

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

MEMORIALS

SENATE CHAMBER,
DES MOINES, IOWA, MARCH 27, 1925.

The Senate met in memorial session, President Kimball presiding.

JUSTIN R. DORAN

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee which was appointed to prepare resolutions commemorating the life, character, and services of the late Justin R. Doran of Boone county, Iowa, beg leave to submit the following:

Justin R. Doran was born at Reynold's Basin, Niagara county, New York, August 8, 1850, and died at his home south of Beaver, Iowa, on October 13, 1924. He was the son of Patrick and Catherine Keeley Doran, both natives of Ireland and immigrating to the United States in 1849. He came to La Salle county, Illinois, with his parents in the early fifties. In the autumn of 1874 he came to Iowa and settled in Boone county. He obtained his education in the country schools of Illinois. At the age of fifteen years he was left an orphan and his boyhood days were spent in the hardest of manual labor. He was a self-made man, as he did not have the means or opportunity to acquire a college education. Yet by the best of reading he acquired a general education and was well informed on many subjects. By hard labor, judicious management, and up-to-date methods Mr. Doran obtained his prosperity. His thrift and business acumen resulted in the accumulation of extensive property holdings. In Boone county his farm land holdings consisted of about three thousand acres, making him the largest land-holder in the county and one of the wealthiest in the state.

In political affairs Mr. Doran was a faithful member of the republican party. He took great interest in the civic and political affairs of the state and county. He was elected justice of the peace, school director, school treasurer, and township trustee at different times. He was representative from Boone county in the Thirtieth, Thirty-first, Thirty-second and Thirty-second extra general assemblies, and senator from the Boone-Story district in the Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth general assemblies. His work in the state legislature was a consistent stand in favor of economy and common sense in the conduct of the state government.

In 1877 Mr. Doran was married to Miss Olive F. Blanshaw of Grand

Junction, Iowa, who survives him. To this union were born thirteen children, two of whom died in infancy.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved By the Senate of the Forty-first General Assembly of Iowa, that in the death of Justin R. Doran the state and the community where he lived have suffered the loss of an influential and honorable citizen; and

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the Journal of the Senate and that the secretary be directed to send an engrossed copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

LARS J. SKROMME

I. N. SNOOK

C. B. KERN

Committee.

Senator Skromme spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT, and SENATORS: I regret very much that I did not have the pleasure of being intimately acquainted with Senator Doran. In fact my acquaintance with him was rather of a casual nature. The first time I met him was less than a year ago and my knowledge of him as a man is therefore limited to a very short period of time and necessarily includes only a few facts in regard to the man. In the course of a person's life one finds that there are but few people with whom he comes in contact who will stand out vividly in his memory, while most people are remembered with effort and few are remembered without any effort at all. Senator Doran was one of these men whose personality was such that one could with difficulty forget him, if one only had a chance to meet him and have but a short conversation with him.

When I met Senator Doran, I found him an aged man. I had expected to find him of a robust physique, having heard so much of him and having been informed that he was a very influential man in Boone County, but I soon discovered that the secret of his power was a very vigorous mind, and I found at that time that he knew what was going on on his own farm; every detail of it seemed to be in his hands.

I will never forget what his wife told me just casually. "Mr. Doran and I," she said, "have worked very hard in our lives" and I could not but believe it.

Having no education, yet he knew history better than I did. He talked of Ireland and told me things I had never heard; he discussed matters of general interest to his community—in fact there were few subjects but what he could discuss intelligently. There is nothing that speaks better for a man than the opinion of the people in his own community where he has lived so long and I did not hear a single statement derogatory of Mr. Doran.

All seemed to respect him and hold him in high esteem. He had considerable influence in his community, even as an old feeble man. I count it as one of the pleasures of my life that I had a chance to meet Senator Doran.

The resolution was adopted unanimously by a rising vote.