help. For these and many other traits of character he was beloved by his neighbors.

As a statesman Mr. CANTRILL was broad of vision, and his advice was often sought and always welcomed by others who shared with him public responsibilities. As a public servant he was conscientious, painstaking, and effective, always enjoying the confidence of his associates and constituents. In politics he was a fearless and forceful fighter, but a man of few words except in debate or public discussion, in which he was regarded as a man of superior ability. To my mind, he was one of the best listeners I have ever known.

Mr. CANTRILL was never defeated in a political contest. No man ever had a deeper hold on the confidence of his friends than did he. His friends believed in and followed him to the limit, but at the same time his methods were always so fair as to win for him the respect and admiration of those who opposed him. That sentiment was not confined to the seventh Kentucky district, but extended throughout Kentucky, as was evidenced by the throng representing every shade of political opinion and every walk of life that gathered in his home city of Georgetown to pay their last tribute of respect on the day of his funeral.

In his passing this body lost an honored and highly respected Member; the country lost a faithful servant; his party lost its nominee for the highest office within the gift of our State; his family lost a devoted husband and father; and I lost my best friend and closest confidant; and for these

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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reasons no greater honor could have come to me than to have been chosen by his constituents and his friends of a lifetime to succeed him in these Halls.

Mr. Speaker, as a part of my remarks on this occasion, I desire to have incorporated in the Record of this House the eulogy delivered by the Rev. George C. Waggoner, the bosom friend of Mr. CANTRILL, on the day of his funeral:

The full text of Doctor Waggoner's funeral address follows:

Leaves have their time to fall,  
And flowers to wither at the north wind's breath;  
Stars have their time to set,  
But thou hath all seasons for thine own, O Death.

We know when the gladsome springtime is here by the budding of the trees; we realize the days of the good old summertime by the harvest and the ripening fruits; we are sure of the autumn when the frost gives a tinge of gold to the falling leaves; we are certain the winter is on when the north winds sweep across our path, but we are not always so sure about death. We are impressed that each season has points peculiar to itself, and that there are things and conditions peculiar to each season; but death hath all seasons for its own.

Men die in the gladsome springtime, in the good old summertime, in the golden autumn time, and in the bleak wintertime. Just as we are entering now the doorway of the golden autumn, J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL, our beloved brother and our distinguished neighbor, stoops and enters the doorway of death.

We shall pass up, then, this autumn over a trail of fading leaves and falling grasses, but our noble brother shall pass up the great White Way leading to God and to conditions eternal. We sit here to-day to drop our tears of love and to pay our tribute of respect, but he stands yonder to-day with palms of victory and crowns of blessedness.

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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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We have met here this afternoon in the house of God with the family of the deceased to express our sympathy to them and to pay a tribute of honor to the memory of one of Kentucky's greatest men. We feel our weakness when we try in our human way to heal the hurt of their hearts and to comfort the sorrows of their souls. All that we can do is to sit by their sides in brotherly love and weep as they weep. Jesus did this with the broken-hearted sisters of Bethany, and He lost not the respect of His Father. We can, also, talk in a Christly way about the life of our deceased brother, emulating his virtues and praising his years of dignified service.

Out in the State some may wonder why the family has selected a weak village preacher, one who serves the folk of the farms, to deliver these tributes of love. We can only surmise that they did this in keeping with the great, common, heart interests of J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL, who has proven himself again and again to be the best friend the farmers have ever had in official service. He lies here to-day, cold in death, as we firmly believe, because he burnt out his strength, like a candle, to give light and service to his friends of the soil.

J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL, the son of Judge James E. and Jennie Moore Cantrill, was born in Georgetown, July 9, 1870.

In 1893 he was married to Miss Carrie Payne, and to this union was born their son, James E. Cantrill. Mrs. Carrie Cantrill died in 1913.

In 1918 he was married to Mrs. Ethel Gist Ripy, who survives him.

Besides his widow, he is survived by his son, by a step-daughter, Mrs. Elgin Morison, of Lexington, and a brother, Mr. Cecil Cantrill, of Lexington.

Mr. CANTRILL was a member of the Christian Church at Georgetown, a Mason, an Odd Fellow, and an Elk.

Because of the marked simplicity in the expression of Mr. CANTRILL's life we pray that God may guide us in a simple service of love that can only pay, as we feel, an unlimited tribute to his splendid soul.

Those characteristics which the world often call big are not the real great things in the lives of men. Those

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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things which, probably, have appeared big to some men in the conduct of Mr. CANTRILL are not the things which attracted me most. The little human features of his life have meant much to me, and if time permitted I could relate many to-day that would make his memory loom in greatness before you and that would cause you to place his service upon a pinnacle as high as the stars.

I can only take time to relate one or two incidents in which I was personally concerned. When he began his first race for Congress he asked me to introduce him in Henry County, a section where I had much influence at the time. I told him if he stood for certain issues I certainly would be glad to do so. He wrote me later that as he saw the issues then he would stand for them. I introduced him and helped to elect him. Some few years later, when we all began to understand those issues better, he called me to him in the old Capitol Hotel and told me of his change of view upon those questions, gave his reasons, and asked me to release him from his promise, saying, "I would not deceive you for anything." He knew that I had the influence to do him much harm politically at that time, but he followed the route of an honest and honorable man. How could I do other than admire his fairness and honesty? Not every man possesses such qualities of soul.

And again, during the last primary campaign, he called me into his headquarters at the Seelbach and said, "Brother George, don't make any attack upon my opponent. Don't say any unkind words about him. Go on and defend me as your conscience may allow you, but don't sling mud at my opponent; I don't care to win that way."

I came out of that room loving J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL a thousand times more as a brother.

No current of selfishness ran through his great soul. He stood ready always to help the people in the solution of their problems and in the bearing of their burdens. And, again, I ask, was this not a splendid exhibition of the ethics of Jesus Christ?



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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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If J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL had doted and gloated only in the great and spectacular affairs of men, I could not have admired him truly, but because of the fact that he lived down amid the toiling masses I loved him dearly.

His creed, which he carried with him on a card found in his vest pocket, worn with use, best expresses his ideals of a real man. It read:

“To live as gentle as I can;  
To be, no matter where, a man;  
To take what comes of good or ill,  
To cling to faith and honor still.

“To do my best and let that stand  
The record of my brains and hand;  
And then, should failure come to me,  
Still work and hope for victory.

“To have no secret place, wherein  
To stoop unseen to shame or sin;  
To be the same when I'm alone  
As when my every deed is known.

“To live undaunted, unafraid  
Of any step that I have made;  
To be, without pretense or sham,  
Exactly what men think I am.”

Mr. CANTRILL made mistakes. He had his faults; he possessed his weaknesses, and so did many great men of sacred history. Lot was selfish, Moses killed an Egyptian, David committed murderous adultery, Peter cursed and denied Christ, and Paul persecuted to the point of death Christian men and women, but with all their faults they had eyes and hearts toward God and He received them. J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL, though weak at times, always faced toward the good, the true, and the beautiful. He loved the best in his fellow men and in his country, and we believe that we direct the sorrows of members of his family aright when we say to them “Let your grief be consoled in the sweet belief that J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL'S noble life shall continue forever.”



**Address by Representative Thomas**  
*Of Kentucky*

Mr. SPEAKER: I desire to pay a short and farewell tribute to my personal friend, Hon. JAMES CAMPBELL CANTRILL, late Member of this House, representing the seventh congressional district of Kentucky.

I knew Mr. CANTRILL for 30 years or more and was intimately associated with him in this House for 15 years before his death. We entered the Sixty-first Congress together, and from that time until he passed from the activities of life we were always on terms of intimate friendship.

He was a candidate for Governor of Kentucky at the last gubernatorial primary election. He was a sick man when he entered the contest and made the race on what proved to be his deathbed. He won the nomination, handicapped as he was, but died before the final election in November. Before he was elected to Congress he held other important elective positions and was never defeated in any contest before his home people.

So far as I knew him, and I knew him well, his life was an inspiration and his memory is a benediction. I never heard him speak an unkind or harmful word of anyone, not even his bitterest enemies. CAMPBELL CANTRILL was, in my opinion, a good man and did not indulge in any vices. He was true and loyal to his friends and considerate of his enemies. He was upright, truthful, and honorable. He was a splendid gentleman of ability

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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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and in every way dependable. He was a careful, painstaking Congressman and always watchful of the interests of his constituents and the welfare of the public. He was honest in his convictions and possessed the courage to maintain them. He was a consistent member of the Christian Church, with a true and abiding faith in God, and faith is the star of hope that lights the pathway of erring humanity to a brighter world and a happier hereafter.

CAMPBELL CANTRILL has solved the problem of the future. He passed away quietly, serenely, and unafraid. That came to him which must come to all. Death is an endless chain in endless life, and beyond death we can not see, we do not know. The problem of human existence is answered conclusively and forever by the final summons. Death is the only answer that the founders of all religions can give to the unfathomed and unfathomable problem of human life.

All the Bibles, the Zend Avesta, the Koran, and the pagan rites of old and grotesque philosophies veiled in the gloom of dark temples do not throw any light on the hereafter. All humanity floats ceaselessly down the tide of the stream of ages until it is finally engulfed in the dark waters of death, but time moves forever onward without sleep or weariness.

All mankind, the red Indian, the black savage, and the teeming millions who inhabit the continents and the sun-kissed isles of the oceans, believe in a Supreme Being and a future life of some kind. Through the faith implanted in the human mind

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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we catch the golden gleam of a fairer land of unspeakable beauty, where we shall know each other face to face.

CAMPBELL CANTRILL is dead. In the full flower of splendid manhood he drifted peacefully away on the dark unknown sea whose waters lave the shores of the unseen world. His body is lifeless, his tongue is silent, his eyes are closed in the night of death, and he has passed through the dark shadows to the spirit land and gone the way we all must go. Humanity at best is a weak vessel drifting on tempestuous and uncharted seas toward far blind shores, and at last the helpless craft is buried forever beneath wild waters.

Onward we are drifting ever  
'Til some Charon lifted oar  
Tipping moonlit waves of silver  
Pilots to the silent shore.

Tears for his untimely and regrettable death,  
and flowers for his grave.

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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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*Address by Representative Pou  
Of North Carolina*

MR. SPEAKER: Our deceased friend, J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL, was elected to the Sixty-first Congress. I was intimately associated with him for 15 years. During the World War we served as members of the Committee on Rules. He was diligent and faithful. He never shirked a duty.

The tragedy of the great World War affected our deceased friend very deeply. I remember a conversation I had with him after Congress had declared that a state of war existed with the German Imperial Government. Mr. CANTRILL was much depressed. In speaking of the resolution he said that he felt as if he were voting a sentence of death upon the young men of the Nation. This expression struck a responsive chord in my own heart, for, God knows, I felt the same way about the declaration of war.

Of course, the work of the Committee on Rules during the tragic period of the war was of supreme importance. So much legislation was necessary in order to prepare for the great conflict that the Rules Committee was very frequently called upon to prepare the way. The Nation had no more patriotic son; there was no one more ready and willing to make whatever sacrifice was necessary than our deceased friend. He was a loyal party man, but during the period when the life of the Nation was threatened I believe he had utterly

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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divested himself of all party feeling whatsoever. He was an American, willing and ready to risk all.

Many things operated to create a bond of sympathy between CAMPBELL CANTRILL and myself. Our views with respect to the Great War were identical. Hating war above all crimes, we did not see how America could honorably avoid the conflict. Therefore, both of us voted for the resolution declaring that a state of war existed. Our sons were in the service, and we were drawn together by a feeling of anxiety which it is impossible to exaggerate. Men revealed themselves in the hour of great trial. This man was fully revealed. He was pure gold.

I know that there is much comment about the life of the national legislator. People wonder if men live the same lives here that they are accustomed to live at home. CAMPBELL CANTRILL was just the same man in Washington as the CAMPBELL CANTRILL in Kentucky. He passionately loved his State, he passionately loved the Nation. He was ready to die for the flag had it been necessary to make the sacrifice.

I remember another discussion he and I had about the war. He said he felt in his heart that he would enlist if he were a young man, but said he, "I find myself wondering if I really would enlist." Of course, there was no way by which he could prove the sincerity of the declaration that he would enlist. But I, who was thrown with him during the entire period of the great conflict, who was drawn to him by bonds of strongest sympathy, who cherished a genuine affection for him, can answer the question. If he had been of military age,



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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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nothing would have kept him out of the conflict except the decision of the military authorities that he was not physically fit to stand the strain.

And so, Mr. Speaker, the simple truth is all that is necessary to be said concerning our dead friend. His career as a national legislator reflects credit upon the district which sent him to Washington. He was one of the influential men of the House. Selecting a dozen names of those who served in the great days of the Wilson administrations would necessarily include the name of CAMPBELL CANTRILL. He was loyal to President Wilson during every minute of the great President's two terms of office, and Mr. Wilson knew that in CAMPBELL CANTRILL he had a friend and supporter who was ready to make any sacrifice.

Kentucky is a great State, Mr. Speaker, rich in tradition, her history abounding with great names. It was but natural that our friend should have an ambition to round out his political career as governor of his native State, but here the hand of Providence intervened. His ambition was not to be realized. Of course, he would have been elected if he had lived. Suddenly he was to be taken. I believe this man was incapable of cherishing malice or of harboring hate, and so I conclude this inadequate tribute by saying I firmly believe there rested on his soul at death's summons that calm which of right belongs to one who had never knowingly injured a fellow being.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. Morris] please take the chair?

Mr. Morris assumed the chair as Speaker pro tempore.

**Address by Representative Johnson**  
*Of Kentucky*

MR. SPEAKER: But another of the frequent occasions has come when we assemble to recall and to relate something of the virtues of a departed colleague.

This gathering is still but another of the daily reminders that "Dust thou art, to dust returnest."

This Chamber is the coveted arena for those who are stirred by ambition for forensic contest; for those who wish to excel in measuring, not swords, but intellects; for those who seek no quarrel except for humanity's sake.

Here have come noble characters; here have come the intellectual geniuses of our Nation; here have come sweet-tempered souls; here have come those to whom the distressed, whether individual or Nation, may not appeal in vain.

Membership here never was, is not, never will be the goal of the sordid; here integrity reigns; here good purposes prevail; here laudable ambition aspires; here patriotism is in absolute control.

For membership here fortune is scorned, envy is challenged, detraction endured, slander and libel braved, even violence defied. Yet it has become the fashion for little men to ridicule and abuse a body which would neither be enlightened nor purified if made up entirely of them.

My observation of those who have come and gone during a score of years, a study of those who

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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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now are here, tells me that if during that long time a man dishonest at heart has been elected to this body, he has, upon assuming its obligations, left that heart outside and brought within only his best judgment and a feeling of loyalty to his country and gratitude to those who honored him and put their trust in him.

An official entrance here inspires one with the feeling that, no matter what the temptations may be, he must not only be correct, but he must so conduct himself that even the envious and malicious may not point the finger of even unwarranted suspicion.

To-day we pay tribute to him whose congressional life escaped criticism even of the meanest defamer.

Many years have elapsed—more than I care to recall—since I first met JAMES CAMPBELL CANTRILL. Even then he had become the idol of his acquaintances. His sweet disposition had reached every hearthstone in Scott County, Ky. There he enjoyed that special kind of popularity which had in it more love than even devoted friendship. He lived more in the affections of the people than in their homage.

They felt that they honored themselves when honoring him.

When compared with his predecessors in Congress from the great Ashland district, I would not say that he was such an orator as Clay, nor such a lawyer as Beck, nor such a jurist as Crittenden, nor such a soldier as the one Breckinridge, nor such a scholar and orator as the other; but, on the whole,

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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I do not hesitate to say that he was as useful to his constituents as the ablest of them.

His efforts were directed toward the fulfillment of the tasks before him, rather than in the seeking of place in the Senate or the White House, as some of the others did.

His every act was to interpose barriers to that kind of greed when left unrestrained would surely differentiate men into landlord and serf, capitalist and laborer, millionaire and pauper, ruler and ruled. He sought to give rest and leisure to the lowliest, to have the reaper leave enough for the gleaner, that the ox should not be muzzled as he treadeth out the corn. The homely phrase, "Live and let live!" seemed always to stand out before him. He never swerved from conviction, never betrayed a friend, never flinched from criticism or even from danger. He was evenly balanced and under all circumstances self-controlled. His aims were not directed toward assisting the strong so much as succoring the weak.

What we know of his life illustrates what we know of his work. What we know of his work illumines his life.

When I last saw him I was distressed to see his chestnut hair much tinged with gray; the former brightness of his features clouded by a settled look of melancholy; his figure attenuated and feeble; his eyes dull and wandering. It was obvious that he spoke and smiled with effort; that it was a labor to kindle up now and then a pleasant memory. His strength was shattered; his spirit all but extinguished.

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And then, a few days later, when I learned that his life here was closed, I could not think that such a soul as his, living such a life as his—bitterless when wronged, cheerful when burdened with cares, happy in charity and benevolence—did not look forward to the hope beyond; did not rest in the confident belief that the death of the body is but the emancipation of the soul; did not feel the assurance that there is a power in the universe upon which he might confidently rely, through wreck of matter and the crash of worlds.

Mr. Johnson of Kentucky resumed the chair as Speaker pro tempore.



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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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**Address by Representative Robsion**  
*Of Kentucky*

MR. SPEAKER: In the death of the Hon. J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL the House of Representatives lost one of its ablest, most experienced, and successful legislators. His ability, honesty, courage, and uniform courtesy won for him the respect and esteem of the men on both sides of this Chamber. In his passing Kentucky lost one of her most distinguished sons; the Democratic Party one of its trusted and ablest leaders; his congressional district and community gave up a loyal, earnest, and true friend; his family and personal friends suffered a loss most overwhelming. His death came at a time when it was most tragic. Mr. CANTRILL had through years of service and earnest endeavor in behalf of his State and the Nation built up a reputation for honesty, courage, and ability, and attracted to himself thousands of loyal men and women. He had just won the Democratic nomination for governor over one of the able and popular men in the State, and subsequent events indicate that it is highly probable that he would have been elected Governor of Kentucky had he lived. By force of character, industry, and integrity he had risen from a humble political beginning to acknowledged leadership in his party in the State and in the Nation.

Mr. CANTRILL had a most successful political career. Elected to the Kentucky lower house, then

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to the Kentucky State Senate, then the people of his district tendered to him without opposition the nomination for Congress in his district. Had he accepted, he would have been elected without opposition from either party. He declined, and in subsequent years he was again pressed to accept the congressional nomination of his party. This he did, and for eight consecutive terms he was elected to the House of Representatives and with practically no opposition from either party. The seventh congressional district is what is known as the old historic Ashland district, at times represented by Henry Clay, Colonel Breckinridge, and other distinguished statesmen. It embraces the heart of the famous blue grass section of Kentucky—Lexington, Paris, Versailles, and other cities. This section of Kentucky is noted for its splendid universities, colleges, and fine public schools; for its cultured, refined, and intellectual citizenship; for its hospitality; for its beautiful cities and homes; for its wonderful soil and its fine farms, and all that makes a beautiful country.

It required a man of ability, courage, and integrity to measure up to the requirements of that fine constituency and to uphold the traditions of the Clays, the Breckinridges, and other such statesmen. The mere fact that this intelligent, forward-looking, patriotic citizenship stood solidly behind our colleague from the time that he became a member of the lower house of Kentucky through a period of 26 years, until they had made him the standard bearer of his party for governor, speaks more eloquently for his ability, his courage, his

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honesty, and his patriotic devotion to his State and Nation than any mere words that might be uttered by me. They who knew him best loved and trusted him most. I can not hope to deserve a more noble epitaph than this. While Mr. CANTRILL was a partisan, he believed in party government and party responsibility in government, yet so far as I have been able to observe in the National Congress he never permitted partisanship to deter him in serving the best interest of his State and the Nation in the light of his understanding of the State's and Nation's best interests. While Mr. CANTRILL and myself differed widely many times on matters of public policy, yet I admired his frankness, his courage, and his ability, and felt most kindly toward him because of his uniform courtesy to all. In his death I feel that I have lost a personal friend, and I feel that I would be remiss in my duty if I did not add my tribute of respect.

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### **Address by Representative Rouse** *Of Kentucky*

MR. SPEAKER: Our departed friend and colleague, for whom this day has been set apart in order that some of his many friends in Congress may have the opportunity to devote a short time to pay tribute to his memory, entered Congress March 4, 1909, two years before it was my honor to be sworn in as a Member of this great legislative body, and during the time it was my pleasure to serve with him I did not have a better or truer friend in Congress.

I knew and admired him many years before he was elected to Congress from the great blue grass seventh district of Kentucky, because he was then looked upon as the leader of his party in the central part of our State. CAMPBELL CANTRILL was a party man; he believed in party loyalty, and was considered by all the people of our great State as one of the strong and able men on the Democratic side. It was only a few days after his party by primary election made him the nominee for the office of chief executive of our State that he answered the final summons. Had he lived and served his term as governor, we believe that the State historian would have recorded him as one of the ablest chief executives in the history of the Commonwealth. He was not only a party man, but he believed in organization—party organization.

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In the State legislature he was an organization man; in Congress he was regular and believed in upholding the recommendations of its committees when his party was in power; on his farm, organization was the word, and his faithful secretary, Hon. Joe W. Morris, my close friend, who is his successor in this body to-day and who was with him from the time he entered Congress until he was called by death, can testify as to the perfect organization he maintained in his office. In fact, wherever he worked his first aim was to perfect an organization. He was taught in that school of politics which made his illustrious father, a Confederate soldier, learned lawyer, and able and honest judge, famous and successful, and, like his father, he was victorious in all his political battles. I well remember, during the summer of 1916, when the Democratic State committee of Kentucky asked him to serve as the State campaign chairman, he said to me that if I would assume part of the work, that of the management of the speakers' bureau, that he would accept the chairmanship; we agreed, and it was during that time that I learned what a wonderful organizer he was, for without means or any idea of where the necessary funds to finance the campaign were to be obtained, he perfected a wonderful organization in every county in the State, waged a hard fight, and personally conducted one of the most successful campaigns ever handled in our State. I have often said that if CAMPBELL CANTRILL had sufficient funds to perfect the organization to



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his liking he could elect almost any decent Democrat to the highest office in the gift of the people. His friends were the stanchest and his political opponents the stubbornest; however, they saw him succeed and pass to the great beyond without taking one star from his political crown. His every energy was always exerted to the utmost for the betterment of the farming class of our citizens.

He was a true friend of the farmer; he sought a place in the Legislature of Kentucky and came to Congress in order that his labors might be of more benefit to his people. Had the tobacco growers of our State counseled with him and heeded his advice during the days when the Society of Equity was being formed, they would have received a fair price for their product and the cooperative plan now in vogue would have flourished and the tobacco landowner and grower would have been the gainer many years ago. I believe I can state without fear of contradiction that he spent more of his time, devoted more of his ability, and gave more of his life in behalf of legislation in the State Legislature of Kentucky and in Congress for the welfare and benefit of the farmer than any other man born in Kentucky. He was a real farmer, one who owned and operated in excess of a thousand acres of land, and whose interests were the same as any other landowner and one who made the farmer and his interest his careful study.

When his soul returned to its Maker, the farmer of Kentucky lost his best, truest, and most faithful legislative friend.

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*Address by Representative Barkley  
Of Kentucky*

MR. SPEAKER AND COLLEAGUES: The last occasion in which I participated in a memorial service in this Chamber was in honor of our late lamented Senator Ollie James. As I have been sitting here this afternoon listening to the beautiful eulogies which have been pronounced upon the memory and character of Mr. CANTRILL I have involuntarily associated these two men together. Senator James had come here as a Member of the House six years prior to the entry of Mr. CANTRILL, and Mr. CANTRILL had come here four years prior to my election as a Member of this body. They served together here in the House. They were friends personally and politically until Senator James was called to his reward beyond the stars, and they had many qualities that were in common.

I had known in a general way Mr. CANTRILL through a newspaper acquaintance for many years before my election to this body, but I do not recall that I had ever personally met him until I arrived here just 12 years ago now, and became acquainted with him then; and from that time until his death he and I were colleagues here and personal friends. He and his first wife were then living at Congress Hall Hotel, where I took my little family during my first two years of service here, and of course we became closely acquainted as neighbors and friends and colleagues from the same State, and

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as his wife had relatives in my home city of Paducah, our families became mutually associated. I learned during that early acquaintance with Mr. CANTRILL to respect him not only as a man of ability, not only as a man of clean personal habits, but as a man of most consummate courage and determination.

As has been said here, Mr. CANTRILL was a farmer. It is a curious circumstance that, although his distinguished father was one of the great lawyers of Kentucky and had occupied a distinguished position on the bench of the State, culminating in his election to the highest court of our Commonwealth, Mr. CANTRILL himself did not pursue the law.

He became a farmer. He was interested in agriculture. He remained close to nature, and no man can remain close to nature, with all of its wonders, beauties, and its variations, without remaining close to God, the author of all nature and of all life. He rendered to the agricultural interests of this Nation and of his State especially great and distinguished services. I recall many times, when we adjourned, recessed, or when there was nothing much here to occupy the serious attention of Members, that nothing pleased him more than to be able to go back to Kentucky and go out on his farm or his farms and there enjoy the blessings of agricultural life.

He was a dependable man. I recall that, one day soon after I came here, Arthur Crock, who was at that time the correspondent of the *Courier-Journal* in Washington, and I were seated out in

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the Speaker's lobby talking about things of mutual interest, when Mr. CANTRILL came walking along in his dignified way, for he always had a dignified carriage; he looked the part of a gentleman, which he was; and as he passed through the Speaker's lobby, sauntering rather aimlessly we thought, Crock remarked:

There goes a man you can always rely upon, for whenever he tells you he is for a thing or against a thing you may go away and rest assured when you come back he will be there.

I found Mr. CANTRILL a man of great courage. He possessed the sort of courage that makes men leaders. He was not afraid to take the initiative for anything which he espoused, neither was he afraid to take the initiative against anything which he opposed.

Mention has been made here of his candidacy for the office of chief executive of the State of Kentucky. It so fell to my lot, as you all know, to be his opponent in that campaign. His name and mine had been spoken in the newspapers and otherwise in connection with the campaign. He hesitated to approach me on the subject lest I might think he was seeking to induce me not to become a candidate, and I hesitated to approach him for the same reason. But one day we fell into conversation together on the front row of this Chamber and the subject came up. We both expressed to each other, of course, the mutual friendship which had been ours, for not only had his first wife but his second wife and my wife been intimate friends and associates and we had visited

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in each other's homes; and when finally we decided to be antagonists in that campaign I think no one hated it more than those two. While seated together at that time and in that conversation we both agreed that neither one of us wanted to run very much, but that the circumstances and the importunities of our friends would probably make us opponents in that campaign. After we had talked the subject over in the most intimate way and in the most friendly way we parted, and each one said to the other that no matter what happened during the campaign nothing would happen as between us that would mar the friendship which had been ours during our membership in this House.

Probably there has never been a more hotly contested campaign than the one which was waged around that office, and while some of our various friends at times, in the heat of the contest, gave expression to sentiments that were not always complimentary on either side, I think I am within the truth when I say that nothing ever escaped the lips of Mr. CANTRILL and nothing ever escaped mine in that campaign which in the slightest degree reflected upon either one or the other or that marred the friendship which had existed between us for years.

The last conversation I had with Mr. CANTRILL was at a banquet in the city of Louisville given by some organization. He and I had been invited; we sat together and were on the program for nonpolitical addresses. The program was a little longer than usual and I had to leave before my



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name was reached and before he was reached. When I left I shook hands with him—we were both then active candidates—and I said, “CAMPBELL, I have got to go; this program has extended longer than I expected and I have not been able to make my speech. I will ask you to make it for me when you are called on to make yours.” And in a joking way he said, “I suspect I can do it better than you can, anyway,” and I said, “I am sure you can.” That was the last conversation I recall having had with CAMPBELL CANTRILL. Our paths never crossed from that time until he died. He was nominated for the office of chief executive of the State, and one month, I believe, from the day on which he was nominated we, his colleagues here, laid him to rest in the city of Georgetown.

One of Napoleon's soldiers, Latour d'Auvergne, I believe, is said to have been a soldier of great courage and one who followed the fortunes of the little Corsican during his entire life. Many times Napoleon sought to give him a distinguished office of rank in his army, but always Latour d'Auvergne declined the honor because he preferred to remain a private in the army of Napoleon. In a great battle this soldier was killed, and Napoleon ordered that his heart be preserved for the inspiration of his regiment and that each day as the roll of the regiment was called the soldier standing next to his vacant place should say, “Dead on the field of honor.” It is true that our departed colleague, Mr. CANTRILL, had his opinions and his antagonisms; it is true that in common with us all he had his weaknesses.

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He and I did not always agree upon the floor with reference to public matters; but I think I can say, as has been said by those who have spoken heretofore, that no man who ever served in this House ever had a higher regard for his official responsibility, was ever truer or more loyal to his friends, or more generous even to his enemies who extended him the olive branch. He represented a great district in the State of Kentucky, one of the historic districts of the United States. He did it so well and so acceptably to the great people in the heart of that Commonwealth that no doubt if he had lived a decade longer he could have continued to serve that great constituency; and I am sure I would speak the sentiments of his legion of friends all over Kentucky, as well as in this House, by saying that if his name were called in their midst, as the soldier in Napoleon's army, they would answer, "Dead on the field of honor."

*Address by Representative Kincheloe  
Of Kentucky*

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE: JAMES CAMPBELL CANTRILL was a Kentucky product. He was the son of an illustrious jurist, splendidly endowed by inheritance, and also had fine educational opportunities, of which he took advantage. He entered politics in his early manhood, being elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives when he was only 27 years of age, and in 1901 was elected to the Kentucky State Senate. He was reelected to the Kentucky House of Representatives in 1899, and was, therefore, an influential member of that body during the crucial days of the Goebel gubernatorial contest, and Governor Goebel had no truer nor braver friend than he.

He was elected to the Sixty-first Congress and served in each succeeding Congress thereafter to and including the Sixty-seventh Congress.

I never knew CAMPBELL CANTRILL intimately until he came to Congress. He was one of the most positive characters I ever knew, and yet he was as gentle and sympathetic as a woman. Strong in his likes and dislikes, he never forsook a friend and never failed to give an enemy a fight when it was forced upon him. At the same time he was free from malice. He never conducted a guerrilla warfare but always fought in the open, and everyone knew where he stood on every public

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question. He was a strong partisan, but at all times fair. Perhaps no man in public life in Kentucky for the same length of time had more criticism hurled at him than he; yet he ignored it, and I never knew of his replying with an unkind word.

I think that, with the possible exception of Governor Goebel, he was the greatest organization Democrat Kentucky ever had, and no Democrat of Kentucky in my day rendered more faithful, efficient, unselfish, and patriotic service to the party than he. He served in the Kentucky Legislature and the Congress of the United States with honor and distinction. He was one of the best friends that the American farmer had in Congress. He gave not only his time but his money unselfishly for the organization and upbuilding of American agriculture.

I delivered many campaign speeches in practically every county in his district during the latter years of his service in Congress, and I am prepared to say that he was not only universally popular, but as much idolized, if you please, by his constituents as any man that ever held a seat in this body.

In a state-wide primary election in August, 1923, he received the Democratic nomination for governor, but a short while thereafter and before the November election he died. While almost everyone in Kentucky knew he was in bad health, yet the intelligence of his death was a great shock to the people of the State. Everyone knows had

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he lived he would have been the governor, and everyone who knew him as well and as intimately as I did knows that he would have made one of the greatest governors Kentucky ever had. But just as his sails of success were towering above altitudes of greater honor and responsibility the grim hand of death laid hold of him. In his death this House lost one of its ablest and most efficient Members, Kentucky one of her ablest defenders and most distinguished sons, and the Democratic Party of Kentucky received an irretrievable loss.

When we contemplate the brilliant career of this man, the many acrimonious fights in which he participated, and the many unkind and unjust criticisms hurled at him, we who are here on this solemn occasion can more clearly see and realize the futility sometimes of these fights, especially when they are of a personal character, and how much better it would be to the individual interested and the country at large if acerbities of this kind were eliminated in the political life of this great Republic; for I am glad to say it has been my experience in public life that a great majority of men, regardless of the party to which they belong, are honest, sincere, patriotic, and have a prevailing desire to serve their constituency and their country in the best way possible and give them the best they have. We can understand and appreciate these facts better after a man who has given his life to public service is dead.

If you will excuse a somewhat personal reference, I am reminded of an utterance given by my old



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professor in mathematics in my senior year in college. The morning after the class of which I was a member was graduated we assembled in the college auditorium for the last time and were addressed by the old professor. In his closing remarks he said:

When you ladies and gentlemen get out into the various avocations and professions of life, if you ever think of your college days and your association with me, there is one request I want to make of you, and that is, when you think of me, think of me when I was at my best.

How much better it would be for this country, which all of us consider the fairest domain in all the world, and how much more pleasant public service would be if the citizenship of this Republic would think of the public man not only when he was at his best, but think of the real service he rendered them while holding an office of public trust.

I am one who believes that every great deed that we do while living, either for good or evil, will have a greater imprint for good or evil upon generations yet unborn than upon the generations in which we live. When Sir Isaac Newton sat in the apple orchard and saw the apple fall, when his great mind began to contemplate why that apple did not go up instead of down, which led to the discovery of the immutable law of gravitation which holds these planets in their orbits with a regularity, but for which there would be a wreck of worlds and a crush of matter, that great discovery has had a greater imprint for good upon

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generations since then born than it did upon the generation in which he lived.

When James Watt sat and saw the lid upon the teakettle of boiling water moved, which led to the great discovery of steam which drives these twentieth-century locomotives with a breath of flames and nerves of steel, carrying the commerce of nations, that great discovery has had a greater imprint for good upon generations since then born than upon the generation in which he lived.

When the brains of Thomas Jefferson gave birth to that immortal document, the Declaration of Independence, which declares that all men are created free and equal, that great declaration has been honored, loved, revered, and defended more by generations since then born than by the generation in which he lived.

John Bunyan lies in Bunhill Fields, while his bright and radiant spirit walks the earth in Pilgrim's Progress.

Thomas Gray sleeps beneath the ivy mantle tower in Stoke Poges churchyard in England's fertile soil, while his Elegy is read with delight and admiration by the teeming millions.

So if this proposition be true, then it behooves us to perform the greatest deeds of which we are capable for good and for the service of humanity, not only for the benefit of the generation living but for generations yet to follow.

JAMES CAMPBELL CANTRILL was buried in the State and in the county that gave him birth, beneath a pageantry of flowers and in the presence of legions of his devoted followers.

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To the members of his family left behind, by paraphrasing a little, I would say, in the language of the poet:

Oh, breathe not his name, but let it sleep in the shade;  
Where cold, yet honored, his relics are laid.  
Sad, silent, and dark be the tears that were shed  
As the night dew that falls on the grave o'er his head.

But the night dew that falls, though in silence it weeps,  
Shall brighten with verdure the grave where he sleeps;  
And the tear that we shed, though in secret it rolls,  
Shall long keep his memory green in our souls.

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*Address by Representative Garrett  
Of Tennessee*

Mr. SPEAKER: From the very beginning of the service of Mr. CANTRILL in this House I had the honor of a close acquaintance and association with him. It became particularly close after he was assigned to service on the Committee on Rules. It was there that I learned to appreciate the fairness, the courage, the candor, and, above all, the common sense of the man.

I do not think in my experience here I have come in contact with any Member who had a keener political sagacity than had Mr. CANTRILL, and often to myself I have tried to analyze and see just what constituted it, and always it came back to the proposition that he just had such splendid common sense. He was a student; he had vast information; but I sometimes thought he was one man whose intuitions were even more nearly accurate, if it be possible for such to be the case, than his information.

We were close personal friends, and I appreciate being honored with an invitation to participate in these ceremonies.

He was a superb gentleman, true to the best and finest traditions of his great Commonwealth. He loved his State and his country. He sought unselfishly to serve them, and did serve them with ability, with fairness, and with honor. His place in history is secure, and it is a great place.

I respected him profoundly; I loved him deeply.

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**Address by Representative Gilbert**  
*Of Kentucky*

MR. SPEAKER: God, the creator of all, endowed man with freedom of thought and action. With boundless generosity, He gave him every good and perfect gift.

Yet, with wisdom, He warned him from judgment, saying, "Judge not that ye be not judged" and with caution He restrained him from vengeance, saying "Vengeance is Mine."

Rejoicing in His endowments and oblivious to His warnings, man became reckless with his criticisms and vindictive in his retaliations.

How incapable of judgment man is! I have seen him, deceived by outward appearances and persuaded by false displays of piety, attesting the character and extolling the honesty of him who had for years been embezzling the savings of widows and orphans.

I have seen him fawn in the presence of sin, veiled in silk and jewels, and scorn virtue when homely clad.

He consigned Bunyan to prison, Socrates to poison, and Joan of Arc to the flames. How grateful am I that final judgment is reserved for me in Him "who has a wideness in His mercy like the wideness of the sea."

Man crucified his Savior and placed Nero on a throne.



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But man, proud man,  
Drest in a little brief authority,  
Most ignorant of what he's most assured,  
His glassy essence, like an angry ape,  
Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven  
As make the angels weep.

So of what value are either the censures or the eulogies of men? While living, men generally receive their censures and when dead their eulogies.

JAMES CAMPBELL CANTRILL while living received both in unstinted measure. This attests that his was not a colorless existence. He had faults, but let no man present them now.

For 15 years he served his country in this Hall, a Representative of a proud agricultural district. The farmers knew him to be their friend. He became the champion of their cause.

He was free from prejudice and liberal in his views. His friends were loyal, his enemies bitter. Those whom he served and who knew him best were strongest in his indorsement.

As a husband and father he was kind and generous. His surviving widow was a girl playmate of mine. His devotion for her increased my admiration for him. He was unafraid of men, chivalrous to women, affectionate with children, dignified, and courteous to all.

After a stormy campaign, such as only Kentucky knows, CANTRILL was nominated for governor, and had he lived would have become the chief executive of that great State. He was a man of remarkable poise and of splendid executive ability.

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I opposed him in his race for governor because after several interviews we were unable to agree upon the economic planks in his platform. But with that difference of opinion I appreciated highly his worth, his wonderful official capacity, and felt that he would make Kentucky a great governor. I neither indulged in nor approved of the abuse employed against him.

With dignity he rose above retaliation.

He was a strict party man and an organizer of rare ability. He confessed a desire to build an organization to perpetuate his party in power in his State. Can southern Democrats, appreciating all that politics mean in the South, sincerely criticize that position?

CANTRILL's personality and career were typically Kentuckian. Like Clay, Crittenden, Breckinridge, Brown, and Goebel, CANTRILL led a stormy career. Like they, he left his impress on a State of outstanding men and stormy careers.

As some tall cliff, that lifts its awful form,  
Swells from the vale, and midway leaves the storm,  
Though round its breast, the rolling clouds are spread,  
Eternal sunshine dwells round his head.

**Address by Representative Thatcher**  
*Of Kentucky*

MR. SPEAKER AND COLLEAGUES: Memorial services of this character are not only very beautiful, but they are also most appropriate. They bespeak our own worth not less than the worth of those we seek to honor. The faculty of appreciation is in itself an evidence of worthiness. If we care naught for the heroic efforts and achievements of those who have gone before, then our own lives shall be doomed to flow in ignoble channels. If we but look, the stars are there! These are the great, tender radiances in the firmament of the past, whose light enables us to walk in the uncertain night of our own endeavors. With all our boasted civilization and advancement, if there were blotted out to-day all knowledge, all memory of the lives and achievements of our illustrious dead, we would immediately become the inhabitants of a world without a soul, and moral and spiritual darkness would at once enshroud us. But, fortunately, in the divine order of things the lives of those who in the yesterdays of time wrought in strength and honor are not forgotten by those who follow after. The falling torches, vivid in eternal flame, are forward thrown by failing hands and are ever caught by those of fresher strength, and in this wise humanity's great advance has ever been and ever will be made.

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For many years I knew JAMES CAMPBELL CANTRILL, and I counted him as a friend. I greatly respected and admired him.

He was a true Kentuckian. He loved his native State with all the strength and devotion typical of all her worthy sons and daughters. Others here to-day have summarized the biographical events of his life, his important public service, and his domestic virtues. I shall, therefore, content myself with submitting, in a brief way, some general impressions and observations.

As one who fought in opposing political ranks I believe I can testify somewhat touching the estimate of Mr. CANTRILL held by my party associates. That estimate I believe to be in substance this: That he was a fair, fearless, aggressive, resourceful, successful, political leader; in every way a "first-class fighting man." So far as district or State politics might have been involved, he was well-nigh an invincible leader. So far as I am able to recall, he never lost, at the polls, a fight in which he was a candidate or his party's leader. Those of my party knew that whenever he was at the head of the battalions of his own party it was all but hopeless to join in battle against him. He possessed a very high order of political sagacity. He knew both the strategy and tactics of political warfare, and he had the vital temperament and the fighting instinct which enabled him to put into effective execution all that he planned or knew.

But his capacity for successful political effort was but one of his talents. That capacity was, in large measure, the corollary of another talent—

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that of his intense zeal to serve his fellows. Agriculture has ever been the chief industry of his beloved State, and particularly of the great district which he represented so long and so ably in this historic Chamber. He devoted his years to the study of the problems of this basic industry and to the difficult work of improving it. It was a labor of love. He rendered highly important service in this connection. The farmers of his district loved and trusted him. Before them in every political contest he was invincible. Term after term he served in this great body. Finally, yielding to the desire to serve in a more direct way the people, and especially the farmers, of the entire State, he sought and secured his party's nomination for governor. Thereupon, with his accustomed intensity of purpose and his habitual practice of thorough preparation and organization, he entered the final campaign of 1923 for the great goal of his ambition.

But his life had been too active, too strenuous—his health, long delicate, failed him; and he fell in action with every reasonable assurance that the desired goal would be gained. The fates decreed that denial should be made him. And so, as he marched once again into political combat, there came athwart his pathway the Grim Reaper, and he was gathered into the great granary of death.

Now that he is dead he yet liveth, and he shall long live in the minds and hearts of his countrymen. I join in respectful and loving tribute to his memory. I know of no more appropriate way in which to conclude what I have to say than to quote



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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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that noble sonnet which, with an analogy which seems to be irresistible, argues the fact of immortality:

### NIGHT AND DEATH

Mysterious night! When our first parent knew  
Thee from report divine, and heard thy name,  
Did he not tremble for this lovely frame,  
This glorious canopy of light and blue?  
Yet 'neath a curtain of translucent dew,  
Bathed in the rays of the great setting flame,  
Hesperus and the host of heaven came,  
And lo! creation widened on man's view.  
Who could have thought such darkness lay concealed  
Within they beams, O sun, or who could find,  
Whilst flow'r and leaf and insect stood revealed,  
That to such countless orbs thou mad'st us blind!  
Why should we then shun death with anxious strife?  
If light may thus conceal, wherefore not life?

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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**Address by Representative Vinson**  
*Of Kentucky*

MR. SPEAKER: To-day we come together to pay our tribute to a gentleman who, within these walls, gave up the best years of his life in the service of country. For almost 14 years Kentucky's beloved son, J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL, spent his energies in this legislative forum as the Representative of a famed district of Kentucky. His was the Henry Clay district which had sent to this historic hall such men as Clay, Crittenden, Marshall, the Breckinridges, Davis, and Beck. Brilliant sons of Kentucky were they who preceded him from this district; men who had received the plaudits and acclaim of the Nation for their service to country. His was a formidable task; he was called to faithfully preserve the traditions which these famous predecessors had set up for him.

Their mantle fell upon worthy shoulders. For cleanness of thought, honesty of purpose, and courage of heart he maintained with dignity the position of honor secured by the eminent statesmen whom he followed here. J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL was clean in thought and personal habit. No colleague or associate ever heard him utter profane language, either in public or in private. He gave positive proof that one could be a manly man without the aid of profanity.

J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL was an honest man. Honest in thought, purpose, and deed. He would be first to scent legislation that savored of

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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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extravagance or graft. In personal life he left public service possessed of many thousand dollars less in worldly goods than when he entered upon his official duties.

J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL possessed a keenness of intellect of the highest order. He possessed the judicial mind and with it the courage of his convictions. With such clearness of vision, breadth of thought, and redoubtable courage, naturally he was a leader of men.

Such was the man to whom the people of the seventh district of Kentucky looked to uphold its time-honored traditions. Their commission was entrusted to a worthy guardian. Throughout his custody of it he refused to permit its splendor to become bedimmed by nonuse or besmirched by misuse.

In point of service he was a young Member when in 1914 a war-mad king sought to reduce a world to his subjection and caused the dogs of war to be loosed from their leash. In 1917 he was a Member of this body and present when it listened with bated breath to the fateful words which would usher in the state of war. Upon this occasion this gentle man, with undaunted courage, met the issue like the patriot he was.

During the trying period of the entire World War Mr. CANTRILL was a member of the Committee on Rules, one of the most important committees in the Congress. Never a man of robust stature, he performed herculean service in the cause of his country. His party was in power; and despite the multitudinous details of departmental work,

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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despite the time occupied with personal interviews in respect to patronage and other matters, he never faltered or failed his country in the momentous affairs of state which confronted it.

Subsequent to the cessation of war, there followed in its train the days of rehabilitation. Matters of tremendous import were presented to Congress. He never hesitated to yield of his reserve strength in the service to be rendered. From the beginning of the war until the adjournment, next prior to his death, Congress had been, practically, in continuous session. His colleagues upon committee have already spoken of his sterling worth and his unsurpassed service rendered. This service, unselfish and untiring, shortened his days on earth. Unheralded hours burned up his strength and energy in the performance of duty. After all, life may be likened to a wee, small wick in the vast lamp of God's creation. The oil upon which the wick feeds is, at best, soon consumed. In comparison with the eternal era, the flame burns but a brief moment in one long, dark night of mystery, and then, snuffed out, meets the gracious God upon the threshold of eternity.

The greatest leader of all mankind, in speaking to His disciples a short time before the crucifixion, said:

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Such love for friends was possessed by J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL. In his last congressional primary he had carried, practically, every precinct in his

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district. In the election that followed he had no opposition. The gubernatorial race presented itself in the following year. Friends in his district, and friends out in the State, insisted that he enter the lists for governor. He acceded to their request. He entered the campaign in health far from good, and as the campaign progressed he grew no stronger. The physical man no doubt argued with him to withdraw his name from the race; but the innate loyalty to party, his wonderful love for his friends with whom he had weathered many a storm upon life's tempestuous sea, would not permit him to give heed to the importunities of his physical nature.

He was courtesy itself, even in political combat. He was a game, courageous fighter, never defeated in political struggle. He would not quit the fray. He was nominated by his party for governor; he would have carried the banner to victory, but the physical man would not be denied. Too many times had he called upon his reserve strength to carry him past trying physical demands, and he was worn to a frazzle. The hand of death could not be stayed.

Within the shadow of ultimate victory, and with it well-earned glory, methinks, Mr. CANTRILL could well have said, as did General Wolfe just prior to receiving his mortal wound at Quebec—

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of pow'r,  
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,  
Await alike the inevitable hour.  
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.



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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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The wonderful love of his neighbors—those who knew him best—and their wonderful tribute, in which all Kentucky joined, at the fall of this noble son, has been depicted in terms unsurpassed. No more evidence of their love and esteem could be required than that which they exhibited when they placed him to rest in the embrace of the “blue grass,” the soil he loved so much and served so well.

Such love of man could not have been acquired unless he had returned it in kind. It came to him because love of like kind emanated and radiated from him. It could well be said that the philosophy of his life, in this respect, is summed up in the oft-quoted language of the poet:

Let me live in my house by the side of the road,  
Where the race of men go by;  
They are good, they are bad; they are weak, they  
are strong,  
Wise, foolish—so am I;

Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat,  
Or hurl the cynic's ban?  
Let me live in my house by the side of the road,  
And be a friend to man.

He was a gentle man; a man of

simplicity and modesty which move our admiration beyond the bounds of eulogy.

In conclusion, his creed of life, carried with him always, e'en unto death, marked by its simplicity of style, might well be repeated, as it paints the true picture of the man:

To live as gentle as I can;  
To be, no matter where, a man;  
To take what comes of good or ill,  
To cling to faith and honor still.

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To do my best and let that stand  
The record of my brains and hand;  
And then, should failure come to me,  
Still work and hope for victory.

To have no secret place, wherein  
To stoop unseen to shame or sin;  
To be the same when I'm alone  
As when my every deed is known.

To live undaunted, unafraid  
Of any step that I have made;  
To be, without pretense or sham,  
Exactly what men think I am.

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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*Address by Representative Byrns  
Of Tennessee*

MR. SPEAKER: Our deceased colleague, Hon. JAMES CAMPBELL CANTRILL, of Kentucky, and I entered Congress at the same time, and it is a source of very great gratification to me that we immediately became warm personal friends, a friendship which continued throughout our service here and lasted until the day of his death. Our early attachment was perhaps due in a measure to the fact that we came from neighboring States, whose splendid citizenship, past and present, and whose economic, political, and social history and traditions are peculiarly interwoven in the proud history of our country. Then, too, we had the honor to represent two of the most historic congressional districts of the Nation—the Ashland district of Kentucky and the Hermitage district of Tennessee. The agricultural interests of these two districts are chiefly concerned with the growing of tobacco, different in type but identical in its many problems. We were both deeply interested in doing what we could to serve the interests of the tobacco grower and this great agricultural industry. He was himself a tobacco planter on a large scale and had given years of study and devoted much thought to the tobacco-growers' problems, and I was glad to join and cooperate with him in every effort to give relief. These matters of common interest and desire brought us

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very close together from the beginning, and I had opportunity to study and to know him as he really was.

And to know CAMPBELL CANTRILL intimately was to love him; to admire him for his many sterling qualities of mind and his nobility of soul; and to respect his rugged character, his loyalty to his friends, his high-minded purposes of life, and his intense devotion to duty as he saw it. CAMPBELL CANTRILL had all these qualities in fullest measure, and these elements are necessary as the foundation for a true and lasting friendship.

He was a faithful and able legislator, worthy to represent a district which boasts of so many distinguished sons who have represented it in the past. He was honored and respected by all of his colleagues and held high place in the House, being a member of the important Committee on Rules. He was a man of strong conviction, gentle and retiring in disposition, but when aroused, forceful and aggressive in debate and in the advocacy of those principles and measures in which he believed. He was a two-fisted fighter and never lowered his flag in the face of opposition.

CAMPBELL CANTRILL was intensely proud of his State. He loved her people and gloried in her splendid traditions. His great ambition was to serve as Governor of the Kentucky Commonwealth, and, accordingly, at the solicitation and with the support of influential friends all over the State he became a candidate for governor in the Democratic primary of 1923. He had for an opponent one of the very able and popular citizens of

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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Kentucky, but after a spirited and hard-fought campaign he was nominated and would have undoubtedly been elected had he lived. The goal of his ambition was in sight. He was never to reach it. The work of a strenuous campaign was too much for his declining health, and death claimed him within a month after his nomination. God's finger touched him and he slept. His death was mourned throughout the entire State. Thus on the threshold of what was his greatest political ambition in life he was cut down, leaving behind him a record of able, faithful, and useful service in the State legislature and in Congress. There can be no doubt that had he lived he would have made a great Governor of Kentucky.

It is not for us to know, Mr. Speaker, why our friend was cut off in the prime of life and in the very midst of what appeared to be a greater field for usefulness and service. The ways of Providence are as a sealed book to mortal ken. CAMPBELL CANTRILL has lived his life and has gone his way. It may be truly said that life's greatest compensation is the knowledge that it has been one of service. CAMPBELL CANTRILL has this compensation. Soon we will follow in his footsteps and the mysteries of the unknown hereafter will be revealed to us as it has been to him. And when that time shall come may it be said of us, as it can be of him, that the world is better that we have lived.



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### Address by Representative Hull *Of Tennessee*

MR. SPEAKER: It affords me a mournful pleasure to offer some feeble words in deserved tribute to a pure patriot, a distinguished statesman, and a warm personal friend—CAMPBELL CANTRILL, late an honored Member of this House from the State of Kentucky.

I observed closely the course of Mr. CANTRILL from the time he became a member of the Kentucky Legislature many years ago. He there revealed himself as a man of outstanding courage, ability, and resourcefulness. While not yet personally acquainted with him, I then predicted that this young man of such demonstrated vision, force, and capacity was destined to write his name high on the roll of distinguished men. That prediction was soon to be fully vindicated.

Mr. CANTRILL had scarcely entered the National House of Representatives when the attention of the leaders was attracted toward him as a coming force and outstanding factor in that great membership. At every stage of his highly honorable and distinguished service Mr. CANTRILL more than justified the fondest expectations of even his most enthusiastic friends and admirers. He early and rapidly took high rank both in the legislative and his national party councils. CAMPBELL CANTRILL, in the breadth of his views, utterances, and actions, was as truly a representative of the Nation as of

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JAMES C. CANTRILL

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his own congressional district. This high compliment can truthfully be paid to but few Members of the House. The Constitution was always his guide and the people's rights his aim.

As has too often occurred, CAMPBELL CANTRILL was taken from us in the flower of a vigorous manhood, in the midst of a most useful public service, and when the hand of fortune was beckoning him to higher rank and to fields of broader opportunity for service.

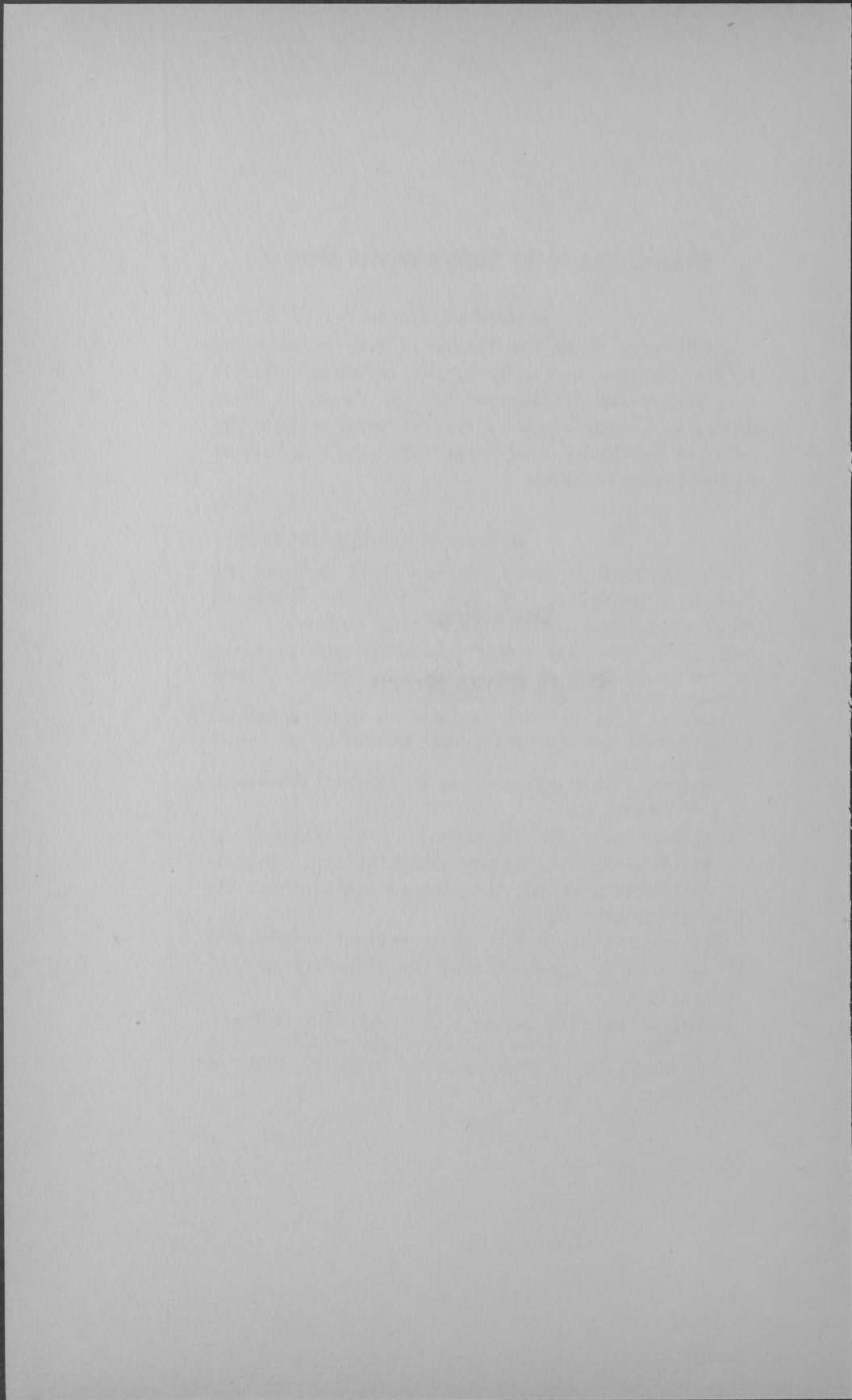
To me it was a rare privilege to have known and served with Mr. CANTRILL and to have earned his friendship. Those who knew him best considered him one of the ablest, best poised, purest, and most courageous men in public life during recent years. His innate modesty concealed many of his finer traits, but his loyalty to principle and to questions of right was known to all. I was proud of him living; and now that he has gone from us, I revere his memory and mourn his untimely death.

Mr. MORRIS. Out of respect to our late deceased colleague I move, Mr. Speaker, that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 46 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned, pursuant to previous order, until to-morrow, Monday, March 2, 1925, at 10 o'clock a. m.



**Proceedings**  
in the  
**United States Senate**





## Proceedings in the United States Senate

THURSDAY, *December 6, 1923.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Chaffee, one of its clerks, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. JAMES C. CANTRILL, late a Representative from the State of Kentucky, and transmitted the resolutions of the House thereon.

MONDAY, *December 10, 1923.*

The President pro tempore laid before the Senate a resolution (H. Res. 17) of the House of Representatives, which was read as follows:

*Resolved*, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. JAMES C. CANTRILL, a Representative from the State of Kentucky.

*Resolved*, That the clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That as a further mark of respect this House do now adjourn.

Mr. ROBINSON. Mr. President, in the absence of the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. Stanley], I submit a resolution and ask unanimous consent for its present consideration.

The resolution (S. Res. 39) was read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. JAMES C. CANTRILL, late a Representative from the State of Kentucky.

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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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*Resolved further*, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. WADSWORTH. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Representative whose death has just been announced, I move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 2 o'clock and 30 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, December 11, 1923, at 12 o'clock meridian.

MONDAY, *March 2, 1925.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Chaffee, one of its clerks, communicated to the Senate the resolutions of the House unanimously adopted as a tribute to the memory of Hon. J. CAMPBELL CANTRILL, late a Member of the House of Representatives from the State of Kentucky.

