

Resolved, 'that the Senate of the State of Iowa has learned with profound sorrow and regret of the death of a former member of this body and a distinguished citizen of the State.

Hon. William O. Schmidt was a citizen of the highest ideals, and ever ready with generous purse and kindly hand to advance the welfare of his countrymen and fellows.

As a public servant he was ever faithful to the high trusts reposed in him and at the shrine of duty he was ever a faithful devotee.

In his native city, Davenport, he contributed freely of his time and money to advance every worthy cause for bettering the conditions of the people and substantial evidences of faith in his native city remain as monuments to his judgment and love for the beautiful and the good.

Be it Further Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on the records of the Senate.

J. A. DE ARMAND,

E. P. McMANUS,

L. B. PARSHALL,

Committee.

Adopted.

Senator De Armand moved the adoption of resolutions and said:

When a man devotes the best years of his life to the services of his city and his State he comes pretty near being a humanitarian. When he leaves behind him when his earthly pilgrimage is at an end as monuments of his life, the gratitude of a devoted people, he leaves that which will last longer than monuments of stone and tablets of brass. William O. Schmidt devoted the too few years of his life to the welfare of the people and the city of his birth and all his energies were bent to make people happy by making them independent and proud of the heritage of freedom and the opportunity to add to the happiness of others. He builded business blocks to give substantial growth to the city of his home and to the associations having for their purpose the growth of the city he gave of his time and money without stint. He was foremost in works of charity and in his social circle he was a prince. In his profession he was an honor and in his private life he contributed to the happiness of others by being the friend of truth and justice and in his untimely death no man left more sincere mourners. He was the soul of honor and in his ambitions he builded upon no man's downfall but gave freely of that wealth of wisdom and good cheer which made his success the pride of those who came in contact with him. His life was an inspiration and his death was a State's loss.

The resolutions were adopted unanionusly by a rising vote.

Senator De Armand, from the Special Committee appointed to prepare suitable resolutions commemerative of the life of the late Hon. W. A. Foster, submitted the following report and moved its adoption:

Mr. President—Your committee named to present suitable resolutions in commemoration of the life and public services of the late Hon. W. A. Foster, of Davenport, report as follows:

Whereas, We do honor to ourselves and our best impulses when we lay aside our daily labors to pay respect to the memory of those who have rendered distinguished service to the public, it is

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. William A. Foster, late a member of this body, and that the business of the Senate be now suspended in order that fitting tribute be paid to his memory, and to perpetuate the same, that the following be spread upon our records.

IN MEMORIAM.

William A. Foster.

Born July 24, 1842, at Blue Grass, Iowa.

Died May 25, 1907, at Davenport, Iowa.

Enlisted May 11, 1864, Company "I" 44th Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, served full term of enlistment in Civil War.

Admitted to practice law in the district court of Iowa as a member of the Scott county bar, October, 1866.

Senator from Scott county from January 1, 1878, to January 1, 1882.

William A. Foster was one of those rare men of his generation who had the happy faculty of greeting all with a pleasant smile, a merry jest or pleasing reminiscence. His apt knowledge of human nature, combined with his great natural talents, redereed him a powerful advocate, and he at once attained prominence as a successful trial lawyer. His exceptional gifts as an orator, and entertainer, caused him to be always in demand on both public occasions and in private gatherings.

As a campaign orator he answered the calls of county, congressional, state and National committees, and toured with Senator John A. Logan and men of that class in speaking campaigns.

On the night of May 4, 1886, there occurred one of the most spectacular scenes that blot the history of the country, known as the Haymarket Riot, and then followed one of the most decisive battles of the law, known as the Chicago Anarchists' case. August Spies, editor of the "Arbeiter Zeitung," was the ablest man of those put on trial and despite the bitterness of public feeling, Mr. Foster as his counsel won the unstinted praise of the profession, the press, and the thinking public for the freedom, fervency, zeal, and the exceptional ability and brilliancy with which he conducted his defense, and Hon. Joseph E. Gary, the presiding judge, in a review of the trial published in 1893, makes special mention of Mr. Foster and his masterful effort on that occasion.

In the celebrated trial for the murder of Dr. Cronin, known as the Clan-na-gael case he successfully defended John F. Beggs, one of the principal defendants, with an ability that is seldom, if ever equalled.

These are a part of the notable events of world-wide significance in which he took part. Space is too short to recount the many achievements which make his life an honor to the State of Iowa.