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community the death of Woodrow Wilson has called forth tributes of an unusual kind to the character and ability of one of the world's great-

est men. These tributes are being published in all the newspapers of the land, and come from the foremost men and women in every phase of life. The Jewish Exponent has received the following words of appreciation of the great war President from the spiritual leaders of Philadelphia Jewry:

# WOODROW WILSON-HIS RELATION TO THE JEW

## BY DR. CYRUS ADLER (President, Dropsie College)

Woodrow Wilson's intellectual attainments had no superior and few equals in the office of the Presidency. No President since Thomas Jefferson possessed his accuracy of knowledge in any given field, and none other than Theodore Roosevelt had his breadth of intellectual interest. He was unique as President in that he was the only man of purely academic training and life who came to this exalted office, and the idealism and moral courage which he displayed in great emergencies should serve to direct the attention of the people of this country to leadership of the type of which Mr. Wilson was such a shining example. A man without experience in public

at history will give him ace among the personaliod of the great war, and hat many of the things t down as mere phrases, fight," "my country, may be right," represent a higher standard of national morality than any yet developed, which America may some day strive to attain. More surely than any one else has Woodrow Wilson, whom many deemed impractical, pointed a practical way for the real development of civilization and the promotion of peace.

As for Mr. Wilson's attitude toward Jewish matters, I think it was a combination of what any civilized man would feel, a reverent attitude such as the old Presbyterians had, that the Jews were really the people chosen by God, and the feeling that they had been so wronged by the world that he had a special duty to aid in securing for them justice and the sympathy of the world. My own relations with Mr. Wilson were personal, those of a younger student toward an older one, up to 1911, the time when I called his attention to the passport matter. He was then Governor of New Jersey. He asked for the documents and within twenty-four hours replied that he did not see how any American could have two opinions on this subject, and that he would do anything in his power to promote the abrogation of the Treaty of 1832 with Russia, and he did. Shortly after he became President in 1913, at the close of the Balkan War, when he was informed that the Jews in that portion of Bulgaria which was to be transferred to Rumania would lose their rights as citizens and it was suggested to him that some action should be taken to secure to them at least the rights that they had had on Bulgarian soil, he caused a prompt dispatch sent to Sir Edward Grey, then presiding over the Council of Ambassadors in London settling the affairs of the Balkans, expressing the interest of the United States in a just settlement.

When the question of minority rights for the protection of racial, linguistic and religious minorities was under discussion for incorporation in the Versailles Treaty and the national rights matter was presented to him, he said that he felt that the world had so wronged the Jews that he would be willing to accord anything that they felt necessary for their protection, but that this particular thing was impossible, since such minority rights would have to be accorded to all, and that 

EXHILADELPHIA JEWRY LAUDS WGDDROW WILSON

> Leaders of Jewish Thought Pay Tribute to Great War President

Dr. Cyrus Adler and City's Prominent Rabbis Honor Departed Head of Nation

new states which the Versailles Treaty was setting up. I have spoken only of a few things, and all within my own knowledge, which I think indicate his attitude toward the Jewish people. Doubtless there are many other instances.

CYRUS ADLER Phila., February 4th, 1924

WOODROW WILSON-A NOBLE SPOKESMAN

By Dr. Harry W. Ettelson

(Congregation Rodeph Shalom) "He now belongs to the ages!"-These simple, noble words, which were

which Wilson helped so mightily to achieve d'd not result in the establishment of that perm anent beneficent peace among the nations such as he ardently hoped for. However, as the poet has so well said, "Not failure, but low aim is crime." And none can question but that Woodrow Wilson's aims were of the highest. Ever those who may criticise his League of Nations or take exception to some of his policies and methods will surely concede his sincerity of motive, the courage of his convictions, his loyalty to the cause even to the poin of martyrdom.

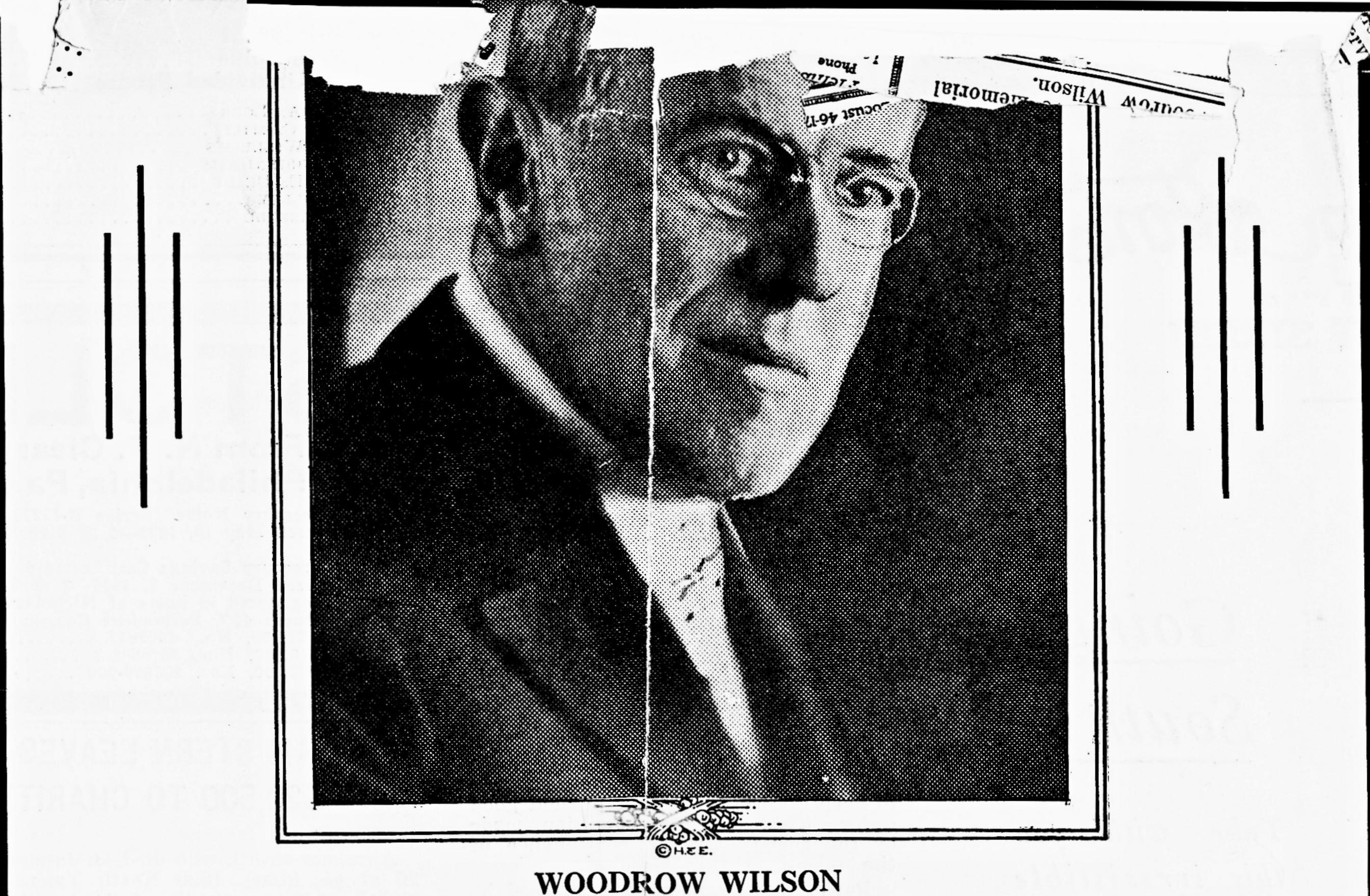
And so, not only for the many great things which he caually achieved, but

prophets, though it was not given him to see his dream realized and his ideals fulfilled, at the moment of death rises victor over all his traducers and stands upon the hill of fulfillment. Isaiah was not a failure, even if his dream of universal peace is not yet a reality, nor did Amos go down in defeat because justice does not yet flow like water and righteousness like a mighty stream. They were just seers, born before their day, the forerunners of mankind's selfrealization. Nor is Woodrow Wilson to be considered a failure because his ideals are not yet realized. I honestly believe that Woodrow Wilson is the greatest American since Lincoln, great-

he had helped to win, but because of the broad vision, the lofty idealism, the unfailing faith and the undaunted courage that filled his life and permeated all his work. His messages were always an inspiration. The principles to which he gave utterance and for which he labored, to save the world for democracy, "self-determination for the smaller nations," "the war to end war," awakened a responsive chord in the hearts of men. He united the entire country during the war and carried it to heights of idealism never before experienced. His efforts and ideals stirred and thrilled the oppressed and despondent heart of Europe. He was hailed as their savior. But before he could finish his task he was broken in body and strength by the strain of overwhelming responsibilities and the bitterness of partisan antagonism.

He never really lost the admiration of his fellow men. His home was a shrine, his utterances words of wisdom and his public appearances, though rare, were greeted with outbursts of enthusiasm.

He was friendly to the Jew in word and deed. He favored Palestine as a Jewish homeland, he insisted upon the rights of minorities and embodied in the treaty those principles which, if but enforced, would assure safety and security for the oppressed Jew. To Europe he gave the League of Nations. To America he bequeathed the hope of assuming again the moral leadership of the world. His life and achievement.



Who was the twenty-eighth President of the United States

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reverently spoken when Abraham Lincoln breathed his last, may be repeated with no less appropriateness at the passing of Woodrow Wilson. Only those who are blinded by partisan passion; only those who delight to stress minor flaws to the exclusion of major excellencies, will hesitate to acclaim the enduring greatness of Wilson's character and career.

It was indeed most fortunate that the supreme crisis of the World War found a man of his strong personality and ripe powers in our highest executive office. By his force of intellect, and even more by the fervor of his idealism, he was able to make the soul and conscience of America articulate. His remarkable gift of style created those living phrases which expressed our Nation's noblest thoughts and feelings and consecrated us to the highest pitch of unselfish patriotic service and sacrifice.

There is, of course, tragedy in the fact that the great victory of arms also for the lofty ideals of which he was the noblest spokesman, and which remain still to be achieved, History will give him a high place among the Immortals. "The memory of the righteous is indeed a blessing!"

HARR W. ETTELSON.

# WOODROW WILSO -A . MODE N PROPHET

## By Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman (Congregation Keneseth Israel)

The loss of Woodrow Wilson is to me something of a personal loss, for if ever I had a hero that hero was President Wilson, and if ever my attitude towards any living being was the attitude of a hero-worshipper, my attitude toward Woodrow Wilson was of that nature. To me Woodrow Wilson stands on the plane of the prophets of old. Misunderstood, and alike subjected to the persecution which Israel's prophets and prophets of all ages have known, Woodrow Wilson, like those other

est in the sense that he grasped the idealism of America and remained true to it to his last conscious moment.

As Jews, we see in Wilson our greatest friend. Even before the days of Versailles, and during those stirring days. President Wilson stood foremost amidst the friends outside Israel's life, watchful that justice and fairness be done to the Jew. His memory will

long continue a benediction. ABRAHAM J. FELDMAN.

# WOODROW WILSON-FRIEND OF THE JEW

### By Rabbi Marvin Nathan (Congregation Beth Israel)

The grief at the passing of our former President, Woodrow Wilson, is world wide; in death as well as in life he belongs to all humanity. He left a deep and profound impression upon the minds of men; not because of his striking achievements as President, not because of the victory of the World War

Rev. Leon H. E. naleh (Congregation Mikve Israel)

The death of ex-President Wilson has removed from the world a dominant figure. His efforts for peace, and his "League of Nations" plan, though an idealism and a dream, and denounced as unpractical by some—especially those swayed by partisan feeling, will surely bear fruit, and sooner or later will become a reality. He did not fail, as some have said. It was the people who failed, in failing to support him. Posterity will acclaim Mr. Wilson the herald of universal peace, the Elijah proclaiming a Messianic age.

He made mistakes, it is true, because he was human. But in spite of them, he was ever inspired by lofty ideals that will, in time to come, uplift humanity from the material to the sublime. He suffered the fate so often visited upon the leader—he died before his dreams were realized.

LEON H. ELMALEH.

WOODROW WILSON-

AN APPRECIATION

By Rabbi Max D. Klein

(Congregation Adath Jeshurun.) The death of Woodrow Wilson removes from our midst one of the heroic figures in the history of man. It will be said that much of his greatness was due to the exceptional position he occupied as President of this great Nation and to the train of tragic circumstances in the affairs of the world through which he, like ourselves had lived. It will, however, be more true to say that the great moment in the history of the world only revealed the greatness of his soul. When the World War will have become a memory in the lives of future generations, the name and the personality of Woodrow Wilson will stand out, a living reality like Lincoln; and his voice will speak as one of the strongest voices in the conscience of humanity throughout the centuries of its future

development. His was a prophetic soul and the strength and weakness of the prophets were his. The ideal was his all-consuming fire. Like them, in dealing with the ultimate he refused to utilize worldly means to placate his foes and the enemies of his ideal. The ideal remains. The goal which he could not reach and towards which he led, remains mankind's promised and reachable land; the search which he made remains a greater passion in the souls of millions of men

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