

Senator Dowell moved the adoption of the resolution and spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT: Honorable Phineas M. Casady was born December 3, 1818, on a farm near Connersville, Indiana, where he spent his boyhood days. He acquired by strenuous efforts a liberal education such as the country and time afforded and became strong as a profound reader and thinker.

He was admitted to the bar February 16, 1841. Appointed Deputy Clerk of Courts of Rush County in 1842 and held this position until the summer of 1846.

June 11, 1846, he arrived at Des Moines, casting his lot among our people, and put out his sign as attorney and counselor at law and had as partners Hon. Robert L. Tidrick, General M. M. Crocker (Iowa's brave General) and Jefferson S. Polk, who later was President of the Des Moines street railway system.

He was the second Postmaster of Des Moines, 1847-1848. Elected Senator in 1848 and member of the Second and Third General Assemblies, comprising the district composed of Polk, Dallas, Jasper and Marion Counties and also all of the unorganized region north to Minnesota and west to the Missouri River.

FORMATIVE PERIOD.

He was Chairman of a committee on unorganized territory, and all this unorganized territory was made into counties and was given the names principally of the Presidents of the United States and of our Indian tribes, and names of their chiefs.

Also aided in originating the movement which served to make Des Moines the capital of Iowa.

He participated in and enjoyed the distinction of voting to elect two United States Senators, Augustus C. Dodge and George W. Jones, at the same session.

He was of the number who in 1850 memorialized our State Legislature and Congress to enact such a land grant as would encourage the construction of a steam railroad to the Missouri River, from which resulted that four trunk lines were built through Iowa. The members of the General Assembly thereby having better facilities of transportation than our pioneer Legislators did when it took eleven days by stage to go from Des Moines to Iowa City, then the capital of Iowa.

In 1847 he was elected School Fund Commissioner.

In 1854 he was elected Judge of the Fifth Judicial District and resigned the same year and was appointed Receiver of Public Moneys by President Pierce. Said position he held until 1857, and he again resumed his practice of law and continued so to do until 1864, when he retired to attend to private interests and later organized the Des Moines Savings Bank, which became one of the soundest and most reliable of financial institutions of the West.

He was also President of the Equitable Life Insurance Company of Iowa for six years.

He was also a member of the commission that prepared, in connection with Lamp P. Sherman, brother of General Sherman, and Reverend Thompson Bird, the articles of incorporation for the city of Des Moines, and later became a Trustee of the city.

DOMESTIC.

He was married June 27, 1848, at Des Moines, Iowa, by the Reverend Thompson Bird, to Miss Augusta Grimmel, to whom were born two sons and one daughter, and on June 27, 1908, celebrated their sixtieth anniversary in the home where they had lived for more than half a century; and at this time in fair health and amidst a host of friends and their children and ten grandchildren and one great-grandchild. By faith he was a Presbyterian and lived it. Socially he was an "Odd Fellow." Politically he was a consistent Democrat. I can best illustrate his character by quoting what was said of him in an editorial of the Register and Leader of September 1, 1908:

"In these days when men are multiplying the complexities of life, engaging in vain and varied pursuits of the phantom of fame, and raising strange new standards of living, the life of a citizen like Judge Casady may well be held up as a model for the youth of Iowa. He lived simply and he had time to grow really great. He had no selfish personal ambitions to satisfy, but he was content to serve others. He believed in the dignity of plain citizenship and he preferred it to the pomp and circumstance of public office. He believed in the homely virtues of life—in gentleness, in devotion to his home, in loyalty to his friends, in patriotism for his country, in the faithful fulfillment of all obligations, in the beauty of service, and the duty of usefulness. He not merely believed in these things, but he practiced them, and when he went from this sphere of life he went not empty-handed, but bearing a golden harvest of good deeds. Loving hands will probably rear a noble monument to Judge Casady, but they cannot ever build so noble a monument to his memory as there now exists in the city whose foundation stones he helped to lay. Judge Casady was not merely a part of the beginning of things in Des Moines and the State of Iowa, but he had a large part in the continued building thereof. To him, as to other pioneers, and to their courage and patience and public spirit, Des Moines and Iowa owe much. That they builded well, even better than they knew, is evidenced in the city of today and the Iowa of today. Judge Casady can never be forgotten as long as the city and State stand. There is sorrow in Judge Casady's death, but there is far greater rejoicing that he lived and labored among us."

He died August 31, 1908, aged 89 years, 8 months and 28 days.

The resolutions were adopted unanimously by a rising vote.