

HON. JOEL M. FENN

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee appointed to prepare suitable resolutions commemorating the life and service of the Honorable Joel M. Fenn, late of Clarke county, Iowa, beg leave to submit the following memorial:

Honorable Joel M. Fenn was born in Marietta, Washington county, Ohio, August 9, 1844, and died at Murray, Iowa, May 7, 1914. He moved to Iowa with his parents in 1855, locating in Henry county near the town of Salem. Here he acquired his education in the common schools and in the normal school. He later taught several terms of school in Henry county, when he moved to Clarke county where he followed teaching for eight years.

The latter part of his life was devoted to farming and stockraising.

In 1876 he was married to Mary E. Ogden, and to them were born four sons and one daughter.

Mr. Fenn always took an active interest in community and public affairs.

He was elected Representative in 1906 and re-elected in 1908, on the republican ticket.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Forty-second General Assembly of the state of Iowa take this occasion to present this tribute to his memory and express its appreciation of his worthy, charitable and public service.

Be It Further Resolved, That these resolutions be spread on the records of this House, and an enrolled copy thereof be sent to the family of the deceased.

F. H. HARRISON,
J. W. KENT,
F. D. ICKIS,

Committee.

Unanimously adopted April 6, 1927.

HON. MATTHEW H. FRANCIS

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee appointed to prepare resolutions commemorating the life and service of the Honorable Matthew H. Francis, late of Boone county, Iowa, beg leave to submit the following memorial:

Honorable Matthew H. Francis, who represented Boone county in the Forty-first General Assembly, was born April 25th, 1872, at Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania. When quite young he removed with his parents to Boone county, Iowa, and resided upon a farm in Peoples township. He attended the common schools of his county, and afterwards attended the high school in Woodward, Iowa, from which he graduated in 1888. He later entered Highland Park College in Des Moines, Iowa, and graduated from that institution in 1894.

Mr. Francis was a farmer, and while his education and qualifications equipped him for other and different vocations, yet he always classified himself as a farmer, and made farming his life work. He was a progressive student of agriculture, and was intensely interested in every problem

pertaining to that industry. He was a man of such sound judgment and business capacity that his neighbors and friends frequently sought his advice on agriculture and business subjects. He was regarded in his community and county as a successful farmer. Any program that had as its object the improvement of agricultural conditions, or the betterment of rural life, had the unqualified endorsement of Mr. Francis. He was one of the first farmers of his county to enroll as a member of the Farm Bureau, and immediately became an active worker in the interest of that organization. In 1923, he was elected president of the Boone County Farm Bureau, and held that position until his death.

Mr. Francis was a man who gave close attention to detail, and was usually chosen as secretary of the various business activities of his community, and was for many years clerk of his township. He was for two sessions assistant secretary of the state Senate of Iowa, where he gave efficient service.

In politics Mr. Francis was always a staunch republican. He took a deep interest in the political affairs of his state and nation, as well as local affairs. He became a public speaker of ability and frequently made political addresses. As a result of his sound views, and the confidence the people had in him, he had much to do with shaping the public policies of his community and his county. At the primary in June, 1924, he submitted his name as a republican candidate for the House of Representatives. He was given a most excellent endorsement at the primary, and was elected at the general election by a very large majority. In his home township and the one adjoining it, where he was best known, he received an almost unanimous vote.

While a member of this House he was a hard and conscientious worker. His earnest desire was to be of real service to the people of his county and state. His ambition was to justify the trust and confidence the people had placed in him by giving to his duties the most painstaking attention. Many of his friends believe that it was the hard work and serious attention he gave to his legislative duties, and the responsibility he felt rested upon him as a legislator, that undermined his strength and hastened his death.

Mr. Francis was also very active in the moral and religious affairs of his community. He became a member of the Baptist church of Woodward, Iowa, in 1895, and served the church in the capacity of deacon or trustee for many years. He was also Sunday School superintendent. At one time he was superintendent of the County Sunday School Organization.

The community in which he lived, his county and state have suffered a great loss in the untimely death of Matthew H. Francis. In recognition of the value of his life and service, and as an expression of our appreciation of his character and example,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, By the House of Representatives of the Forty-second General Assembly that in the death of Honorable Matthew H. Francis, this state has lost a loyal citizen, a man of fine ideals and

public spirit, and this House by this resolution tenders its sympathy to the relatives that survive him, and,

Be It Further Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the Journal, and an enrolled copy be sent to the surviving relatives.

FRANK HOLLINGSWORTH,
MARTIN H. TROUP,
IRVING H. KNUDSON,
Committee.

Unanimously adopted April 6, 1927.

HON. GEORGE D. HARRISON

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee appointed to prepare resolutions commemorative of the life, character and public service of the Honorable George D. Harrison, late of Columbus Junction, Iowa, beg leave to report the following:

George D. Harrison was born in Philadelphia, Pa., December 19, 1829, and died at his home in Columbus Junction, Iowa, Wednesday, March 2, 1927, at the age of ninety-seven years. His parents were Quakers and he was born into that faith. He moved to Ohio with his parents in 1834, where he attended the common schools and also spent some time in college, after which he taught school for a while. He also engaged in the profession of a civil engineer for two years.

He was married in 1859, to Miss Lou C. Ringer, and to this union were born three sons, Chester, Milton and Harry L. The wife and two sons preceded the husband and father in death.

At the age of 27, he moved westward to Columbus City, where he entered the mercantile business. He helped to organize the Atchison National Bank, of Atchison, Kansas, and was elected its first president. In 1877 he moved to Columbus Junction, where he was one of the original stockholders in the B. C. R. & N. R. R. (now the C. R. I. & P.), and was a resident of Louisa county before this railroad crossed the Mississippi. He acquired large interests in farming and stock raising, and was engaged in buying grain and live stock for many years.

Throughout his long and active life Mr. Harrison was intensely interested in public affairs, belonging to the democratic party and this interest he maintained to the very last. He was honored by election to office and served with distinction as Representative from his county in the Thirteenth General Assembly.

His death was due to the infirmitives of his great age. He was ninety-seven years of age, one of the oldest men in the state. This in itself is an achievement and bespeaks his adherence to the laws of health and good sense. He contributed something definite to the world and his life was a valuable one. He established two business enterprises that served their communities for years, with success. He founded and maintained a beautiful home, reared a good family and left them a competence. He left with his friends the memory of a life, honest, fearless, strong and active in all phases of private and community enterprise. He was a kind