

WOODROW WILSON DIES

Pathos Fills Last Years of Wilson

After Intensely Active Life as World Figure, Chained by Disease to Seclusion.

Confident of Vindication

By Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 3.—After Woodrow Wilson left the White House in 1921, he took to the life of a retired man of letters, which he continued until death.

He lived alone with his wife in a comparatively modest home for a man of his place, and maintained most of the time a modest establishment of three servants and a used car.

His daily routine was modeled on the eight-hour day which a once told congress was "adjudged by the thought and experience of recent years, a thing upon which society is justified in insisting in the interest of health, efficiency and contentment." He always said grace before meals even in the days when life was at a low ebb and he had to steady himself on the back of his dining chair and whisper the words. He never failed before closing his eyes, for what he knew always might be the last time, to read aloud a few verses from the Bible which lay on the table at his bedside.

Confident of Vindication

His daily mail was a heavy one. Old friends discoursed on the politics of the day and criticized the republican administrations; cranks cluttered his mail box with pleas for financial aid, endorsement for this, that, or the other movement; hundreds afflicted with his malady wanted to know the details of the treatment his physicians gave him. Mr. Wilson answered most letters himself, directed a secretary how to answer others and always signed all himself.

He read the newspapers with avidity, was abreast of world affairs and lived confident in the conviction that the principles he espoused would be accepted in the end.

Fighting for life day by day Woodrow Wilson realized he lived in the presence of death. A man of his age, stricken with a similar ailment—paralysis and general breakdown—seldom lives long. The best medical skill, careful nursing and the constant attention of a devoted wife, however, lengthened his span of life toward the three score and ten as even his most ardent well wishers had not dared to hope.

Gained Fortune During Presidency

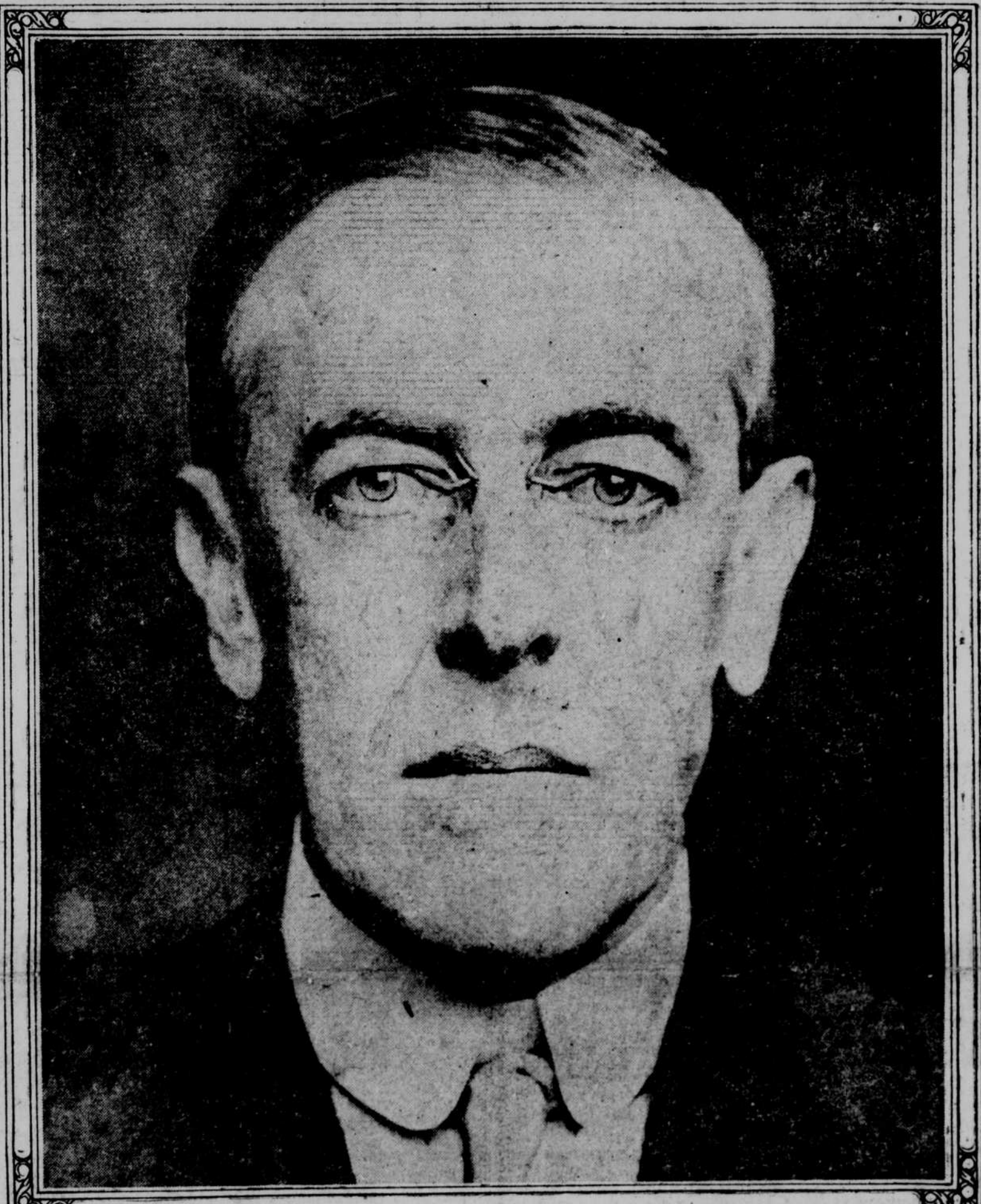
Mr. Wilson took a modest fortune with him from the White House and although he never earned any money during his retirement he was able to live comfortably, but carefully on his capital. When he came to Washington from the governorship of New Jersey he brought with him a few thousand dollars in savings well invested. His salary as an educator was never large and his pay as governor was also small. He had been raising a family of girls, and although he had written many books, his royalties were desultory. When he came into a salary of \$75,000 a year—the largest he ever had received—years of thrift asserted themselves and he saved money. Royalties from his writings jumped suddenly and tremendously because his books came into great demand.

Quiet Interest in Politics

Nobody ever knew completely what his feelings were for politics during his retirement. He took no active part, but there were sometimes indications that those close to him were urging him to do so. He once asked his medical advisers if they thought he could undertake a campaign and was advised that a political melee would surely kill him. Apparently, he gave up the thought if, indeed, he had any, and contented himself with expressing himself on political questions when asked by some correspondent. He never lost an opportunity, however, to drop a bombshell on some officeholder running for re-election who had failed to support his policies while he was in the White House.

On some few occasions he acknowledged the plaudits of admirers who gathered in the street in front of his home and he delivered one address by radio, but he made few public appearances. The most notable of the latter were at the services for the unknown soldier and at President Harding's funeral ceremonies.

Delegated to write his memoirs, or his own account of the peace treaty fight, or anything else for that matter, Mr. Wilson always declined, except in one or two instances. He spent a good deal of the time writing, propped up in bed, after the habit of Mark Twain, but it was not what publishers were asking for. All his material on the peace treaty he gave to Ray Stannard Baker, with permission to write what he would.



Woodrow Wilson

Committee Will Go on With Oil Scandal Inquiry

Senate Will Pass Without Opposition Resolution to Extend Authority of Public Lands Body

By Universal Service.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The senate will pass without opposition the resolution to extend the authority of the public lands committee to continue its investigation into the oil lease scandal, senate leaders announced today.

Arduous Trip

The 10,000-mile journey, with 40 public addresses and a kaleidoscope succession of trying public functions, was one of the most arduous ever undertaken by a president. It began on September 2, 1919, less than two months after Mr. Wilson returned from Paris, and the return to Washington was made on September 28, after his special train had touched the Pacific coast and almost skirted the Canadian and Mexican borders.

W. J. Bryan Classifies Wilson With Immortals

Houston, Tex., Feb. 3.—W. J. Bryan, in a tribute today to Woodrow Wilson, declared "He cannot be denied a place among the immortals; his failure to abolish war cannot dim the glory of that effort."

Wilson's Tour to Speak for League Taken in Spite of Doctor's Advice

By Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Woodrow Wilson's speech-making trip for the league of nations, which snapped his nerves and culminated in his long illness, was undertaken after his personal physician had warned it might seriously and permanently impair his health.

"I do not like to disobey you," he said to Dr. Grayson, "and I never have done so before. But I feel I must go out and make this fight, even if it costs my life."

As if the approach of illness had fostered a premonition that the worst fears of his medical adviser would be fulfilled, he expressed to several audiences during the swing across the continent his willingness to make the great sacrifice for the treaty.

"If I felt that I personally stood in the way of this settlement," he said at Omaha, "I would be glad to die that it might be consummated."

He suddenly after his physicians thought he was on the road to recovery.

Wilson, like Harding, insisted on going on, after it was apparent to his physicians and others about him that the strain was beginning to tell. It was at San Diego, Cal., in the third week of his trip that Mr. Wilson first permitted his indisposition to interfere with his prearranged schedule.

To have an interrupted evening, he canceled the plan to remain at a San Diego hotel, had his train stopped for the night on a quiet siding near Del Mar, and late the next morning tried to slip into Los Angeles quietly. But he failed to elude the crowds. Aside from his public speeches in overcrowded and overheated auditoriums to make the great sacrifice for the treaty.

From the start, Mr. Wilson adopted a fighting attitude, putting in his addresses an energy of expression and gesture. Almost until the collapse came, he presented an outward appearance of health and assurance, facing the crowds always with a smile and jesting and laughing with those who gathered around his private car at the way stations.

For the last week and more of the trip, however, he suffered constantly from headache and some times from sleeplessness and touches of indigestion. The break really began at San Francisco, where four years later another president, Warren G. Harding, passed Friday, Fall may be called before the committee Saturday morning.

His efforts to abolish war by confederation between nations was as noble an effort as was ever made by man, and his failure to accomplish his purpose cannot dim the glory of that effort.

"He cannot be denied a place among the immortals. His substantial achievements will live long after his mistakes are forgotten."

Nebraska Swept by Heavy Snow and Sleet Storm

Telegraph and Telephone Wires Down West of Omaha—Trains Running Behind Schedule

Destructive sleet and snow storm is reported to be hurling itself eastward early Sunday night.

Trains on the Union Pacific all were reported late from the west. The Los Angeles Limited, which was due in Omaha at 7:05, was reported almost two hours late.

Hastings has four inches of snow. Snow was reported at Sioux City at 6.

All Burlington wires are down between Lincoln and Hastings.

Telephone lines are down in the west. No connection could be made at 8 last night with Holdrege, Kearney, Norfolk, Hastings, Fremont and Columbus.

Western Union telegraph company officials stated that several of their wires were down. Some of the copper was covered with from one to two inches of sleet.

In the Rapid City and Black Hills district the wires all are down. Messages, relayed from this section, state that a terrific gale is drifting the rapidly falling snow and the mercury is dropping.

Early Sunday night the snow was drifting dangerously in western Kansas, driven by high winds.

"Sunny Side Up"

The popularity of this feature of The Omaha Bee leads us to give it greater prominence.

It will be found on the editorial page in both morning and evening editions.

WOODROW WILSON DIES GOES BRAVELY TO END; "I'M READY" LAST WORDS, AS WIFE CLINGS TO HAND

Wilson's Paris Trip Called "Voyage Leading to Discovery of Europe"

By Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Woodrow Wilson's participation in the peace conference at Paris, at the conclusion of the world war, was aptly described by one writer as a "presidential voyage leading to the discovery of Europe." It was a voyage which aroused the bitterest partisanship in the United States.

Mr. Wilson's judgment was that since the United States had taken a principal part in ending the war, and since he, as president, had laid down certain principles of the peace as a means of preventing wars, his place was at the conference where the peace was to be made.

There was much opposition in congress, but, having made his decision, Mr. Wilson went ahead, as was characteristic of him.

E. M. House, whom the president appointed a member of the American peace mission, already was in Paris, so was Major General Bliss, another member. Henry White, former ambassador to France, appointed a member as a republican, and Robert Lansing, Mr. Wilson's secretary of state, went on the same ship with the president.

Wilson Martyr at Peace Meet. Says Nebraskan

Ex-President Made Deliberate Choice Between Life and Death to Secure League, Declares Prof. Fling.

Lincoln, Feb. 3.—"He was a real martyr, for he made a deliberate choice between life and death to secure what he thought was the salvation of the world, the league of nations," said Prof. F. M. Fling of the University of Nebraska, when apprised of the death of former President Wilson.

Prof. Fling was a member of the American peace commission and personally observed the work of the former president at the peace conference in Paris.

"There is no doubt in my mind about the place that he will occupy in history," he continued. "It is safe to put him down right now as one of the great figures, not only in United States history, but in world history. His great scene, the culmination of it all, was in Paris. It was a question whether we were going to have international institutions or an old-fashioned settlement, and President Wilson decided that we should have the former, when he personally insisted that the league of nations form a part of the final settlement."

Hostile critics of the presidential voyage distorted many facts in connection with it, and, as a result, Mr. Wilson suffered some in the public eye. It was widely stated, for instance, that the president caused to be built at public expense on the steamer George Washington a glass-enclosed promenade deck for his personal comfort. The fact was that the Germans had equipped the George Washington with a glass-enclosed deck as an attraction to American tourist travel. Mr. Wilson simply used the same deck. It was widely reported, as a subject of criticism, that Mr. Wilson, at public expense, carried along an orchestra to play for him. The fact was that the George Washington was being used as a transport to bring home wounded soldiers and sailors, and in its ship's company was an orchestra of untrained men, which did play.

Mr. Wilson felt that some criticism very keenly, although he never answered it.

The president's troubles began before the George Washington ever left the dock. He had ordered that only the peace mission party and its necessary attaches be permitted to board, and was amazed to find the ship crowded with army officers, naval officers, minor diplomatic attaches, wives of admirals and generals, and scores of others who had contrived to get themselves assigned to passage—all with the obviously principal objective of enjoying the distinction and prestige of landing in France as a member of President Wilson's official party.

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Wilson's Paris Trip Called "Voyage Leading to Discovery of Europe"

By Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Former President Woodrow Wilson died at 11:15 o'clock this morning.

The place of his entombment and whether his funeral will be public or private will be determined later.

The end was peaceful, life ebbed away while he slept.

A tired man, he closed his eyes, and, "sustained and soothed by an unflinching trust," passed on to the great hereafter, "like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Dr. Grayson, his friend and physician, announced the end of the great war president in this bulletin:

Mr. Wilson died at 11:15 o'clock. His heart's action became feebler and the heart muscle was so fatigued that it refused to act any longer. The end came peacefully.

The remote causes of death lie in his ill health which began more than four years ago, namely, General arteriosclerosis with hemiplegia. The immediate cause of death was exhaustion following a digestive disturbance which began in the early part of last week but did not reach an acute stage until the early morning hours of February 1.

Grim Reaper Enters. Last Friday, the Grim Reaper had forced his way into the house after waiting on the doorstep more than four years. Saturday, he had advanced to the landing on the staircase and stood counting off the ticks of the great clock. Saturday night, he knocked on the chamber door. A faithful physician and a loyal wife stood with their backs against it. At 9 o'clock, he rattled the knob and called to the peaceful, prostrate figure on the bed—a great bed, long and wide, a replica of the bed in which Abraham Lincoln slept in the White House, with a golden American eagle and a tiny silk American flag just over the headboard.

The watchers knew the battle was lost. At the portal of the door, now open, the faithful negro servant hovered. On the bed, sitting beside her husband, sustained with all the fortitude and composure of a woman facing a crisis, was Mrs. Wilson, holding between her hands the wren, withered right hand that had proved the pen mightier than the sword. Near the foot of the bed was his eldest daughter, Margaret, resigned to the inevitable. Close by, tears welling from his eyes and coursing down his cheeks, was Dr. Grayson, taking the measure of the fluttering pulse, weaker and fainter with each effort.

Beckons Last Time. Death advanced and beckoned for the last time. The tired, worn out man drew a long breath, there was a slight flutter of the eyelids, an almost imperceptible twitch of the nostrils.

Woodrow Wilson's soul had drifted out on the great dark tide that runs around the world.

Out through a city milled in a Sabbath morning's reverent calm, his name was being spoken from a hundred pulpits. In the Central Presbyterian church, where he faithfully went to worship while the flesh was able, a choked-up congregation had sung "The Son of God Goes Forth to War," "How Firm a Foundation," and "Onward Christian Soldiers," favorite hymns in which he loved to lift his voice in a happier, better day. Over a great land that had acclaimed him chief, and in lands across the seas where he had hailed as a God of Peace, prayers were rising for the repose of his soul.

In the street before the square brick house, where he has lived with (Turn to Page Three, Column Five.)

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA A PROCLAMATION

To the People of the United States:

The death of Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States from March 4, 1913, to March 4, 1921, which occurred at 11:15 o'clock today at his home at Washington, District of Columbia, deprives the country of a most distinguished citizen, and is an event which causes universal and genuine sorrow. To many of us it brings the sense of a profound personal bereavement.

His early profession as a lawyer was abandoned to enter academic life. In this chosen field, he attained the highest rank as an educator, and has left his impress upon the intellectual thought of the country. From the presidency of Princeton university, he was called by his fellow citizens to be the chief executive of the state of New Jersey. The duties of this high office he so conducted as to win the confidence of the people of the United States, who twice elected him to the chief magistracy of the republic. As president of the United States, he was moved by an earnest desire to promote the best interests of the country as he conceived them. His acts were prompted by high motives and his sincerity of purpose cannot be questioned. He led the nation through the terrific struggle of the World War with a lofty idealism which never faltered. He gave utterance to the aspiration of humanity with an eloquence which held the attention of all the earth and made America a new and enlarged influence in the destiny of mankind.

In testimony of the respect in which his memory is held by the government and people of the United States, I do hereby direct that the flags of the White House and of the several departmental buildings be displayed at half-mast for a period of 30 days, and that suitable military and naval honors, under orders of the secretary of war and of the secretary of the navy, may be rendered on the day of the funeral.

Done at the city of Washington this third day of February, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America one hundred and forty-eight.

CALVIN COOLIDGE, By the president.

CHARLES EVANS HUGHES, Secretary of State.

(SEAL)

The Weather

Table with weather forecast data including temperature, precipitation, and wind speed for various locations.