

## RESIGNATION OF MR. CHIEF JUSTICE TAFT.

ORDER OF FEBRUARY 24, 1930

*It is ordered* by the court that the accompanying correspondence between members of the court and Mr. Chief Justice Taft upon his retirement as Chief Justice of the United States be this day spread upon the minutes and that it also be printed in the reports of the court.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*Washington, D. C., February 10, 1930.*

DEAR CHIEF JUSTICE: We call you Chief Justice still, for we can not quickly give up the title by which we have known you for all these later years and which you have made so dear to us. We can not let you leave us without trying to tell you how dear you have made it. You came to us from achievements in other fields, and with the prestige of the illustrious place that you lately had held, and you showed in a new form your voluminous capacity for work and for getting work done, your humor that smoothed the rough places, your golden heart that has brought you love from every side, and, most of all, from your brethren whose tasks you have made happy and light. We grieve at your illness, but your spirit has given life an impulse that will abide whether you are with us or are away.

Affectionately yours,

(Signed)

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

WILLIS VAN DEVANTER.

J. C. McREYNOLDS.

LOUIS D. BRANDEIS.

GEO. SUTHERLAND.

PIERCE BUTLER.

EDWARD T. SANFORD.

HARLAN F. STONE.

Hon. WILLIAM H. TAFT.

VI RESIGNATION OF MR. CHIEF JUSTICE TAFT.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT,  
*Washington, D. C., February 12, 1930.*

MY DEAR BRETHREN: I can not adequately say how deeply I am touched by your affectionate letter. I regretted for many reasons the necessity of tendering my resignation, but none so strong as the ending of those pleasant associations with each and all of you, which during the past nine years have been so dear to me. Only the advice of my doctors and my own conviction that I would be unable to continue adequately the great work of the court forced me to leave you. That work, in your hands, will go on as well without me, but I am grateful, nevertheless, for your words of appreciation.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) WM. H. TAFT.

MR. JUSTICE HOLMES, *Acting Chief Justice.*

MR. JUSTICE VAN DEVANTER.

MR. JUSTICE McREYNOLDS.

MR. JUSTICE BRANDEIS.

MR. JUSTICE SUTHERLAND.

MR. JUSTICE BUTLER.

MR. JUSTICE SANFORD.

MR. JUSTICE STONE.