

HONORABLE ROBERT M. FINLAYSON

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee appointed to prepare suitable resolutions commemorating the life, character and public service of the Honorable Robert M. Finlayson, late of Grundy county, Iowa, beg leave to submit the following brief memorial:

Robert M. Finlayson, who died February 11, 1935, at the home of his sister at Mt. Carroll, Illinois, was born October 7, 1844, in Carroll county, Illinois, the son of William and Jessie (Mackay) Finlayson. His father was a native of Scotland and his mother of Nova Scotia.

Robert Finlayson was reared on his father's farm and educated in the rural schools and in the schools of Mt. Carroll, Illinois. In 1867, at the age of 23, he came to Iowa and worked on a farm in Tama county. The following year he bought 220 acres of wild land in Beaver township, Grundy county, and settled on this farm.

Mr. Finlayson was married December 23, 1875, to Miss Janetta DuBois, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin M. DuBois, who preceded Mr. Finlayson in death December 20, 1928.

Mr. and Mrs. Finlayson made their home on their farm in Beaver township for ten years, during part of which time Mr. Finlayson served on the board of supervisors. In 1885 he was elected auditor of Grundy county and moved to Grundy Center, and for five consecutive terms served as county auditor. In 1893 he was made cashier of the First National bank, and later served as president of the bank and continued in that position until 1920 when he retired.

Mr. Finlayson was a republican in politics and in 1910 was elected to represent Grundy county in the state legislature, and served in the 33rd and 34th sessions of the General Assembly.

Mr. Finlayson served the people of Grundy county in many other capacities. He was a member and president of the local school board for more than twenty years, during which time two school buildings were built. He was also a member of the committee in charge of the construction of the new courthouse, the First Presbyterian church and the public library.

Mr. Finlayson was a member of the First Presbyterian church and of the Royal Arch Masons.

In all his public service, as well as in personal and social relationship, Mr. Finlayson won the high regard and esteem of his fellowmen. His intellectual powers, his business ability, his character and ideals were of high order. He dealt squarely with his fellowmen, but with a considerate and kindly regard for the other fellow.

Almost to the end of his life, while physical weakness grew upon him, he retained his keen and vigorous and thoughtful mind, which had, during his years of strength, rendered constructive service to his community and to Grundy county, unexcelled, perhaps, in degree and extent by any of his contemporaries.

Mr. and Mrs. Finlayson were the parents of seven children, three of whom are now living: Willis R. Finlayson of Indianapolis, Harold D. Finlayson of Piedmont, California, and Mrs. Edna Vasey of New Orleans.

Therefore, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Forty-sixth General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That in the passing of the Honorable Robert M. Finlayson, the state has lost a valued and honored citizen, a man of great character and worth, and the House of Representatives of Iowa, by this resolution, tenders its sympathy to the surviving family.

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the House of Representatives as an expression of the life and worth of Robert M. Finlayson, and that an enrolled copy be sent to the family of the deceased.

EDWARD N. OVE,
ARCH W. MCFARLANE,
J. P. GALLAGHER,

Committee.

Unanimously adopted, April 18, 1935.

GOVERNOR W. L. HARDING

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee, appointed to prepare suitable resolutions commemorating the life, character and public services of the Honorable Governor W. L. Harding, Governor of Iowa, beg leave to submit the following:

Governor W. L. Harding, age 57, Governor of Iowa from 1917 to 1921, died at his home in Des Moines, Iowa, on Monday, December 17, 1934. Although he had been ill since September, following a heart attack, suffered after a campaign address at Crawfordsville, Indiana, his death was unexpected.

Governor Harding was elected from Woodbury county to the House of Representatives where he served six years. He then became a candidate for lieutenant governor and won his post in 1912 and was re-elected in 1914. Two years later he became candidate for governor and won the post in one of the hottest campaigns in recent Iowa history.

Governor Harding, the war-time governor, was born October 3, 1877, near Sibley, Iowa, and was the son of Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Harding who had come to Iowa from Pennsylvania. He graduated from Morningside College and the University of South Dakota. Governor Harding received his preliminary education in public schools.

He began the practice of law in Sioux City with the firm of Oliver, Harding & Oliver and at one time was associated with James Kindig, later a supreme court justice. Governor Harding practiced law in Des Moines where he made his home after becoming governor.

He was a gifted public speaker and campaigned the country in favor of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence waterways, and has been speaker for the Republican National Committee in every campaign since 1920.

Former Governor Harding's immediate family consist of Mrs. Harding and a daughter, Barbara, a student at the State University of Iowa.

The Des Moines funeral services were held Thursday afternoon at Dunn's Funeral Home. The body lay in state at the Capitol, Thursday