

IN MEMORIAM

ANDREW OLAF DEVOLD

(November 17, 1881 • December 12, 1939)



**HENNEPIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
DISTRICT COURT
HENNEPIN COUNTY
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

February 10, 1940

Andrew O. Devold

(1881 - 1939)

Andrew O. Devold was born at Stockholm, Sweden on November 17, 1881. He died at the City of Minneapolis, Minnesota on December 12, 1939, age 58 years.

Mr. Devold came to the United States and located at Minneapolis at the age of 12 years. He attended the public schools of Minneapolis. Later he studied law at the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota College of Law and was admitted to the Bar of Minnesota in the year 1917, and from that time to the time of his death was engaged in the general practice of law in the City of Minneapolis.

As a young man he learned the printers trade which occupation he followed for some time. He was a member of the Typographical Union and was active in that organization. As a young man he became interested in the Socialist Party and for many years was an active member of that Party and for a long period of time was the editor and publisher of a newspaper devoted to the cause of Socialism.

He was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1914 and served two terms as Representative. He was elected to the Minnesota State Senate in 1918 and with the exception of one term served continuously and was at the time of his death a member of the State Senate. During his long service as a member of the legislature his efforts were devoted principally to the enactment of legislation affecting labor conditions, and a great number of progressive laws affecting labor that are on our statutes can be traced to his efforts along that line. He left surviving him his wife, Katherine Devold.

**Submitted by,
Walter P. Wolfe**

APPENDIX

The following Memorial to Senator Devold was delivered to the Minnesota Senate:

Journal of the Senate
Friday, March 14, 1941, pages 582-584

MEMORIAL SERVICES

The President of the Senate recognized the Senator from Lyon, Mr. Almen, who offered the following tribute to the deceased members of the Senate on behalf of the Memorial Committee.

“To The Honorable State Senate of Minnesota:

“Your Special Committee, appointed by the Senate in accordance with Senate Resolution No. 3 for the purpose of preparing a memorial resolution commemorative of the lives and services of the late William B. Anderson, Andrew O. Devold, Richard Kelly, and F. J. Miller, all of whom were members of this body at the time of their deaths, and L. O. Cooke, a former member of the Senate, respectfully submits the following:

. . .

“The President of the Senate then recognized the Senator from Hennepin County, Mr. Young, who addressed the Senate as follows:

“Mr. President and Members of the Senate: Andrew Olaf Devold was born in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1881, of Norwegian parentage. At the age of 12 years he came with his parents to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he attended the public schools, working his way through school by selling newspapers in the South part of Minneapolis. He became a printer by trade, and while so engaged attended the evening classes of the Minnesota College of Law.

“Senator Devold early in life joined the Typographical Union

and always carried a card in said union, and was an ardent supporter of all trade unions.

“While engaged as a printer, and attending night law school, Senator Devold was elected to the House of Representatives from the 32nd District in 1914. He served during the 1915 session of the House and was re-elected and served during the 1917 session. While he was a member of the House of Representatives, he was Associate Editor of a Norwegian newspaper published in Minneapolis.



A. O. DEVOLD
Thirty-second District

“On June 11, 1917, Senator Devold was admitted to the Bar of this State and engaged continuously thereafter as a practicing attorney in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

“In 1918 he was elected to the Senate from the 32nd District, and served during the 1921, 1923 and 1925 sessions. During these sessions he was the author of the first universal eight-hour law and Soldiers' Bonus bill.

“He was married to Catherine Novak of Minneapolis, Minnesota, in the year 1925. Mrs. Devold is the sole survivor of the Senator, there being no surviving children and the only member of his immediate family is a nephew, Eagle Solsness.

“Senator Devold was re-elected again in 1930 and served in the Senate until December 12, 1940, when he died at the age of 58 years. Senator Devold died of heart trouble, an affliction which he had since he was a young man. Much credit must be given to Senator Devold for his fight to retain his health and for the efforts he put forth for the people of the State of Minnesota at the sacrifice of his health.

“Senator Devold was an orator of unusual ability, and on many occasions when the situation became tense in the Senate, he would rise and with humored remarks throw the Senate into an uproar, thereby relieving all tension. The Senator was highly respected and honored by his fellow Senators at all times, even though he did not always agree with them on legislative matters. His charming wit made him popular among all Senators.

“He was a very sick man during the 1937 session but carried on with courage and undaunted fortitude. When adversity came to him, he always met it with a smile. Defeat was just something to temporarily pass by cheerfully until victory could be achieved. He always took a keen and active interest in public affairs, dedicating the best part of his life to the service of the State of Minnesota. He was a common man, sociable and friendly by nature to all, regardless of rank. He was frank and open in all discussions and dealings, and the Senate has truly lost a fine example of a leader.

“His untimely death is regretted by all who knew him. The Senate has lost a most valuable member, his friends and associates have lost a most charming personality, and the State a most useful and constructive legislator.” •

CREDITS

The photograph on the first page is from the 1935 Minnesota Legislative Manual, that on page 4 from the 1933 Manual.

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