

Souvenir of the

Fall Reunion

Indian Consistory & Coordinate Bodies, A.A.S.R.

Valley of McAlester - Orient of Oklahoma

November 4, 5, 6, & 7, 1935

The Will Rogers Memorial Class

UNCLE PERRY'S TRIBUTE

(Reprint from Oklahoma Mason)

The civilized world was shocked and stunned when the news flashed that Will Rogers and Wiley Post had lost their lives in an airplane accident in Alaska, August 15, 1935. It is unnecessary to attempt details. Every one knows how it happened, or as it is given out that it happened.

Will Rogers was a life member of Indian Consistory. He received the Scottish Rite Degrees in the Spring Class 1908, and was made a Master of the Royal Secret 32° April 16, 1908.

He was a member of Claremore Lodge No. 53, and gave his occupation as "ranchman" in his petition for the Scottish Rite Degrees.

He was a man who was universally loved and who loved universally. He never intentionally gave offense to any one, and no one ever took offense at his "wise cracks".

He had reached the heights of earthly reputation as an actor, philosopher and humorist, and then, with his friend made a beautiful and safe landing in the green fields where the tree of life blooms for the pure in heart and life.

Will Rogers lived a beautiful life. He brought laughter into the heart, smiles to the lips, and no tears to the eye. A man like Will Rogers could sing with Neihardt:

Let me live out my life in the heat of blood!

Let me die drunken with the Dreamer's wine!

Let me not see this soul-house built of mud

Go toppling to the dust—a vacant shrine.

Let me go quickly like a candle light

Snuffed out just at the heyday of its glow!

Give me high noon—and let it then be night!

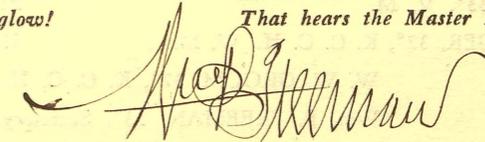
Thus would I go.

And grant me when I face the grisly thing,

One haughty cry to pierce the gray Perhaps!

Let me be as a tune-swept fiddle string

That hears the Master Melody and snaps.



Wm. P. FREEMAN, 33°, P. G. M.
Editor of Oklahoma Mason.

IN MEMORIAM

Because Will Rogers so nearly exemplified in his life all that a Mason of the Scottish Rite should be, we offer this tribute to his memory. Pages devoted to his virtues would not suffice. His many good deeds are known to all the world.

Behind his gentle wit was a deep philosophy that revealed a great soul, longing for the time when all mankind could be free from sham and pretense, bigotry, intolerance and demagogogy.

Hailed as friend and associate by the great men of the world, he remained the same gentle and lovable character of his boyhood days. Success came to him because he deserved success. People loved him because he loved people. Wherever he went he carried our Nine Great Lights. He Kept the Holy Fire.

ABRAHAM U. THOMAS, 33°, S. G. I. G. in Oklahoma

B. C. SCHWAB, 33°, V. M.

ELMER HALE, 32°, K. C. C. H., Comdr.

C. P. ROSENBERGER, 32°, K. C. C. H., W. M.

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