

HONORABLE LOUIS JOSIAH LEECH

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee, appointed to prepare suitable resolutions commemorating the life, character and public service of the Honorable Louis Josiah Leech, member of the Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth and Thirty-first General Assemblies of Iowa, begs leave to submit the following:

Louis Josiah Leech was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, August 3, 1846. At the age of nine he came with his parents to Iowa, locating in the vicinity of West Branch, where he has since resided.

With the outbreak of the Civil War he determined to serve his country, although still a youth. In January, 1863, he enlisted at Davenport in Company B, Second Iowa Cavalry. During the war he participated in many battles, among them the battles of Oxford, Franklin, and Nashville, Tennessee, and saw service as far south as Mobile, Alabama. He was mustered out at Taladaga, Alabama, October 15, 1865.

On August 15, 1868, he was united in marriage with Ruth Anna Whitacre. Two sons, Oliver J. and Albert M., were born, Oliver dying November 24, 1903, at the age of thirty-four years. Mrs. Leech passed away September 3, 1888.

At the close of the war he farmed a short time, then entered the State University of Iowa to study medicine and received his diploma in 1882, locating in his home town, and practicing continuously there since that time, until his death.

He was married to Miss Lydia R. Thomas, July 12, 1893, and she, with his son Bert, survive him.

Dr. Leech served for many years on the local school board, the town council and as mayor. He also served in the Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, and Thirty-first General Assemblies of Iowa. For many years he was interested in the work of the Grand Army of the Republic, and at the Sixtieth Annual Encampment, held at Des Moines in 1934, he was elected Department Commander of Iowa, an honor which he greatly appreciated.

Few men have given to their community the service, in different ways, which Dr. Leech contributed to West Branch. He ushered into this vale of tears many hundreds, and to many of them was a lifelong physician and friend, and a comforter as they made their earthly exit. He was beloved by many, and a splendid tribute was paid by the people of his own and nearby communities when four thousand met on the school grounds a few years ago, to help him celebrate his birthday, and to let him know while he lived, the honor in which he was held.

Dr. and Mrs. Leech were attending the National Encampment of the G. A. R. at Madison, Wisconsin, in September, 1937, where he fell on the state capitol steps, fracturing his right knee. He was taken to a hospital, but never recovered, passing away on the morning of September 22nd, having reached an age little in excess of ninety-one years.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, That in the passing of Louis J. Leech, the state has lost a valuable citizen and a man of character and generosity.

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon

the Journal of the House, and the Chief Clerk be instructed to send an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

GORDON SMITH,
E. A. JOHNSON,
F. A. LATCHAW,

Committee.

Unanimously adopted, April 12, 1939.

HONORABLE HAROLD C. LOUNSBERRY

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee appointed to prepare a resolution commemorating the life, character and public services of the Honorable Harold C. Lounsberry, a former member of the General Assembly of Iowa, begs leave to submit the following:

Born on a farm in Hardin county just across the Marshall county line, June 14, 1874, he moved with his parents to a Marshall county farm when he was two years old. There were eight children in his father's family and young Lounsberry was unable to finish his course in the Marshalltown high school but took a job as a farm hand to earn money to put himself through law school. He finally was able to enter Drake University, completed the two-year course in one year and was admitted to the bar in 1899.

He married Miss Nellie Stewart, at that time fourth grade teacher in the Anson school, in this city, June 28, 1912. They were the parents of five children, Irene, Clara, Mary, Helen and Harold Jr.

Mr. Lounsberry represented Marshall county as state representative in the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth General Assemblies which convened in 1911 and 1913. His previous political experience was gained as clerk of the district court in Marshall county, to which he was elected in 1905, retiring in 1909, and the following year was elected to the state legislature. While in the legislature he helped to codify the laws of the state.

After serving two terms he retired from politics for several years, but again sought public office in 1920 when he was a candidate for the republican nomination for state senator from the district upon the completion of the two terms served by W. H. Arney. He failed to gain the nomination, however, and again in 1928 was unsuccessful in seeking the republican senatorial nomination.

His legislative experience also included service as journal clerk of the House of Representatives in the Twenty-seventh Assembly, journal clerk of the Senate in the following term and assistant secretary of the Senate in the Twenty-ninth General Assembly. In county politics he served as a member of the county central republican committee and was a delegate to both state and judicial republican convention.

Besides his widow and children he is survived by a sister, Mrs. E. G. Andrews of Knoxville, and four brothers, Claude of Ames; Carl of St. Louis, Mo.; Vance of Denver, Colorado, and Dr. Ray Lounsberry of San Diego, California.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the Forty-eighth General Assembly, That in the passing of the Honorable Harold