

Charleston, Illinois, in 1858; to Champaign, Illinois, in 1860; and to Boone (then called Montana), Iowa, in 1866.

Warren attended public school up to about this time, but had commenced work as a farm hand. He also assisted his brother, Edward, in the grocery business in Boone for a year or two, was a salesman in Chicago for a time, also was a brakeman on the Chicago & Northwestern Railway; but in 1876 he formed a partnership with his brother, Edward, in the mercantile business at Coon Rapids, his brother having located there five years previously. The business was very successful and eventually they extended their interests to farming and banking.

Warren was elected Senator in 1893 and was twice re-elected, serving inclusively from the Twenty-fifth to the Thirty-first general assemblies. He was chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate in the last five assemblies of which he was a member, was identified with the progressive element of his party and of the assembly, and had a prominent part in the legislation of that period. He was elected lieutenant governor in 1906, presided over the Senate during the Thirty-second General Assembly, and when Albert B. Cummins resigned November 24, 1908, because of being elected United States Senator, Mr. Garst became Governor, and served until the inauguration of B. F. Carroll, January 14, 1909.

After that, besides looking after his properties, he lived mostly a retired life, removing to Des Moines. Although deprived of the opportunities of obtaining a good education in his youth, he came to be a cultured and well-read man. He was president of the Pioneer Lawmakers' Association at the time of his death, and also was president of the Iowa Branch of the League of Nations Non-partisan Association.

*Whereas*, his record as a man, a legislator, a public official and a citizen has been of the highest character; therefore

*Be It Resolved*, That the Senate take this occasion to express its high appreciation of his lofty character and faithful public service, and adopt this memorial in the name of the people of Iowa as a tribute to his name and memory;

*Also, Be It Further Resolved*, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of the Senate and that an engrossed copy thereof be sent to the family of the deceased.

GEO. B. PERKINS

W. J. GOODWIN

J. D. BUSER

*Committee.*

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### WARREN GARST

*Tribute by Ex-Senator A. B. Funk.*

Warren Garst was born at Dayton, Ohio, December 4, 1850, and died at Des Moines, October 5, 1924. He came of sturdy, Dutch-Irish stock, which made his family a compelling force in his generation. One brother became distinguished as an Admiral in the United States Navy; another won fame and fortune in the New England medical field; another ably served, and ultimately sacrificed his life, in Chinese missionary work,

while a fourth was for nearly fifty years associated with him in successful mercantile enterprise. And so, much was expected and required of this man, which achievement has abundantly justified.

Settling in business at Coon Rapids in the early seventies, when Carroll county was largely in a state of nature and the hamlet of his choice little more than a dream of future importance, Mr. Garst contributed substantially to local development and welfare before he entered this body in 1895.

High courage, sound judgment and unfailing devotion are always factors of great value in legislative service. Thus equipped, the new senator from Carroll rapidly became influential at a time when measures of unusual importance were developing. During his eight senatorial sessions he made substantial contribution to the adjustment of corporation relationship, and to the development of administrative, educational, charitable and political systems. In legislative controversy, occasioned by such issues as the Board of Control, Board of Education, the Revision of the Code of 1897, the Mule Law, Collateral Inheritance and other new taxation controversy, Garst was always where the contest waxed the warmest, and in victory no legislator was more modest or unassuming. While always ready for a fray when the occasion required, he was affable and courteous to the limit of temperamental consistency.

In his changed relation with this body, when he passed from his seat on the floor to the chair of presiding officer as Lieutenant Governor, he consistently continued his record of usefulness, and his brief service as Chief Executive when Governor Cummins resigned to enter the United States Senate justified with a career of public distinction.

In 1913 Governor Garst was drafted to install the Workmen's Compensation Service, his latest but by no means least important contribution to the public welfare.

Warren Garst was for many years an outstanding figure in the larger affairs of his state. He was prominent among Iowa public men of his generation as one who faithfully exemplified high character, good citizenship and marked efficiency in a long career of public service. An exceedingly interesting personality increased his usefulness and gave him executive acquaintance and abundant friendship.

Senator Buser spoke in part as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT, and SENATORS: I had not expected to say a word in memory of any of the deceased senators which were the occasion of this memorial service this evening, but it so happens that I am the only member present of the committee who was appointed to bring in the memorial resolution for Senator Garst.

I had not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance of Senator Garst, therefore I am in a difficult situation when I undertake to eulogize the life and character of Senator Garst. However, Mr. President, I do feel that his life as a public character in Iowa for a number of years, regardless of the fact that I did not know him personally, was such that I admire the man as one of the most outstanding characters of public life we ever had in Iowa.

I am sure that if I had had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with the senator I would have found many lovable characteristics in his life.

The resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

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#### MERRITT W. HARMON

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee which was appointed to report resolutions commemorating the life, character, and services of the late Merritt W. Harmon, begs leave to submit the following report, and moves its adoption:

Merritt W. Harmon was born June 25, 1844, in Seneca county, Ohio, and died at the home of his son, Ray Harmon, in the city of Des Moines, August 14, 1924. His parents were Merritt, Sr., and Minerva (Walker) Harmon.

He was the third in a family of five children. His father was a Presbyterian minister and preached until he attained the age of 94 years. The family moved to Lansing, Michigan, in 1848, when Mr. Harmon was four years of age. There he attended school and later continued his education in Dubuque county, Iowa. Still later he became a student in Lenox College at Hopkinton, Iowa. He was one of the first students of that college, spending two years there until 1862. There he enlisted for service in the Civil War; so many of the students enlisting that it was necessary to close the school temporarily. He was 21 years of age at that time, and soon became sergeant of Company K of the Twenty-first Iowa Infantry. He lacked but two days of serving three years, and although in the thickest of the fight and exposed to all kinds of dangers and hardships, he was never wounded or confined to the hospital by illness. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg in 1863, and in the siege of Mobile in 1864-5.

He was mustered out at Baton Rouge, La., July 15, 1865, and returned to his home state with a most creditable record.

Soon afterward he went to the South to enter the employ of the Mobile & Ohio Railroad Company, spending one year in Mobile, Ala. His parents had moved to Cascade in 1856, and to Hopkinton later where the father, who was a veteran of the War of 1812, passed away in 1892, and the Mother in 1895.

Mr. Harmon came to Buchanan county in 1866, and for two years taught school in the county. He then became deputy postmaster of Independence in 1868, and served for two years. He was admitted to the bar in November, 1869. He built up a large practice, and an enviable reputation as an attorney. Mr. Harmon was the oldest member of the Buchanan County Bar at the time of his death. Naturally, a man of Mr. Harmon's character would be called upon to serve his fellow citizens. He was honored by election to the State Senate of Iowa by his district in 1875, and served in that capacity in the Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth General Assemblies. He was a member of the Ways and Means Committee for eight years, when Governor Larrabee was its Chairman. He was a member of the