

Pioneer Lawmakers Association

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THIRD SERIES

PIONEER LAWMAKERS ASSOCIATION

BY KENNETH E. COLTON

The Twenty-sixth biennial session of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association of Iowa met in the portrait gallery of the State Department of History and Archives, Tuesday, March 7, 1939. The meeting was called to order by the President, John C. DeMar, shortly after 9:30. The Reverend P. R. Stevens of the Capitol Hill Church of Christ offered the invocation:

O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth! Before the mountains were brought forth, or even Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.

Our Father, we come to Thee this morning in the opening of this session of Pioneer Lawmakers, surrounded by the pictures on these walls, pictures of men who have helped to make this great state of ours, assembled here together are others who have come later, but who still have done their part in guiding the destiny of our state.

We would invoke Thy presence and Thy blessing upon this gathering, the direction of Thy wisdom and Thy spirit through their session and all of their deliberations, that the fellowship here may be sweet and have its part in the building of character and that also from it may come that which will be of blessing to all of us who live in this great commonwealth.

So we ask this, our Father, that Thou wilt direct the affairs of this organization and bless each individual who takes part or is in this fellowship. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

Governor George A. Wilson then addressed the association with the following words of welcome:

I come to bring a greeting to the pioneer lawmakers of Iowa, and to bid you welcome, elder statesmen. May I say this, that it is my wish that you may return on many other such occasions.

The years come and go, youth merges into maturity, new occasions compel new duties; and as we explore the recesses of memory, you and I find that pioneer lawmaking—like pioneer home building—seems far away. We treasure a quill pen and a hand loom as museum relics. A legislator now votes by pushing a button and turning on a colored light in a picture frame. We listen to a premier's speech advising

peace or proclaiming war as it comes from a little box with wires attached. Log cabin culture and livery barn politics disappeared with the sugar camps and the prairie chickens.

But time has not crushed the spirit of the pioneers. It lives on in the homely customs that have survived the passing of the crude implements of our economic life and the primitive ways of transacting public business.

Pioneering here—as everywhere—was a daring adventure. But life itself is a great adventure.

The dark valleys and the great open spaces were a challenge to the courage of the home seekers. Their search for the better land is our quest today.

Our good fortune is that we inherited, and have been able to preserve, the wholesome traditions of the makers of Iowa, and those who built well and wisely on the firm foundations.

Great credit is due you, one and all, for a worthy part in making Iowa a good place in which to live. I do not speak lightly of the credit that is your due. I have some familiarity with the Code of Iowa. I know something of the way laws are made. I have myself, used the sledge hammer of open debate and the jigsaw of committee amendment, and have watched with nervous apprehension the roll call on a flood of bills rushing headlong to an uncertain goal.

Good legislation is the product of a meeting of minds animated by mutual desire for the common good. Conscience is the sure guide for the "yeas" and "nays." A legislative roll call represents the well thought out judgment of men devoted to the welfare of the people.

In a free state, under representative government, our legislative system is the orderly process of crystallizing into law the will of the people.

An assignment to a legislative task is not an invitation to a holiday vacation. Preparation of bills in harmony with accepted public policy is a hard job, sometimes disagreeable, often embarrassing, nearly always a thankless task.

Thumbing through the ponderous Code and conning the thin session laws, as one will who is interested in all the ingredients of Iowa greatness, I have become aware that the spirit of the pioneers runs like a golden thread through all the fabric that makes a unit of our Commonwealth.

What I mean is, that the handiwork of legislation reveals from within that Iowa lawmakers have had in all the full century of Iowa growth a fine understanding of the principles of free government. There is the impress of sincere loyalty to state and nation in all essentials.

You may well take pride in your part. If you had it to do over again, you would do some things differently. That is an experience common to us all. But you may rely upon history dealing fairly with your good deeds and ignoring your mistakes, if any.

Personally, I must wait some time before getting into the class of pioneers in lawmaking. More than half of our grand legislative history has slipped from under the golden dome since this organization was formed fifty-three years ago to provide a connecting link between the past and the future. Though the seven sessions in which my votes are recorded are far from the days of pioneering, I take pleasure in recalling my earliest contact with the legislative mill—when President Milliman of the Senate [J. C. Milliman, Lt. Gov., 1898-1902] named me to be a page. Perhaps then, more than at any time afterwards, I felt myself to be a very essential part of the legislative equipment.

Whatever else came out of those dream days in the field of public service, my life has been enriched by the unrestrained admiration I felt for the forceful leadership of that period. They who had seats in Senate and House towered high. To me they were giants. I think of them as real statesmen, endowed with much wisdom, able in debate, keen in analysis of men and measure. I count myself fortunate in that I had before me, in the impressionable days of youth, such splendid patterns of useful citizenship.

So, I welcome you heartily to the capitol of Iowa, and to this inspiring hall of history, where so many of the lawmakers and law givers of Iowa look down upon you, and seem to appeal to you and to all who shall come after, to carry on in accordance with the best traditions of a great state that is the home of a happy people.

The response to the Governor's address on behalf of the association was made by John T. Clarkson, former state senator and past president of the association:

Speaking for and in behalf of the members of our association, I know that I express their sincere sentiments in thanking Governor Wilson for the gracious welcome he has expressed, speaking for himself and in behalf of the people of Iowa, whom he represents as the Chief Executive of our beloved state government.

Every member of our association at a time in the past rendered service in some one or more of the departments of the state and in that respect found it necessary at times to pioneer in the sense of improving methods and procedure. In rendering legislative service we were called upon to pioneer further, and endeavor to improve what may be said to be substantive law, this to meet conditions as they arose from time to time in so far as our powers were not restricted by the constitution.

We still regard ourselves as pioneers. I hope the day will never arrive when the people of this country in whatever effort they may be engaged will cease to be pioneers, in the sense that we must go forward. But, in our zeal to pioneer, we must not discard the balance wheels of progress. To illustrate:

We oftentimes hear those who express themselves with all sincerity that we should eliminate the so-called conservatives, and yet we know

the conservative man is essential and necessary for a proper balance wheel. Again, we find others who would eliminate the so-called radical, and yet the reasonably minded, so-called, radical is an essential and necessary factor to pave the way, theoretically, if you please. We need both as a balance wheel, the practical, workable fellow, and his radical friends, to go along with the entire wheels of progress to success.

We oftentimes find condemnation of this and that and the other fellow. I know not what the individual feeling of each member of this organization may be, but I believe I speak the true sentiments of those who believe in American institutions, that we invite free expression, be it radical or conservative. And however so-called radical it may be or so-called conservative, we are ready, able, and willing to listen and learn so long as they stay away from advocating force.

Whenever a man steps forward and says he desires to tear down our institutions by force, then toleration ceases to be a virtue. Utilize the power of persuasion and reason. It is our duty to be tolerant, listen and learn. But whenever one advocates force to destroy our institutions, it is our duty to stand forth and protect our institutions in order that we may, as in the past, benefit from our experience. As the old French philosopher said "I do not endorse your theory or philosophy, but I stand ready to give my life to protect you in the right to express your views and by the process of reasoning influence others to agree with you." That is the true philosophy of our American institutions as we understand it.

Although we are confronted with the unacceptable views which we believe hark back to days when human rights were ignored, let us not become discouraged in well doing. The remedy for the political ills depend primarily upon our efforts to keep aloft the illuminating principles which accounts for our success. "That government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed" means that a government, of whatever kind or character it may be, has no rights or power to confer upon a people except the power and duty to protect the individual in the exercise of his inherent natural rights and at the same time so regulate the exercise of such rights with the view to prevent unreasonable interference in the exercise of such rights. We should urge that this fundamental doctrine be taught in our every day schools and colleges and preached from the public forum. It is not sufficient to say we are blessed by having a representative form of government. We must go further and explain why and what we mean, namely that government has nothing to give but much to protect, and thereby explode the fallacy of depending upon government to give that which it does not have and in the very nature of things cannot possess, natural rights. I would have the mothers of our land incorporate these fundamental doctrines in their lullabies to their babes in order that the boy and girl may grow up in the atmosphere of human liberty, the basis of the philosophy of our government.

No one pretends that we are perfect, but we do say that a people can rise no higher than the opportunity afforded to bring up our citizenship to a good strong level of sanity, reason and the dealing out of justice. There are times in our pioneering we may go astray, and I was very much pleased to hear the Governor say that mechanically there has been some progress in the legislative halls by way of voting, and yet the touching of that button must necessarily come from a clear conscience, which represents the ground work and the essential necessities of a legislative body.

Touching the button to record the legislator's vote very materially aids in saving time and removes a very tiresome irritating factor, thereby aiding and permitting reason to prevail.

And again we have improvements in other pioneering methods, for I see by the paper one of our eminent citizens reported that he would be late in arriving at the office because, forsooth, his wife was very slow in moving the snow. We were more than pleased, as an association of individuals, to know that our brother was still pioneering. The problem with most of us, how he succeeded in obtaining movement at all. Our difficulties lie in obtaining the movement towards the shovel. The slowness comes primarily in a failure to find the shovel, not so much the movements afterwards. And so I am more than pleased to know we are still pioneering.

And let us keep on pioneering. We have many problems to solve that can only be solved by reason. Probably slow but safe. We are somewhat akin to the inventor. The new project is started with all manner and means of gadgets, but the practical man comes along and takes out a wheel here and a journal there and a little thing yonder, with the result that we have a practical workable mechanism. And so it is in legislative affairs.

I speak from experience of that which is always with me day and night. Those of us who took part in fashioning the so-called workmen's compensation law discovered afterwards a number of gadgets that were wholly unnecessary, practically valueless, and along with some assistance we eliminated that, this and the other that was non-essential, until, placed in the hands of practical men, such as Governor Garst and our blessed Senator Funk, there was built a sound foundation. Those who took part in the enactment of that act feel very proud of our success in furnishing the material out of which those splendid men laid the foundation. We are now reaping the benefit from their effort.

I sincerely trust, as I believe we will, and as I feel justified in promising the Governor, that while as an organization, or as individuals, we are without power to say what shall or shall not be done, we still retain the power of expression and will make our voice heard and our theories known to aid and assist our successors in office and that our successors will go along pioneering.

But at the same time let us keep in mind that it is essential and

necessary in government as in business and everything else to keep our feet well and solidly planted on the ground in order that whatever we do will ultimately be practical.

Now, diverting, not that we desire to impose our views upon the Governor, because it is only in the way of a suggestion. We appreciate the fact—every citizen does—that the business of the state is more or less hampered by reason of the various departments located here, there and yonder—no one is to blame, because our state government is somewhat like Topsy—it was not born so much as it just grew—and more or less patch upon patch, because we were compelled to meet the situations with which we were confronted at the time they arose.

Everybody recognizes some relief from this predicament must be afforded. As an individual, and I believe I speak the sentiments of this body, relief must necessarily be within our means to relieve the situation and I offer the suggestion that we start at the east side of the capitol and build wings three or four stories high, north and south back to Thirteenth Street, in order that we may have our various departments together.

I would not say that this was entirely original with me. Far from it. It was my privilege and pleasure of recent date to have attended an international convention of Industrial Commissioners in West Virginia. There I discovered the capitol of West Virginia with two wings such as I have described running back about two blocks, with all of the departments closely together.

Somebody may complain from an architectural point of view. I am unable to see wherein that is a reasonable objection. It may appear at first thought to throw the appearance of the capitol out of balance, but I believe buildings of that kind can be so framed and arranged in architectural beauty that it will harmonize with the capitol building and will very materially save in cost and expense in the way of rental and at a relatively low cost of construction. But by all means get our departments together.

These, of course, are suggestions. We introduce the evidence for what it is worth.

Now I believe I have said all I should, not anything near all that I would care to say. I will say this, however, that I well remember in my days as a neophyte member of the Senate how we were kept along the straight and narrow path by a Secretary who is now our Governor. I know that he realizes my weakness that when wound up it is most difficult to stop, and especially if talking about the workmen's compensation law.

I want to thank you, and again thank the Governor, not alone for his presence but for his genial words of welcome.

President John C. DeMar then delivered his presidential address as follows:

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The Pioneer Lawmakers' Association is one of the old institutions of Iowa, organized as it was in 1888, 51 years ago. Its youngest members of that date were in the thick of it three years after the close of the Civil War, and some of its members reached back in service to the very beginning of our statehood. Once every two years since that early date we have met in session, and now are having our 26th biennial meeting. A review of our proceedings and a list of the names of those who have attended our meeting would show a pretty complete roster of the men responsible for the upbuilding and the progress of the State of Iowa.

As best it can be determined from our records, there are 383 living today who are entitled to membership in our association. This is a surprisingly small number when it is considered that we draw from a group consisting of 158 in number each current general assembly, to which are added all state officers, executive and judicial, but 20 years' time lays a heavy burden on the heads of men already fully grown. Of the members of the legislature meeting in 1919 who are now eligible to membership for the first time, but 36 are living. Of the 383 eligible to membership, we have but a handful here today. Age and infirmity hold some of us close to our fireside and failure of plans to properly materialize keeps some of our noses close to the grindstone, others have unwittingly left Iowa. It is well that some of us, in spite of handicaps find time to meet at these happy but infrequent sessions.

My first knowledge that there was such an association was when its members, upon invitation of the 31st general assembly, visited our joint session. This was in 1906. The members seemed to me then well advanced in years—strange how much younger they seem today. Their sessions at that time lasted over a period of two days. Automobiles were not then owned by everyone and roads were rough in the winter time, so that men did not undertake to come to Des Moines and return all in one day. With them at that time was a Mrs. Cheek of Des Moines, who was introduced as a member by adoption and who sang an echo song. My next contact with the association was as a member of the 32nd general assembly when to me was assigned the role of giving the address of welcome to the visiting members on behalf of the House of Representatives.

The speakers at those two sessions gave expression to the thought that they were the pioneers in lawmaking; that they charted the course for all future lawmakers in Iowa to follow; that the work then being done and to be done was but picking up the loose ends and carrying through policies already established by those pioneers, our predecessors. At that time this view appeared rather plausible. We then had that whole body of statutory law embodied in the Iowa Code which seemed rather complete. It did not appear proper that we should at a future

time, whether fixed at 20 years or not, be classed as pioneers in law-making. But now, after 20, or 25, or 30, or 35, or 40 years, depending upon the time of our service, we have become pioneer lawmakers and we in our turn handed down to our successors that same code with the additions and eliminations for which we were responsible.

Viewed from a distance we see a little clearer the place our work as legislators fits into the scheme of things. Perhaps in its entirety the work of our session was not quite as important as it then seemed, but much of it now appears to have a rather permanent place in the body of our laws. The code of laws is not basically the work of any one session, or a limited number of legislative sessions. Rather each body of lawmakers has put a stone, or a few stones, into the structure and each one has been responsible for some stones that did not fit and had to be removed and for some trim that has gone out of style and had to be torn away. We in our turn were just as truly pioneers as were our predecessors, and the legislature today is no less a pioneer body of lawmakers charting the course in some direction for its successors.

If we take credit only for those statutes that remain permanently useful, the value of our service is too much minimized. Law making is not so exact a science that all the facts being known the proper law to fit the situation can be framed. After all it is men and women that are to be governed by the laws we enact and their response and reactions can not always be known in advance. The making of laws has to be by the method of trial and error to a large degree. That at least will excuse some of our mistakes and that is pioneering in law making. We may have helped along the advancement in government quite as much by discovering what will not work, as by learning what will.

The body of our laws can not become fixed and settled. We often hear it remarked that the one speaking wishes the legislature would adjourn and not reconvene for 20 years. This is not possible and it is so because of the rapidity with which conditions change. When I was first elected to the legislature it was with very definite instructions from the voters generally that our county, Davis, was to be let alone in its government, and there was to be the minimum of interference from state authorities. There was then a movement for a state constabulary to enforce the laws governing the sale of intoxicating liquors. Davis county had not permitted a saloon in its borders since I can remember and was definitely against the sale of liquor, yet it wanted no state agents interfering. Now we have state agents under the governor's direction, under the attorney general, under the secretary of agriculture, under the secretary of state, under the motor vehicle department, under the commerce commission, etc., all traversing the state and necessary by reason of changed conditions.

Another matter in which the voters in my county requested to be let alone was in the control and maintenance of highways. A movement was then on to center this control in a state agency. Davis

county would have none of it. Just then northern Iowa with its deposits of gravel was developing an all-season highway and southern Iowa with no such deposits did not want the burden of graveling fastened on it by a state control. Since then we have seen the advent of paved highways, with southern Iowa taking the lead because northern Iowa did not want to see its investment in gravel roads written off. This change in attitude was due to the necessity of good roads to accommodate faster moving vehicles, and so it is that changed conditions change the attitude of the public and demand new laws.

I listened a few years ago to a lecture given in Des Moines by Dr. S. P. Grace of the Bell Laboratories. For two hours he entertained and thrilled his large audience, relating to them developments in sound transmission. What he explained was the result of the most intense scientific research along that line, yet in a manner perfectly understandable to his audience. He demonstrated the use of an instrument that enabled a man without vocal chords to speak articulately. He slipped a small disc in his breast pocket that resulted in amplifying his voice many times. He demonstrated how his voice was transmitted by electric impulses to New York and back again in a flash but the sounds so garbled as to be unintelligible, then by straining the impulses through a mechanism, the words became articulate and clear. This two hours' demonstration pertaining to improvements perfected and in process in one industry alone.

Those of you who visited the Chicago fair may have seen the House of Magic, a demonstration by the General Electric Company of transmission of light and power. Many of the things there shown appeared unbelievable and a few years ago could not even have been imagined. Doors were opened by the interception of a beam of light as you approached; power was set in motion that opened garage doors by the beam of light from your headlights.

In my youth telephones were known, but a wire strung between Drakesville and Bloomfield was so in advance of the needs of the times that the company owning the line did not take the trouble to repair the damage of wires broken by sleet and the farmers along the line used the wire for riders on hay stacks. So the radio, that gives the market quotation in time to load our livestock in trucks and reach the Chicago market the next morning, has created new problems. The automobile that moves at 70 miles an hour and meets another coming at the same rate on a ribbon of concrete gives us something to think about and the necessity for new laws. The airplane, the diesel engine, the steam shovel, the corn husker, the cotton picker, the factory machine that does the work of 100 men all create new problems. I stood two blocks from this building and saw one man sitting on a platform operating a steam shovel that weighed a ton, throwing its many sharp pointed edges into street paving that was being torn up, loading it into trucks a ton or more at a time, doing the work of 50 men. Thus has been created

problems of unemployment, old age pension, relief that our legislatures must deal with and solve if they can. New problems demand new solutions, and thus we have the pioneer lawmaker of today.

The problems confronting the early pioneer in lawmaking were simple. Our population was largely rural and our industries, such as we had, were simple. Society in all its phases becomes more complex from age to age. Fifty years ago our people expected little from their government in the way of service. Now we demand and have hard surfaced roads, inspection of meats, milk and other food stuffs, inspection of restaurants and hotels, public airports, improved day schools for the children and night schools for the adults, someone to make us drive safely on the highways and to bring us gasoline or tires if we need them between stations, pensions for the aged where sons and daughters heretofore bore the burden, public forums, and public toilets, public parks, public swimming pools, and public golf links. With all the increase in government service, taxes have mounted. New sources of revenue are found and at first are added as a substitute tax. They soon become an added tax and the public that pays demands something more for its money, and thus the circle goes on. Legislatures are not anxious to levy new taxes but are driven to do so by public demands. Mr. Consumer and Mr. Property Owner complain of the tax burden and vote for the next bond issue that is put to a vote. The task of the modern legislator is not easy.

With the increase of functions of government, the army of government employees grows in size. New commissions and departments are added which from time to time demand re-organization and consolidations, something for greater efficiency and to spread the tax dollar a bit further. It is fortunate if our legislators do not lose sight of the bigger problems in doing this. When reorganization is sought for the purpose of stripping an unwanted public official of power vested in him by statute, instead of letting the public correct the error, if it was an error, at the next election, the legislature is losing its opportunity. When reorganization is done simply to undo the work of predecessors for political advantage, or when it is for the purpose of terminating terms of service of public officials that can not otherwise be terminated forthwith, it is likewise pursuing a foolish course. There is no virtue in change for the sake of a change, either of policies or of agents by which government functions are performed. So in all the maze of new problems confronting current legislators it is hoped it will be given to them to see the big problems that need solution and that in looking through the forest they will not get lost in the underbrush.

I find that a review of session laws of the 31st and 32nd general assemblies, the ones in which I served, is of interest. It tells the story of progress and was somewhat surprising on account of the few laws that were of permanent value. You will find such a review of your legislative period of interest. We in the 31st general assembly passed

a law to encourage and pay for the use of the road drag and much was heard in those days of King road drag. We eliminated a part of the road tax of him who used wagons with tires at least three inches wide. We removed the circle from the ballot. Since then the circle has been put back on and the present legislature has a bill pending to take it off again. We took free passes for railroad transportation from public officers, candidates for public office and delegates to political conventions. In the 32nd general assembly we took such passes from all persons except railroad employees and a few others. We appropriated for the attorney general's office \$1800 for a first assistant, \$900 for a stenographer and \$1200 for additional assistants and contingencies, a total of \$3900 per annum. The last biennial period that office had an annual sum of \$104,000 in addition to the salary of the attorney general. We appropriated for the railroad commission annually \$1200 for a clerk, \$900 for a stenographer and \$600 for extra help, a total of \$2700. The last biennial period the commission has had, in addition to the salaries of the commissioners, the annual sum of \$46,600 and the percentage of fees collected, amounting to \$90,000 per year.

The 32nd general assembly passed a law providing for the commission form of city government as a cure for existing city government ills. The evils of this form of city government were recently reviewed in a campaign of this city by supporters of the city manager plan. We passed the primary law and the two cent passenger fare law; we provided for the indeterminate sentence for criminals. We passed a law limiting the size of firecrackers, known to the pages in the House and Senate as the "awful bill." Its author was Representative Offil of Jasper County. We passed a law giving to operators of common carrier motor vehicles on specially constructed concrete trackways the same rights and privileges applicable to steam railways.

Shortly prior to these sessions the legislature did conscientious work in setting up a body of laws providing for the establishment of drainage districts to bring about the drainage of surface water from Iowa. These laws were strengthened and improved by the 31st and 32nd and succeeding assemblies. Much was accomplished under this law. For the past few years and for the future we will be securing funds from whatever source available to put water back on Iowa's surface. So far we have built 18 artificial lakes in Iowa.

The 32nd general assembly passed the primary election law. It seemed a good piece of legislation. Davis county was situated in a part of Iowa known as the "reservation." It was claimed this territory, the limits of which were indefinite, was controlled politically by a certain railroad and it was to break this domination and to overcome other bad influences surrounding conventions that the law was passed. It may have served the purpose for which it was intended. It has been realized, however, that it does not result in an intelligent choice of candidates for office. Twice in very recent years candidates have been chosen under

that law for very high state office whose withdrawal party managers realized must be secured at all hazards, and withdrawal was secured. A system that permits such results should be changed. It is safe to say that not more than five per cent of those voting at the primary have such information about candidates generally for whom they vote as to permit their making an intelligent choice. Rotation of names on the ballot was soon made necessary when it was discovered that position rather than choice determined the selection. Like Mark Twain's comment on the weather, "Everybody complains but nobody does anything about it."

At times in the past, effort has been made to set up a legislative bureau. This bureau, with proper personnel, should devote its entire time in preparing for the legislature material that it will need. As matters arise in which Iowa may be interested in the enactment of new laws, such bureau should gather all facts relating to the subjects and make them available in concise form to members of the legislature. As to such subjects, the bureau should gather information from other states as to their method of dealing with the subjects and the results they have had. Its personnel should have someone competent to pass upon the legality of such legislation and someone possessed of skill in framing bills for passage. All bills prepared for introduction should pass through the hands of this bureau before being introduced, in order that apparent defects may be eliminated. Such a bureau has never been established in Iowa. Our state library gathers such information as may be useful to the legislature as an incident of its general functions, but that is not sufficient. We now have two young men employed only for the duration of the session, one a lawyer and one having training in the formulation of laws, but they have no opportunity to prepare in advance and can render but limited service. It is surprising that our legislatures, constituted as they are, most of the members without former legislative experience, do as well as they in fact do in drafting bills to accomplish given ends. The expense of such a bureau to do research work and to furnish advice and assistance would save the state much more than the cost and would save much litigation made necessary by reason of ambiguous wording in our newly made laws. You have but to run through the bills of any particular session to see the need for such bureau. Perhaps some pioneering will yet be done along that line.

President DeMar appointed as members of the Committee on Nomination of Officers, George M. Titus, John T. Clarkson, Ray P. Scott, and Emory H. English, who were asked to report before the noon adjournment.

The association than joined with the State Department of History and Archives in the installation of five oil portraits of former state officials. The chair was assumed by the

Curator, O. E. Klingaman, who spoke briefly of the reasons for pride the state might justifiably have in its portrait gallery, noting that Iowa was one of the few states of the Union which have thus preserved portraits of its public servants. The Curator called attention to the obvious fact that lack of adequate wall space remaining would make possible the hanging of only a few of the additional accessions desired. The attention of the members of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association was also called to the need of funds for adequately caring for those portraits now hung or stored by the department. The speakers presenting each of the portraits were then introduced by the Curator. The short addresses of presentation follow:

UNITED STATES SENATOR DANIEL F. STECK

BY FRANK F. MILES

I consider it an honor to be invited to come here today to speak on a program under the auspices of this organization. I consider it a real privilege to say a few words about the distinguished gentleman whose portrait I am to present.

Senator Daniel F. Steck, is a native Iowan. He was born in Ottumwa on the 16th of December, 1881, the son of a pioneer lawyer, A. C. Steck. The Senator was educated in the Ottumwa schools, then went to the University of Iowa to study law. He was a good student, and he won something more than statewide fame, they tell me, by his ability as an oarsman, which, I suppose, qualified him to paddle his own canoe as well as he has in his manhood.

He entered the practice of law after leaving the State University of Iowa and continued to practice until the spring of 1917. At that time Senator Steck was several years past what we then considered maximum military age, 31 years. He was well along in the thirties, but he was so moved by the world wide situation which then existed that he assembled a group of young men from Ottumwa and nearby towns who went to Eddyville from time to time for military drill. When they started they didn't have military equipment but used broomsticks.

Soon after this country entered the war the Senator's company was taken into the American military service. It was sent to the 34th Division and spent some time at Camp Cody in New Mexico. In the fall of 1918 as a part of the 34th Division it went overseas. Over there Senator Steck proved to be a splendid soldier and was commissioned a Captain.

Shortly after his return to Iowa to re-enter the practice of law, the American Legion was organized, and he became a charter member. The basis of the American Legion appealed to him because he believed in the spirit of Americans all. Early in the organization he was made a member of the national Executive Committee of the American Legion—the Iowa representative. Then he was placed on the National Legislative Committee of the American Legion, of which he was at one time chairman.

Dan Steck has always been quiet, never spectacular, but always doing things. I as one in position to know, may say to you people that probably no man in America has had more to do with the writing and the putting through of legislation in the national Congress providing for the compensation, relief, rehabilitation and economic justice for victims of the World War than had Dan Steck.

In 1921 we made him the second Iowa Department Commander of The American Legion. He toured up and down the state, quietly, yes, but always carrying a real message of Americanism.

In the spring of 1924 a few of us service men were assembled in a room in the Blackhawk Hotel at Davenport, during the Democratic State convention there. We were talking about candidates, someone to lead the forlorn hope of the Democratic party for United States Senator, and we decided that a service man should be the leader. We chose Dan Steck. I was selected to go to a convention caucus to be held on the mezzanine floor of the Blackhawk Hotel that evening, and to speak in behalf of our man. We got him into the race and got his papers signed, and he won the party nomination in the primary.

In the summer of 1924 we still thought he was leading a forlorn hope. But he went up and down the state delivering speeches—one day making as many as nine. What he did that summer has always been a source of inspiration to me. I don't believe that Dan in his heart thought there was a chance of his being elected. A lot of others working for him didn't think so. But he was carrying the banner of his party, and he gave it everything he had, with the result that in September of that year, when his opponent helped to kick open the door of opportunity in the political situation which existed then, Senator Steck stepped through that door and was elected; he won because he had made such a fine impression on the people of Iowa.

There was a contest for a couple of years, but he was seated. During the time he was in the Senate he was popular. I have been told that by Senators who were there with him. He was never radical, never reactionary. He was progressive and conservative, and if you will look over the record of his votes you will find that he was always thoroughly sound.

In 1930 when he ran for re-election he ran 120,000 votes ahead of the rest of the state ticket, but was defeated by Senator Dickinson. He then returned to the private practice of law, and in 1933 was made a Special

Assistant to the Attorney General of the United States, which position he still holds.

Now at the age of 57, Senator Steck is still young as men go, and has many years of useful service before him. Without any fanfare, without any blaring of bands, always quiet but always determined, always of great efficiency and service to his country, he has had a splendid career. He has endeared himself to the service men of America. He was a good Senator. He is today a true public servant. And in the years he has ahead of him, with his experience and vision, I am sure that he will render much more of service to our God and to our country and to our glorious state.

UNITED STATES SENATOR CHARLES A. RAWSON

By ROBERT J. BANNISTER

It is a pleasure to me to be allowed to come here to present a portrait of my longtime friend, Charles Rawson. It seems to me that perhaps a short sketch of his life might be appropriate.

CHARLES A. RAWSON was born in Des Moines, May 27, 1869, the son of A. Y. Rawson, a native of Vermont, one of Des Moines' pioneer merchants. He was educated in the public schools, graduated from West High School, after which he entered Grinnell College and graduated from that institution. After leaving college, he became connected with the Iowa Pipe and Tile Company, and he continued in the brick and tile business throughout the remainder of his life. In 1900 occurred the marriage of Mr. Rawson and Miss Carrie Hubbard, a daughter of Dr. Hubbard, of Des Moines. He was always interested in public affairs. He was a staunch Republican and was chairman of the Republican State Central Committee from 1912 to 1922. On February 25, 1922, he was appointed United States Senator from Iowa by Governor Nate Kendall to succeed the Honorable William S. Kenyon, resigned. Senator Rawson served in the United States Senate until December 2, 1922. He was elected Republican National Committeeman from Iowa in 1924, and served in that capacity until 1932. He died in Des Moines, Iowa, on September 2, 1936, in the house which was his birthplace, at No. 723 West Fourth Street.

In spite of the long and very distinguished service which Charlie Rawson gave to his party, which length of service as chairman of the Republican State Central Committee and as National Committeeman I believe has been equalled by no man in this state to my knowledge—in spite of that, the thing which everyone thinks of who knew Charlie Rawson is not his ability as a political leader, which was much above the average, nor his ability as a business man, though he conducted a large business with signal success for many years, and conducted it so



CHARLES A. RAWSON
1869 — 1936
United States Senator, 1922

well that that business is still in successful and prosperous operation by the members of his family.

No, it is not his business ability that was the cardinal, shining point in the character and life of Charlie Rawson. It was his tremendous capacity for friendship. Until the last few years, when sickness began to take its toll, there was no one that it was more of a pleasure to meet than Charlie Rawson, because he always met you with a smile. He never was out of patience or short of time.

During the first years that I knew him he constantly spent a great deal of time in connection with Grinnell College, not only out of love for his alma mater but because of the fact that he always had from one to six or eight young men there that he was either entirely paying their way or helping to pay their way through school. I suppose there are no records on that subject, but Charlie was the champion about helping boys through college. That was one of his great friendships.

He had friendship for young men. I have been with him when, after a long and arduous day, he would sit down and write letters to two or more of these boys before retiring. He had time to do those things.

He was a great business man; he was a great servant of the party to which he gave his allegiance; he was a very public spirited citizen; but above all, ladies and gentlemen, I give you Charlie Rawson, the great citizen and the great friend.

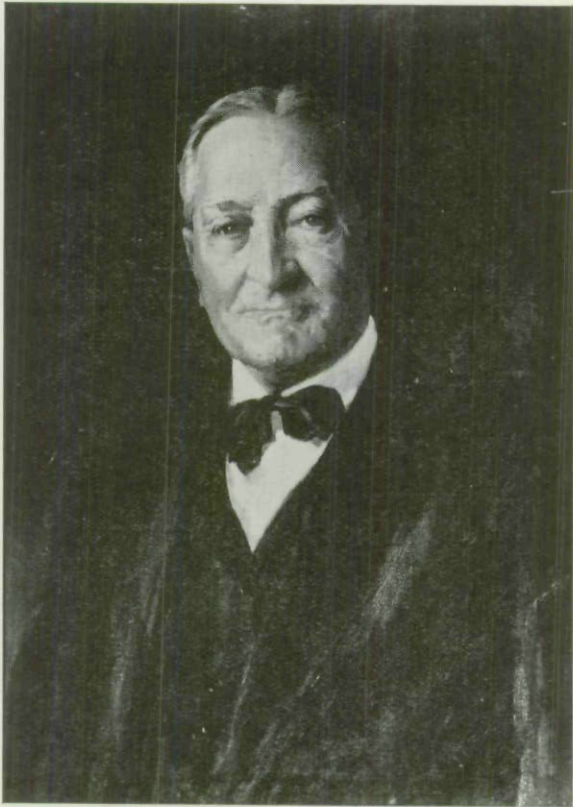
JUSTICE BYRON W. PRESTON

BEN J. GIBSON

The hall in which we are gathered is most surely Iowa's "Hall of Honor." Upon its walls hang the portraits of men and women who have distinguished themselves and their State by notable and worthy service. It may be that all of those who deserve the honor of having their portraits hung here are not so honored, but be that as it may, we may truthfully say that the life stories of those who have been so honored reflect a true cross section of the history of Iowa. They lived and they served. They were and are instrumental in a large part in the development of a state, the greatness and glory of which is the pride of its every citizen.

It is, indeed, an honor for any citizen of the state, however great his service, to have his or her portrait join those now adorning these walls. It is an honor which must be earned and, in turn, recognized. In presenting the portrait I am about to present, I believe I may truthfully say that the recognition which has been given to Mr. Justice Byron Webster Preston has been earned by long and distinguished service to his state and to its people.

He was born near Newton, Iowa, on February 13, 1858, and died at Oskaloosa, Iowa on January 18, 1939. He lived a lifetime within the



BYRON W. PRESTON
1858 — 1939

Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court
1913 — 1925

borders of Iowa. It was here that in major part he was educated. In 1916 his Alma Mater, Grinnell College, conferred upon him for distinguished service, the degree of L.L.D. He was successively, lawyer, District Judge, and Judge of the Supreme Court of Iowa. In his private life and in his public service he served well.

May I, therefore, say to you, and to the people of Iowa, that it is a rare privilege for me to present to you and to those honored ones, living and dead, who here reflect the glory of Iowa—a portrait of Byron Webster Preston.

In the stead of C. N. Jepson, who was unable to be present at the meeting, Ora Williams delivered the speech presenting the portrait of U. S. Senator Lester J. Dickinson as follows:

UNITED STATES SENATOR LESTER J. DICKINSON

BY ORA WILLIAMS

I fancy that sometime somebody wiser than ourselves will paint a composite portrait of the typical man of Iowa, and take for his model perhaps a hundred of those who have served this State. I am sure that when that is done the composite portrait will have resemblance to some of these men whose portraits are before us. They are typical Iowa people. The one whose likeness is here [Senator Dickinson] is a typical Iowan.

It is a pleasure to me to dedicate and offer this fine portrait of Senator Dickinson. It is not always safe to make very much eulogy of a man who has not yet finished or closed his career. He may go wrong. So far this man has always gone right. He is young, but it is quite safe to guarantee his future.

I hope there will not be at this meeting of the Pioneer Lawmakers association any such tragic event as that which occurred at the first one. The Association had met, not in this building for it was not then built, but in an opera house down town, Foster's Opera House, and the members had gone by invitation to the hall of the House of Representatives. As part of a very fine program, a distinguished ex-member, then living in Nebraska, Judge James L. Mitchell, of Fremont, who had been a member of the Ninth Iowa General Assembly, had been called to speak. He spoke for a few minutes pleasantly and clearly of his recollections.

Then he faltered, turned pale, and fell into the arms of a friend. The legislature arranged a special funeral. It was a truly tragic incident.

It ought to be said here, perhaps, unless someone else has it in mind, that we who are interested in these reunions, never come without a sense of gratitude to the founder of this Historical Department and organizer of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association. He laid a good found-

ation for this gallery of portraits. Here are the faces of many who are of the hosts of makers of Iowa. I am tempted to give anecdotes of many of them from personal recollection. Mr. Aldrich started a work here that will continue perhaps for all time to the credit of Iowa; and it is a compelling duty of this generation to see that the work goes on as planned.

But I am commissioned to speak briefly of Senator Lester J. Dickinson. I said a moment ago that he probably is a typical Iowan. He was born in Lucas County, in southern Iowa, not very far from where the coal mine tops were smoking. He got a little schooling in the neighborhood. They do good work in the one-room rural schools. He went to Cornell College, a typical Iowa college, where he learned his Latin and logic. He took his degree of LL.B. at our splendid State university. Then he looked about for a place to begin the practice of law. He journeyed out across the wide open spaces of northern Iowa where the jack rabbits were still running races and the bob whites were calling to morning labors. There in Algona, in Kossuth County, he located, practiced his profession and made a success.

Could anything be more typical of Iowa? But he went on. He married a girl who was a prairie product, and established a family in Algona, a typical Iowa city. About that time he did what almost every wide awake Iowan does, he took a hand in politics, acted as committeeman of his party and went to conventions. It wasn't very long until he got into public service first as county attorney. In due time, some twenty years ago, he went to Congress to represent a very large and prosperous district. After twelve years in the lower house he was elected to the United States Senate in 1930, where he served with distinction and ably represented his state. He has so commended himself to the home folks that they recommended him for a place on the national ticket of his party. As a public speaker he attained high rank. Although it is too early to make final appraisal of his service to his party and his State, we do know that wherever he has been placed he has faithfully and honestly fulfilled his duty.

The period of his eighteen years service at Washington will go down in history as one of the troublous times of America. It was an era filled with much history-in-the-making. It called for reconstruction and reorganization after the wreckage of the World War. Most of the problems of that time, and of the years that followed even to the present time, are traceable to the conflict that ended just as Senator Dickinson was taking his place in the national picture. It involved all the various phases of the tariff, of finance, of foreign affairs, of agriculture, of national economy, in fact everything that passed through Congress and its committees. You may depend upon it that Senator Dickinson was active and vigorous, a staunch defender of what he believed to be right and a hard hitter at all that he deemed error. In that period of making things over he was a useful man.

When Lester Dickinson entered Congress in 1919, Woodrow Wilson was still wrestling with a few of the problems concerning what we as a country should do about affairs in Europe. He remained active in national affairs until that time when a great Iowan, another native of this State, went to the White House and called into his cabinet two other native born Iowans and had in that same official family another who held diploma from the Iowa State university. The time of the Senator in active official life was notable for much that will long be remembered in American history.

It can be said further of Senator Dickinson that although he is just in the prime of life he has had an active and interesting career. He took on the burdens and responsibilities of public life almost at the beginning of his practice of law. He was a servant, yet a leader, a standard bearer. At all times he was of and for Iowa and for the American way of life and thinking. Every day he was loyal to Iowa. He had strong convictions and he was always fearless in expressing them. He gave hard blows. He did not wince in a fight. Wherever he was, there something was going on, something doing.

At this time and in this place I can only give a very imperfect outline of the story of Senator Dickinson's activities and achievements in public life. When the gaps are filled and the narrative rounded out with truthful details at the hand of some more capable biographer, Iowa people will speak their approval of his life and work. Let it be recorded here that where Senator Dickinson was in a place of responsibility or trust, in anything and everything he had to do that related to the public service, he always kept in mind that first and above all else he was an American. Then he never forgot nor neglected his loyalty to his own beloved homeland of Iowa.

It is a pleasure to me to introduce Senator Dickinson to this notable gallery of the great men of Iowa.

JUSTICE FREDERICK F. FAVILLE

BY TRUMAN S. STEVENS

It is here in this beautiful gallery that Iowa, appreciative of the services and sacrifices made in her behalf, has preserved for all time the faces of its great leaders, executive, legislative and judicial. Not only do these wonderful portraits preserve the likeness of those who have with such great distinction served the commonwealth, but with equal distinctness they tell the sublime and inspiring story of Iowa's birth, maturity and achievements.

Pioneers, leaders in the ever-changing and expanding development and progress of our institutions, they in silent voices tell the story of Iowa, its institutions, its moral, spiritual and social progress. Year by year new faces are added. This custom will no doubt continue so long as the commonwealth survives.

I would speak with equal emphasis of the great leaders in each of the respective departments of the government. But on this occasion I must limit what I have to say in large measure to the judiciary. Government by equally empowered but separated departments is confined almost exclusively to our own system. The history of 150 years attests the soundness of the vision and the wisdom of the fathers.

The judicial department of the government is essentially different from that of the executive or legislative. It is the duty of the legislative to enact laws and of the judiciary to interpret and give them effect. Statutory law, although extensive and broad in its scope, is indeed a small part of our great legal system. The common law of England in the beginning became a part of it. It is interpreted by the courts historically and in harmony with the progress of our modern society.

The three departments of government co-ordinate their efforts and together the laws and institutions of the commonwealth are administered. Speaking upon a recent occasion, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States said:

We work in successful co-operation by being true, each department to its own function, and all to the spirit which pervades our institutions . . . exalting the processes of reason, seeking through the very limitations of power, the promotion of the wise use of power, and finding the ultimate security of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and the promise of continued stability and a rational progress, in the good sense of the American people.

The administration of justice must be based upon, and always within the law. Law and justice are fundamental and control every judicial act. It is in no sense the expression of human emotions or temperamental conceptions of official duty. Wisdom, prudence, learning and integrity must find expression in the performance of judicial duty. Among the first requisites of a great judge is a profound knowledge of the law; not only of the law as expressed by the legislative fiat, but of the broad fundamentals of the laws which have become an inseparable part of our jurisprudence. The true interpretation of the law is by no means always exclusively indicated by the cold letter of legal phrases, however eloquently or accurately they may be expressed. There exists in the realm of jurisprudence that which judges and lawyers recognize as the spirit of the law. It must never be overlooked. May I quote from a former address a paragraph that seems to have meaning:

I think there is a viewpoint spiritual in its character peculiar to the judiciary of the equality of human right and justice that is born of experience on the bench and that cannot be otherwise attained. The power and functions of the court, the delicate matters with which it deals, the nature of the controversies to be decided, the sorrow, the tragedy of human life constantly pres-

sing forward for action have and must have their indubitable effect upon the mental processes and enhance what I want to call the spiritual understanding of the court. This spiritual understanding becomes a potential power in the individual and in the court as a body.

On this occasion we honor another distinguished jurist who for 12 years occupied a position upon the Supreme Bench of Iowa. Honorable Frederick F. Faville began the practice of law in Iowa in the early nineties and continued in that profession until January 1, 1921, when his service as a Justice of the Supreme Court began.

I would not speak in fulsome praise of Judge Faville, but I feel that I may, with perfect propriety, speak the truth. A graduate of one of Iowa's great institutions of learning, and of the legal department of the state university, he quickly won success and distinction at the Bar, becoming United States District Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa. In that capacity he served with great distinction and success. His preparation for the Bench was obviously of the best. As a trial lawyer he was a leader, and as a citizen, of the highest character. Not only was he equipped in all the fundamentals that are essential to the best and highest service in his profession, he was a man of profound learning in the law and understanding of judicial power.

His opinions disclosed not only a knowledge of the law controlling the controversy, but a full and wise comprehension of issues and facts, together with great ability of close analysis and accurate statement. His opinions will live among the best in the history of the Supreme Court of Iowa as clear and definite precedents for the future guidance of the Bar.

He believed in the spiritual qualities of the law and always sought to administer it in such a way as to do not only justice to litigants but also in proper appreciation and recognition of his duties and responsibilities to the public. The position of the judge is unique. He is not only called upon to settle and adjust disputes between citizens but to build and equip, so far as possible, a sound system of jurisprudence. The administration of justice by courts is a solemn duty, both in the light of the issues involved and their relation to the public welfare.

Judge Faville met with distinguished ability every duty and responsibility of the judge, and in honoring him on this occasion he in turn honors the State. He as a man and as a citizen was possessed of the highest and noblest conceptions not only of official but of individual duty. He loved the life of an advocate and was a great judge. A leader, a man of Christian character, he is again engaged in the active practice of his profession; again he has become a leader in that field. I have no doubt that he will for many years in the future perform distinguished and notable service not only to the Bar, but in the administration of justice, and to the people of the State of Iowa.

It is with great pleasure, Mr. Curator, that I tender to the Historical Department the portrait of Justice Faville.

Miss Jessie M. Parker, Superintendent of Public Instruction, accepted the portraits on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the State Department of History and Archives with the following remarks:

It was my pleasure a few years ago to hear Professor Rice of the State Teachers College describe a procession she had seen on a patriotic occasion. I quote. She said: "The procession had been beautiful, but just average. But all of a sudden I clasped the arm of a friend and said, 'Spartan hoplites!' Following these as they went marching down the street came a beautiful float, and on that float we saw Phidias, Socrates, Aristophanes, Plato, Aeschylus, and Euripides, the men that made Greece famous. It was the biggest thrill that I ever received from any procession in my life."

As I heard Miss Rice tell of that experience I thought what a thrill it must have been to those citizens of Greece who had come to this country seeking a new home, and what a thrill it must have meant to the boys and girls to realize the contribution that their race, the pioneers of their race, had been able to make to civilization.

The biggest change, I think, that has been made in our histories is the making of history human. We are glorifying not only the military but the contributions of pioneers in every line—in law making, in legislation, in medicine and things of that kind, and no words that I could say would add anything to the beautiful portrait you have had of the wonderful services and the varying services of the men represented in these portraits.

As the great-granddaughter of one of the pioneer legislators, Zimri Streeter, called "Old Blackhawk," who in the Civil War took the soldier vote at the front as representing the Iowa legislature, I consider it an honor and a privilege to express the wish that the spirit of service and friendship here represented may be passed on to those for whom they have made a bridge—the youth of tomorrow, and that this spirit may be respected and preserved by the boys and girls.

And so it is my privilege on behalf of the Trustees of the Department of History and Archives to accept these portraits and to express appreciation of the wonderful way in which they have been presented.

The gavel being returned to President DeMar, the following hour was spent in listening to short talks of a reminiscent nature made by Ray P. Scott, James B. Weaver, O. A. Byington, Frank S. Shankland, William G. Kerr, John A. Storey, and Frank J. Lund. George M. Titus retold his interesting story

of the proof of Muscatine's greatness to the enjoyment of all. See *Annals of Iowa*, XIII, 48-50.

George M. Titus then made the following report on behalf of the Committee on Nomination of Officers for the coming biennium:

President, H. S. Van Alstine, Gilmore City

Vice president, Ray P. Scott, Marshalltown

Secretary, Ora Williams, Des Moines

District vice presidents: First District, J. M. Brockway, Muscatine; Second District, O. A. Byington, Iowa City; Third District, N. W. Beebe, Hampton; Fourth District, R. J. Bixby, Edgewood; Fifth District, Edmond J. Bradley, Eldon; Sixth District, Ben J. Gibson, Des Moines; Seventh District, George W. Van Camp, Greenfield; Eighth District, Joseph H. Anderson, Thompson; Ninth District, C. N. Jepson, Sioux City.

Executive Committee, in addition to the President, Vice-President and Secretary: B. F. Carroll, Des Moines, John C. DeMar, Des Moines, John W. Jacobs, Lake City, and R. G. Clark, Des Moines.

The report was adopted and the gentlemen as listed above were declared duly elected.

Adjournment was then made to the Cherry Tea Room for the special luncheon for association members and their guests. Following the luncheon the members assembled on the second floor of the Capitol in preparation for the joint session of the General Assembly convened in their honor. At 2:00 o'clock they were conducted to seats in the House Chamber. Lieutenant Governor B. B. Hickenlooper, President of the Senate, was in the chair. Speeches of welcome were made by Senator Frank C. Byers, and by Representative Herman W. Walter, following which former state senator and former Attorney General George Cosson delivered the address of the afternoon.

ADDRESS OF SENATOR FRANK C. BYERS

Mr. President and Member of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association: It is an honor and a privilege to be allowed to welcome the Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers in behalf of the Senate.

There have been great changes in recent years. The day of the ox-cart, covered wagon, even the horse and buggy are gone, and there are

many new conditions arising which require legislative consideration and regulation.

You laid the foundation of the laws of our state wisely and well, and I presume you felt when the last session of your terms in the Legislature ended and you had adjourned that the state had all the laws it needed. You would have been correct if life had remained of the tempo of those days but in this day of the radio, airplane, automobile and the streamliner, the rule of life is change rather than stability, and it is to meet this change with its increased complexity of human relations that new enactments are constantly required.

But one thing does not change, and that is human nature. The Proverbs of Solomon are as true today as they were three thousand years ago. The human instincts and reactions depicted in the plays of Shakespeare appeal as unerringly to human emotions today as they did three hundred years ago.

Yet you realize as well as we that all change is not progress. It is still true as in the time of the Old Chronicler that we must 'Consider well what is proposed and hold fast to that which is good.' Though we have thus far preserved the heritage of a free people which our forefathers brought forth and you helped hand down, democracy was never as much challenged in the world as today. With England and France standing alone in a dictator ridden Europe and with highly organized pressure groups making their influence more and more felt in America, there never was a time when it has been more necessary to exert every effort and strain every power at our command to maintain our Republic and transmit it unimpaired to the coming generation.

These are the problems of today. They seem to us greater than the problems of yesterday. They may not be; they may be only closer. We take from you the inspiration, the zeal, the steadfast loyalty to the principles of the constitution of our Country which you in your legislative careers so highly exemplified. We hope to carry on upon the same high plane of endeavor. The future can only judge of our success.

For the services you rendered the state, for handing down the charter of American freedom undimmed and unerasd, and for the example of useful and necessary legislation you set, I welcome you here in the name of the Senate.

ADDRESS OF REPR. HERMAN W. WALTER

Mr. President, Pioneer Lawmakers, Assembly of Guests, Members of House and Senate:

It is indeed a great pleasure and honor to welcome you. When I recall the achievement you have attained, I feel deeply the debt of the present to the past. In welcoming your distinguished body, we do well to remember that the word Pioneer is not an isolated word, but a word that is descriptive of courage, foresight, vision and leadership. We need but

pause for a moment and look into the past and realize many of the ideals of the Pioneer Lawmakers have become realities, and are so deeply entrenched in the hearts of the people of Iowa, that they can never be erased. When the forefathers of this country wrote the Declaration of Independence, they knew that man was created and endowed with certain inalienable rights, that being life, liberty and pursuit of happiness.

When the framers of our constitution gathered from all the states then in the Union, they framed a document recognized as the greatest instrument ever written by man. Embodied in this instrument was the protection of these inalienable rights so ably announced by Thomas Jefferson and which forever guaranteed to the people of this country a representative form of government. The leaders of this country formulated into law the expressions and opinions of the people of this great land, fully knowing that without recognizing human rights and liberties as paramount in government, there can be no progress.

The vision and foresight of our Iowa Lawmakers of yesteryear has made possible the erection of huge state institutions and maintenance for the care of the many unfortunates not able to take care of themselves. This is but one of the many humanitarian acts which we owe your distinguished body.

The erection of our great places of learning which can be attended by all, regardless of class, color or creed, of which Iowa might be well proud, is due only to the foresight and vision of the Pioneer lawmaker, well knowing, "that without education there can be little vision."

The achievements, which you, the Pioneer lawmakers have attained, is today a guiding light in these troubled times. An encouragement to spur us on to do our task which we have before us and which we hope we will be able to perform as courageously and ably as you. On behalf of the House of Representatives of the Forty-eighth General Assembly, I welcome you.

THIS CONFLICTING WORLD

BY GEORGE COSSON

We are at the end of a cycle and the beginning of a new. Between end and beginning is chaos. So said Oswald Spengler.

It was Thomas Huxley who said that next in importance to clear and right thinking was clear and wrong thinking, but we have neither, neither clear and right thinking nor clear and wrong thinking. Instead we have a mass of confused thinking. This results from the fact of our opening statement. We are at the end of a cycle and the beginning of a new. Every intelligent person will admit the truth of this statement, but scarcely one in a million really acts accordingly.

This confusion of thought exists in both our domestic and international relations. It is true of the man on the street. It is true of the business

man, and it is true of the men who run our government.

So long as this confused thinking continues, there is not much hope for the world.

Let us pass from the general to the specific. From the dawn of civilization, and even before civilization, the struggle of man has been to obtain food, clothing and shelter. The beginning of civilization is measured by the extent to which man could increase his supply of food.

It is, therefore, a matter of tremendous importance to keep in mind that we have now passed from this scarcity economy into an economy of plenty and abundance.

That does not mean that everyone has plenty and abundance, however, but it does mean that production and transportation have advanced to that stage where the most favored could live in unsurpassed luxury and even the humblest might have the comforts and necessities of life. Yet it is not too much to say that nine-tenths of all our action and thinking and legislation is based upon the old order; upon the scarcity economy, and strange as it may seem, this old order is not defended by the poor and ignorant, but by the educated, responsible people of society.

To use the phrase of James Truslow Adams, it is the rich, the wise, the good, who oppose the transformation. It has ever been so. It was the respectable and responsible people, that is—the rich, the wise, the good—who crucified Jesus and took the greatest exception to his teachings. And it was the cream of the aristocracy of the south, that is, the large plantation owners, who were the most ardent defenders of slavery.

It is one of the tragedies of our times that so many of the most intelligent and the finest of our people still look upon the glories of our civilization which existed during the first quarter of the 20th century, and still cling to the idea that if we could get rid of the New Deal and all its works, we could return to the status quo, that we could restore the old order.

Regardless, however, of the merits of the New Deal, which is not under discussion, as this is not the time nor place for such a discussion, and regardless of what happens to the New Deal and every individual who has been a part of the New Deal, the old order changeth. It has already changed.

The economy and the pattern of our civilization which many so ardently desire to re-establish is gone forever, never to return in this world or the world to come.

Our failure to recognize in the pattern of our everyday and business life, as well as in legislation, the fact that the scarcity economy is gone and we now have the equipment and knowledge to live in an economy of abundance and plenty, is largely responsible for our present condition.

Before proceeding to a discussion of world affairs and international relations, perhaps a few observations will help to make clear the point I wish to establish.

In a scarcity economy under the old order, when there was always a scarcity of both food and industrial products, it was literally true that he who could make two blades of grass grow where one grew before, or two ears of corn grow where one grew before, was a real benefactor of the race as well as a benefactor to the agricultural class, but, as Governor Lowden pointed out, it has usually followed that the farmer's lowest income has occurred when he raised the largest crop, and, since agriculture is by far the major industry in America, between three and four times as large as any other single industry, whenever the farmer suffers, the nation suffers.

It is also true that there was some justification in the past for special favors in order to encourage infant industries.

Speaking generally, it could be said that the saying of Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Paine that "that nation governs best which governs least" was true. The doctrine of *laissez faire* put a premium on initiative and enterprise.

In the scarcity economy especially, so long as there was new land to be opened and new enterprises which needed developing there was no need to worry about over-production and exchange.

There was always the opportunity to exchange labor, money and commodities, but today, the problem, as before stated, is not that of production, not that of transportation, *but the problem of exchange and distribution.*

Hence, the very grave problem of unemployment. That is to say, how to exchange the labor of the ten or twelve millions of unemployed. How to exchange the labor of substantially all able bodied men for money or commodities.

To this question, we have made no substantial contribution. We have not even scratched the surface. We have applied poultices, and administered bromides and anesthetics, whereas the patient indicates that no recovery can be had without a major operation.

It should be perfectly apparent to anyone who not only sees, but, as Carlisle said, who sees through, that we have not only failed to solve the problem, but because our pattern of civilization is still governed by the old philosophy of a scarcity economy, things are worse instead of better. This follows because of the tremendous increase in debt, state, municipal and personal, and because of the enormous increase in taxes with no real improvement in unemployment. As the debt burden and taxes increase, it follows that more and more of the small business men and private enterprises are put out of business.

Under these conditions, it is increasingly difficult for an individual or a small industry to succeed. Under these conditions, more and more, the individual and the small business man is driven to the wall while those corporations with large reserves, large research departments and excellent management, who are thus able to change with changed conditions, they alone have a chance to succeed. It follows also that since

our problem now is one of exchange and distribution, that any action which interferes with the freedom and the increased volume of exchange or trade, or which curtails labor and increases unemployment, aggravates the situation.

Hence, trade barriers, whether in the form of state legislation or national legislation in the nature of embargoes, trade quotas and excessive tariffs, aggravate our difficulties, because they all tend to limit and curtail trade, exchange and distribution and to bring increased unemployment as a consequence.

So likewise, all monopolistic practices which arbitrarily restrict production for the purpose of increasing prices and destroying competition, aggravates the situation, lessens the power of exchange and distribution and increases unemployment. This is also true with reference to labor.

Up to a certain point, an increased wage means increased purchasing power and decent standards of living. Beyond a certain point a scarcity of labor with a very high and rigid price per hour wage operates in precisely the same manner as monopolistic practices on the part of industry.

It results in the law of diminishing returns. Whatever is gained by the increased hourly wage is more than lost in the reduced monthly or annual wage, and if out of line or balance with other labor, it follows that the lower priced labor cannot buy the products of the commodities produced by the excessively high labor, so that again we have a reduction and curtailment of production, exchange and distribution.

All forms of special legislation granting special favors to particular classes or organizations as a result of pressure groups are anti-social and aggravate the situation by further curtailing exchange and distribution, for the reason *that an equivalent burden must be imposed for every special favor granted* and again the burden falls most heavily upon those least able to stand it.

Along with this type of legislation goes all that great mass of tax exempt securities available only to those with large surplusses; the result being that a large part of the property of the nation receives full protection and the owners receive all the advantages of a free government, yet they make little or no contribution to production, the employment of labor or the support of the government. This again results in curtailment of labor, production, exchange and distribution.

What then, shall we say of legislation reducing taxes upon homesteads and national legislation in aid of Agriculture?

My answer is, that both, under present economy, are not only justified, but advisable. The first, because the sales tax falls most heavily upon the poor and the homestead owners. The homestead tax reduction law merely tends to equalize the sales tax which places an undue heavy burden upon the poor and the small home owner and those least able to pay.

As to national legislation in aid of the farmer, it cannot be said too often, and has not yet been said often enough, that agriculture *is entitled to its fair share of the national income*. Only a few times in the entire history of our country has the farmer received his full share of the national income, whether measured by population or the real contribution which he makes to the well-being of Society. I recall but one year during the past generation when the farmer received his proportion of the national income. That was in 1919. During that year the value of agricultural products totalled \$16,640,000,000, or in round figures, \$17,000,000,000, and all classes benefited thereby. The farmer directly supports one third of the population and feeds all of the population but generally speaking, receives but one-seventh to one-tenth of the National income.

Therefore, so long as we continue to grant special favors to industry and banking, the farmer is entitled to consideration in order to equalize the special favors which have always been granted by our Government, from its earliest history, to industry and banking.

Time forbids a discussion of the question of remedies for agriculture, but if we had the courage and the vision, we could adopt a program for agriculture with little or no regimentation and in complete harmony with a program of economy of plenty, by taking over 50 million acres of land and retaining and operating same under lease, where it has become necessary to foreclose under farm credit administration loans.

Under such a system, a surplus ample to take care of food shortages as a result of drought or otherwise, could always be maintained by the Government. Men could be given an opportunity on small acreages to make a living and large numbers of men could be put to work in processing foods for relief purposes and to feed the unemployed. This plan would be in complete harmony with the pattern of an abundance or economy of plenty.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

If we now turn to international affairs we find this same confusion of thought which characterizes our domestic and internal problems. We profess to believe, and undoubtedly in the abstract we sincerely believe, in international law and international peace, but in action we cling to the old order, the doctrine of isolation and self-sufficiency, where each nation determines for itself what is right, refuses to co-operate with other nations for the purpose of preserving international law, and undertakes to defend and enforce its rights by its army and navy. In other words by precisely the same methods which have existed from the time the first savage tribe fought a hostile savage tribe in order to gain food or territory. These are not the methods belonging to this age, to an economy of abundance and to a high state of civilization. These methods belong to a former age, to barbarism, to savagery and to a scarcity economy.

Now as a result of the world war, the peoples of the world were so shocked by the horrors of modern warfare and its futility that they were ready to abandon the methods which had been in existence since pre-historic times and were willing by group action to undertake to promulgate, to declare and to enforce international law and international peace. It is not too much to say that probably between 80%—90% of all the civilized people of the world, including the people of our own country, believed that the time had arrived to abandon the old order and establish the new.

In accordance with world opinion, as a part of the Versailles Treaty there was established a League of Nations and an International Court of Justice, the League of Nations to promulgate and declare international law, and an international court to decide in accordance with the principles of international law so that each nation could submit its disputes and have a decision based upon law instead of force. The civilized nations of the world subscribed to this new order, some 50 in number, the exceptions being Turkey and the United States.

In connection with the failure of the United States to co-operate with the nations of the world to establish the new order it must be kept in mind that President Harding did not make his campaign against the new order—against co-operative effort between nations of the world and against a world court. On the contrary, President Harding merely declared against *the* League of Nations and declared that if he were elected president, he would cause to be brought about, in order to accomplish the same general purposes, *an* association of nations. One hundred of the leading scholars and prominent and public men in America declared in favor of *an* association of nations.

It should also be remembered that with the reservations proposed by the Senate of the United States, our nation would have entered the League of Nations and that without the reservations our failure to adopt fell short by only seven votes of a two-thirds majority. A decided majority of the Senate as well as of the people of the United States declared for the new order and when the question of the World Court first came before the Senate for ratification, the vote was 77 in favor to 17 against adherence to the World Court. The great minds of our nation declared for the new order and had labored many years, long before Wilson's effort at the Versailles Treaty. I refer to the work of Elihu Root, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, former President Charles W. Eliot of Harvard. Even Senator Lodge at one time was an advocate of the new order.

Now in view of what has happened in the world since the world war and in view of the conditions which we find existing in the world today we hear upon every hand that America's participation in the world war was a horrible mistake, that we sacrificed 50 thousand of our young men and billions of dollars to no end and to no purpose and that it is most fortunate that we did not adhere to the world court or join the League

of Nations. This, however, does not tell the whole story. There existed in the minds of the thoughtful people of our country when we entered the war a hope and a conviction that in some way the result would be to establish a new order in the world—to the end that we might have international peace and that disputes might be settled by arbitration or some peaceful method. The feelings and hopes and aspirations of the American people were clearly expressed by Woodrow Wilson when he said we are entering the war to end war and to make the world safe for democracy. And yet when we hear this statement made amongst all of the classes of our people they either laugh or sneer! But what is more worthwhile in the world than to end war and make the world a safe place for the nations of a free people where each shall have a voice in the government; where all the great fundamental rights shall be protected and guaranteed, where individual liberty and individual initiative is preserved and encouraged, and where there shall be a free interchange of not only thoughts and ideas and scientific inventions, but of goods and commodities?

I wish here and now to challenge the popular assumptions which exist amongst our people in connection with our entering the world war, and the whole American foreign policy following the world war.

First let me say boldly and unequivocally that the world war was not a failure, that our participation in the world war was not a mistake. On the contrary the world war was necessary in order to preserve the rights of smaller nations and free peoples, and it was imperative that America enter the world war in order to save its own soul.

Let me again assert the motive was worthy and laudable. Our entrance was not a mistake and the war was a success. Never before in the history of the world had there been such heroic, unselfish co-operative effort amongst the great nations of the world to bring about a new order of things in the world.

How then, shall we explain the conditions which we find in the world today, where every nation has become an armed camp, where the preparations of war exceeds many times that which ever existed before in history, where the major thought and industry of the leading powers is to discover and increase new and better methods of killing people. And how shall we explain that we now have the most pagan and vicious forms of despotic power and totalitarian governments that ever existed? The answer is simple. The war was a success. What was sought to be accomplished so far as the war itself was concerned was accomplished, and both America and the Allies were glorious in war. The heroism and disinterested co-operation, as before stated, was unparalleled in the world's history, but while we were noble and glorious in war, we were ignoble and inglorious in peace.

If America and the allied nations of the world had shown the same determination, the same heroism, the same disinterested and co-operative effort following the war that existed during the war we should have accomplished precisely the purpose as stated by Woodrow Wilson, and

we would have made the world a safe place for the free peoples of the earth and the smaller nations of the earth, and the dream of the ages would now be an established fact and a reality, and we could all observe as a fact and a reality, in the words of the Great Teacher and the Great Law Giver, that there was "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

I repeat, the failure was not in the war, but our desertion of the cause of peace at the very time the great influence of America was needed most.

If argument is needed in order to establish the truth of the statements here made, we need go no further than our own history. The Revolutionary War was fought under great difficulties by the 13 separate colonies, each of which was a separate sovereign power. Suppose at the end of the Revolutionary War that the colonies not only had a Patrick Henry to oppose the constitution but suppose there then existed a little group of men referred to by Woodrow Wilson as "willful men," then the highest councils of George Washington, John Marshall, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and Samuel Adams would not have succeeded in founding and establishing the constitution, but on the contrary the Patrick Henrys and such men who were the Senators Lodge, Borah, Reed, Moses of their day, and aided by a yellow press known as the Hearst Publications should have succeeded in destroying the constitution. Is there a single person in this audience who believes that the conditions which would have followed could have been worse, if possible, than the conditions which followed the destruction of the co-operative effort at the close of the world war to establish international law and international peace? The imagination can hardly grasp the consequence which would have followed if there should have prevailed in each of the colonies the doctrine of isolation and self sufficiency which was so ardently advocated by Patrick Henry, and so successfully advocated by a little group of men in the years following the world war. Some were actuated by honest and mistaken motives, but a number there were whose motives were sordid, political, and mean.

I accuse William Randolph Hearst and the Hearst Publications of spreading international poison and hate and ill will throughout the world. I accuse Senators Lodge, Borah, Reed, Moses and the other group of Senators of misrepresenting the noblest sentiments and aspirations of the American people and the peoples of the world. I accuse Senators Lodge, Borah, and Reed and this little group of men of destroying not only the World Court and the League of Nations, but the co-operative effort of the nations of the world to establish international law and international peace.

When President Harding said, as he did say here in the City of Des Moines: "I turn my back upon the League," he not only then turned his back upon the League, but the result of his action was to destroy the usefulness of the World Court and the high hopes raised by the co-operative effort of the nations of the world.

Is it not time that we should see the issues clearly? Is it not time that we should cease confusing cause and effort? Is it not time, as Carlyle said, that we should not only see, but see through? There are but two methods in the world to settle difficulties. One is by force; that is the law of the jungle and anarchy. The other is by co-operative effort and some form of judicial decision. That is the method of civilization.

Sooner or later we must make a clear-cut decision between one or the other of these methods. There is and can be no such thing as isolation and self sufficiency for this nation or any other nation in the world. If proof is needed, witness the demonstration of 20,000 Nazi storm troopers who met in New York two weeks ago—flogged and beat up people who undertook to express an independent thought, wore the Nazi uniform, gave the Nazi salute, placed the swastika above the American flag, indulged in sneers and boos at the name of the President of the United States, and declared for friendly co-operation with Adolf Hitler. Also note the fact that Field Marshal Goering said but a few days ago in Berlin, "We shall use all our power to increase our 80 million population to 100 million." He further said, "Young men will stream in doubled and three-fold numbers into barracks. We intend to use every one of them," and, "we must produce planes in numbers and of quality which seems unthinkable." Then he uttered the blasphemous statement, "Plainly the Lord is with us."

In a recent number of the *Forum* magazine we are told that Germany has more, faster and better bombing airplanes than England, France and the United States combined, and that their production capacity is ten times as great as that of France.

In spite of this we still have a school of thought which professes to believe in isolation and self sufficiency and that America should be neutral and lady-like and say nothing which will offend these pagan dictators, and while these speeches are being uttered in the press and in the halls of the United States Congress, federal juries are finding Nazi spies guilty of being members of a spy ring in the United States, hired by the German government to obtain the military secrets of the United States and to carry on a propoganda of Nazi government here. At the same time we read of the solidarity of the Rome—Berlin—Tokio axis recently augmented by the government of Hungary and the co-operation of Franco in Spain.

As a result of this solidarity on the part of the dictators and the lack of co-operative effort on the part of the democracies and the other nations of the world, we witness a series of world aggressions on the part of these nations, each one furnishing encouragement for the other, namely, Manchuria, Manchukuko, China, Ethiopia, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Munich.

My conclusion is; that trying to follow the old order leads to nothing but tragedy and disaster; that national restrictive legislation in an at-

tempt to maintain neutrality results not in neutrality, but to the advantage of the stronger and aggressive nations. I am convinced that a national policy which closes its eyes to the ravishment of weaker nations and the destruction of every religious and civil right which exists among the peoples of the world is not the road to peace but the road which inevitably leads to war. A world crisis is at hand. America must not play an ignoble part. If we are to remain free we must be bold. The world needs leadership as it never needed it before. There are many encouraging signs notwithstanding the warlike preparations of the dictator nations. Their weakness has become apparent, their shortage of food and the necessity of raw materials is even admitted by them. A new Pope has just been selected. Within 24 hours after his selection he declared to the world and over three hundred million catholics for national peace based upon justice. He refused to be intimidated by the warning of Adolf Hitler and his lieutenants, he refused to be intimidated by the warning of the Italian press. The government of America can do no less. We need not become entangled in a foreign war. We should uphold the hand of the President of the United States in letting it be known that America condemns the lawlessness and the persecution of the dictator governments and that our sympathies are with the democracies and the free governments of the world; we should make it clear that in any conflict we shall use every peaceful and lawful method, including the furnishing of foodstuffs, raw materials and war planes and even munitions, to aid the democracies in their contest against autocracy, despotism and paganism.

Personally I shall unhesitatingly support the new order. I unhesitatingly declare in favor of international law and international peace, and sufficient co-operation among the free nations of the world to establish and preserve international law and international peace.

At the conclusion of the address the members of the association were escorted from the House Chamber to the rotunda, thus ending the twenty-sixth session of the Pioneer Lawmakers of Iowa.

In addition to those whose names have already appeared elsewhere, the following also attended the session: L. L. Bybee, U. S. Grant Chapman, S. B. Durant, Ross H. Gregory, C. W. Huntley, E. A. Larson, H. J. Mantz, R. J. Martin, W. F. Moore, Ernest R. Moore, H. T. Saberson, William Schmédika, I. A. Smith, and Walter H. Vance.

Included among the numerous notes received by the acting secretary from members expressing their regret at being unable to attend the session of the association, because of the

press of business, illness, or other reasons, was a warm note from the former Secretary, David C. Mott, who was spending the winter in California. Several others of these letters are given below.

Long Beach, California.

March 2, 1939.

Pioneer Lawmakers Association,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Mr. DeMar:—

Your notice of the 26th biennial meeting March 7th discloses that the first assembly of the organization occurred in 1888. It was for some time the custom of our members in a body to visit separately each chamber and I well remember the first occasion as well as five subsequently when they came into the senate. One time Senator Garsh said to me "I can see you in this picture of the future," which seemed quite irrelevant, indeed.

These groups included men well remembered among which were Geo. G. Wright, John A. Kasson, H. H. Trimble, C. C. Nourse, P. M. Casady, Hoyt Sherman, and many others, not overlooking George W. Jones one of our first United States Senators and T. S. Parvin, secretary to our first Territorial Governor. They appeared quite patriarchial, especially to Senators of my tender years as they were given gracious reception and consideration due to high character and patriotic service. They were pioneers, indeed.

I served with senators to the number of 146. Not more than eight of this number survive—I am sure of four only: Carroll, Ellison, McArthur and Titus. That I should be among the survivors, and in the enjoyment of ridiculously good health, is almost inconceivable.

I regret to say it will not be possible for me to attend this meeting. I assure all of you however of my abiding regard and fellowship with sincere good wishes for each and every one, with the further assurance that Iowa continues in full possession of my home and heart.

Sincerely yours,

A. B. Funk.

UNITED STATES SENATE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 28, 1939

Hon. John C. DeMar, President
Pioneer Lawmakers' Association
State Historical Bldg.
Des Moines, Iowa

My dear Friend:

This will acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of the kind invitation ex-

tended by the Pioneer Lawmakers' Association to attend the Biennial Session.

I regret very much that it will be impossible for me to attend this session, as I feel it is my duty to be here in Washington while Congress is in session.

Thanking you again, I am

Sincerely yours,

Guy M. Gillette

Hampton, Iowa.

March 6, 1939

Pioneer Lawmakers' Association,
State Historical Building,
Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Sirs:

I was glad to receive your invitation of February 22nd to the meeting of the Association in Des Moines but find myself unable to be present at this time. I am hoping that some time in the not distant future I shall be able to attend your sessions as I am sure they are both pleasant and interesting.

My remembrance of my association with the Iowa Legislature is a very pleasant one.

With personal regards and best wishes to you all.

Sincerely yours,

T. J. B. Robinson

Kansas City, Mo. 2/28 -1939

Hon John C. DeMar

Des Moines, Iowa.

My Dear Mr. President—(I mean My dear John)

I am in receipt of the announcement of the 26th Biennial Meeting of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association to be held at Des Moines on March 7th, 1939.

I deeply regret that it will not be possible for me to be in attendance.

I am fully conscious of the fact that my absence from this meeting will entail upon myself a sense of personal loss and deprivation far in excess of any contribution that my presence could possibly have caused. I am at the same time truly sorry to have missed another opportunity of meeting and mingling with valued and respected friends and associates of former Legislative Assemblies of the Grand Old Commonwealth of Iowa.

I desire to extend to you & through you to the members assembled my very sincere Good wishes for a successful meeting and a Happy reunion.

Fraternally yours,

John H. Darrah

914 E. 39th Kansas City, Mo.

Feb. 23/39.

Wallingford, Iowa.

Hon. John C. DeMar, Pres.,
 Hon. Kenneth E. Colton, Acting Sec'y,
 Pioneer Lawmakers Ass'n,
 Des Moines, Ia.

Gentlemen: Thank you for the invitation to the meeting to be held Mar. 7th 1939 . . . I kindly ask you to greet the Ass'n for me, the one, and only one, I think, remaining from the House of the 24th G. A. [Mr. Kasa is unduly pessimistic, as our records indicate that it is probable that six members of the House in the 24th G. A. survive: J. Austin, C. Marti, O. M. Oleson, C. H. Robinson, H. T. Saberson, A. J. Sowers and C. F. Spearman, in addition to Mr. Kasa.] I was a minister at the time, a few times I had to step up on the Speaker's stand and conduct a prayer. Since I became older in politics, I have often thought I should have made my prayer short and impressive thus:

"Oh Lord, have mercy upon these sinners before me! Amen."

Well, thank you. I hope you have a good meeting.

Yours truly,

J. O. Kasa

DEATHS SINCE LAST MEETING

(Date given is year of first service)

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Oley Nelson, Slater | Repr. 21, 22 G. A., 1886 |
| James E. Blythe, Mason City | Repr. 22, 23 G. A., 1888 |
| J. F. Holliday, Morning Sun | Repr. 23, 24 G. A., 1890 |
| Joshua Jester, Des Moines | Repr. 24, 25 G. A., 1892 |
| William B. Chapman, Correctionville | Repr. 25, 26 G. A., 1894 |
| J. D. Morrison, Reinbeck | Repr. 25, 26 G. A., 1894 |
| W. G. Ladd, Clarksville | Repr. 26, 27 G. A., 1896 |
| G. M. Putnam, Carson | Repr. 26-28 G. A., 1896 |
| P. W. Conley, Elkport | Repr. 27, 28 G. A., 1898 |
| G. H. Smith, Persia | Repr. 27 G. A., 1898 |
| Nathan Wright, Stuart | Repr. 28, 29 G. A., 1900 |
| F. C. Hartshorn, Clarion | Sen. 29-31 G. A., 1902 |
| Louis J. Leech, West Branch | Repr. 29-31 G. A., 1900 |
| Fred L. Maytag, Newton | Sen. 29-33 G. A., 1900 |
| O. K. Maben, Garner | Repr. 30-32 G. A., 1904 |
| Lorenzo D. Teeter, Knoxville | Repr. 30-32, 45 G. A., 1904 |

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| G. L. Van Eaton, Little Rock | Repr. 31, G. A., 1906 |
| Wm. P. Allrel, Corydon | Repr. 32-33, G. A., 1907 |
| Edwin G. Moon, Ottumwa | Sen. 32, 33 G. A., 1907 |
| E. J. Sidey, Greenfield | Repr. 32, 35 G. A., 1907 |
| Henry K. Dewey, Guthrie Center ... | Repr. 33, 34 G. A., 1909 |
| Edwin H. Fourt, Waukon | Repr. 33, 34 G. A., 1909 |
| Chas. J. Fulton, Fairfield, Repr. 33, 34, Sen. 39, 40 G. A., 1909 | |
| Thomas Hickenlooper, Albia | Repr. 33, 34 G. A., 1909 |
| Gerrit Klay, Orange City | Repr. 33-35 G. A., 1909 |
| Henry Brady, Perry | Repr. 34-36 G. A., 1911 |
| Edwin Collins, Northwood | Repr. 34 G. A., 1911 |
| Edward Downey, Breda | Repr. 34, 35 G. A., 1911 |
| Charles W. Hunt, Logan, (Wash. D. C.) .. | Repr. 34 G. A., 1911 |
| Harold C. Lounsberry, Marshalltown | Repr. 34, 35 G. A., 1911 |
| Ulysses G. Whitney, Sioux City, (Des Moines) | |
| | Repr. 34, 35 G. A., 1911 |
| Ernest J. Heaton, Shannon City | Repr. 35 G. A., 1913 |
| Otto A. Helming, Waukon | Repr. 35-37 G. A., 1913 |
| Fred W. Jones, Spirit Lake | Repr. 35, 36 G. A., 1913 |
| Ira D. McVicar, Eagle Grove | Repr. 35 G. A., 1913 |
| Irving B. Richman, Muscatine | Repr. 35, 36 G. A., 1913 |
| Christian Saltzman, Lawler | Repr. 35 G. A., 1913 |
| John H. J. Stutt, Monticello | Repr. 35 G. A., 1913 |
| Melbern F. Thompson, Van Wert | Repr. 35, 36 G. A., 1913 |
| Robert Bruce, Rolfe | Repr. 36, 37 G. A., 1915 |
| William O. Coast, Iowa City | Repr. 36 G. A., 1915 |
| Charles Gilmore, Sioux Rapids | Repr. 36-39 G. A., 1915 |
| Martin Ingwersen, Clinton | Repr. 36 G. A., 1915 |
| John C. Jesson, Story City | Repr. 36, 37 G. A., 1915 |
| David W. Kimberly, Davenport | |
| | Repr. 36, 37, Sen. 38-47 G. A., 1915 |
| William F. Kopp, Mt. Pleasant | Repr. 36 G. A., 1915 |
| David E. Mackie, Mt. Auburn | Repr. 36, 37 G. A., 1915 |
| James S. Michael, Sioux City | Repr. 36 G. A., 1915 |
| William Oldenburg, Alford | Repr. 36 G. A., 1915 |
| Lars O. Wigdahl, Ruthven | Repr. 36, 37 G. A., 1915 |
| John V. Adkins, Paulina | Repr. 37, 38 G. A., 1917 |
| W. W. Epps, Ottumwa | Repr. 37, 38 G. A., 1917 |

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| S. W. Klaus, Earlville | Repr. 37, 38 G. A., 1917 |
| Charles F. Lytle, Sioux City | Senate, 37 G. A., 1917 |
| F. P. Mowrey, Fairfield | Repr. 37 G. A., 1917 |
| S. R. Reed, Monteith | Repr. 37 G. A., 1917 |
| W. H. Walrath, Arlington | Repr. 37, 38 G. A., 1917 |
| Frank D. Jackson | |
| | Secretary of State and Governor of Iowa, 1885 |
| Dwight N. Lewis | Railroad Commissioner, 1917 |
| Byron W. Preston .. | Justice of the State Supreme Court, 1913 |
| John F. Riggs | Supt. of Public Instruction, 1904 |
| Frank S. Shaw | Auditor of State, 1915 |
| Horace M. Towner | U. S. Congressman 1913 |

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