

## JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 61, S.

Commending Gilson Gardner Glasier, Librarian of the State Library, for 50 years of faithful public service.

Gilson Gardner Glasier, who as Librarian of the State Library has served the state of Wisconsin with distinction since 1906, recently announced his intention of retiring at the close of the current year. He made the announcement in his typically congenial and easy manner, smiling as he reflected his experiences in his law library office above the Supreme Court Chambers where he has been going every working day since he first assumed his duties on January 6, 1906.

Proud as they may be of his long and faithful public service the anticipation of his early retirement is not received by the people of Wisconsin with smiles. His leaving will be repined in all corners of the state.

The Bench and Bar with which he came in close contact in the performance of his duties, his many friends, and those who had the good fortune of working with him will greatly miss this pleasant, capable and mild mannered little gentleman. They and many others have safely and with assurance relied upon him as a connoisseur of good law books and master of legal bibliography and law book indexing. There can be no substitution for his personality about the state house, but as compensatory setoff to his remorseful retreat from the public wheel his fellowmen may bask in the knowledge that they have been enriched by his many contributions to the public good.

Born in Muscoda, Wisconsin, May 28, 1873, the son of Henry Warren Glasier, prominent southern Wisconsin teacher and farmer, and Jane Elizabeth Bosworth Glasier, he attended high school and business college at Austin, Minnesota. He later enrolled as a student in the University of Wisconsin from which he received his LL.B. degree in 1900. On June 29, 1899, he was united in marriage to Maybelle Kellogg of Wauwatosa. They have three sons, Marshall Willis, Franklin Kellogg and John Strong, all of whom are the source of great pride and joy to their illustrious parents.

An early recognition of his personal stature and ability as a student and young barrister was his appointment in 1896 as private secretary to the late Justice R. D. Marshall of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. This position he held until 1904 when he began the practice of law in Milwaukee. His deep impressions from his association and experiences with Justice Marshall leave nothing to the imagination. His exemplary private life, outstanding public service, demonstrated capacity for hard work and his writings in the two volume autobiography of Justice Marshall, of which he was editor, alone are conclusive and lasting testimonials of their formative effect upon him.

Mr. Glasier and Justice Marshall became and remained fast friends and mutual admirers. It was Justice Marshall who was primarily responsible for his appointment as librarian of the State Library. Knowing both of these two idealistic gentlemen and their attributes one might well question which one projected his personality on the other. For some of the singular components of Mr. Glasier's composition are the same very lofty characteristics that he so much admired in Justice Roujet D. Marshall.

By virtue of his position and associations as state Law Libra-

ian Mr. Glasier was given many assignments beyond his official duties and to which he gave freely of his time. He was one of the charter members of the American Law Library Association, was elected its president in 1922 and has devoted much effort to further the intellectual objectives of this organization.

Mr. Glasier was active in promoting one of the first projects for the indexing of legal periodicals under the auspices of the American Law Library Association. He was assistant editor of the first issue of the Index to Legal Periodicals, now the standard work, and familiar to all lawyers. He continued in its editorial directory until he resigned in 1911.

In 1910 he became editor of Callaghan's Wisconsin Digest and continued so to be until 1920, contributing greatly to the classification of Wisconsin law. In 1927 he was made editor and edited the first volume of the Wisconsin Bar Bulletin, the official publication of the Wisconsin Bar Association. He continued as such editor until 1948, editing 21 volumes. During this same period he acted as secretary and treasurer of the Wisconsin Bar Association and edited the annual volumes of its proceedings. He also contributed articles to the American Bar Association Journal and the Journal of the American Law Library Association concerning legal literature, library management and library technique.

By reason of his ability and capacity for work and his knowledge of legal publications gained from years of research, Mr. Glasier possessed the rare ability to skillfully select from the great mass of publications those books which provide the legal reader with the best material available on any subject. As a result the state of Wisconsin has at the least expense acquired the best law books and

users of the library have been saved much time investigating their legal problems. The importance of his ability in this regard to the state of Wisconsin can scarcely be appreciated without the reminder that when Mr. Glasier became librarian in 1906 there were about 30,000 volumes in the State Library and now he is the guardian of about 125,000 volumes and the head of a law library which ranks among the best in the country. It is the oldest institution in the state, dating from an act of Congress in 1836 when the Wisconsin Territory was established.

Although a very busy man Mr. Glasier still found time to develop his favorite hobbies of golf, gardening, hunting and fishing. In these recreations as in his daily work he displays the same interest, alertness and vigor today at the age of 81 as he did 20 years ago.

Because of his nearly 50 years of outstanding public service for the state of Wisconsin; because the public has received many kindnesses and favors from Mr. Glasier that were not and cannot be compensated, but should not be forgotten; and because of his exemplary life; be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That this legislature is proud of and commends Gilson Gardner Glasier for his nearly 50 years of outstanding service to the state of Wisconsin and regrets the prospect of his resignation as State Librarian; and, be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be spread upon the senate journal and that a duly attested copy thereof be presented to Mr. Glasier.

(End)