

Senator McLeland spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT, AND SENATORS: It is not without a feeling of sadness tonight that I exercise my privilege of speaking a few words in commendation of the life of the late John B. Classen, former Senator from my home county. I knew him well. He was my friend. Mr. Classen was one of those rare souls whom to know is to love, admire and respect. Genial, bighearted and broadminded, he was ever ready to help a friend in need or cheer his fellow man along the way. Truly he was a man whose life typified the well known lines:

"But let me live by the side of the road
And be a friend to man."

Until the last few years of his life, Mr. Classen enjoyed robust health, was fond of fun, appreciated a good joke and enjoyed amusements. An evidence of the esteem of his neighbors and the citizens of his township is shown in the fact that when first a candidate for the legislature, he received every vote cast in his precinct.

Mr. Classen was successful in business, conscientious in all his dealings and was always ready to contribute to any worthy cause. He was a valuable asset to his community. A man of good judgment and firm in his views, he was always liberal in considering the opinions of others, weighing carefully their ideas, then remaining loyal to his conclusions.

As a member of the House he served in the special session of 1896, when the Code of Iowa was revised, and was chairman of the committee on county and township organization, which proved a very important committee in that session. While in the Senate he was chairman of the committee on highways and was a member of the ways and means, military and other important committees. Mr. Classen had been in failing health for eight years, but his condition had not been regarded serious until the last few weeks. His passing was an end of an eventful and useful life.

The resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

ELMER E. MITCHELL

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee which was appointed to prepare resolutions commemorating the life, character, and services of the late Elmer E. Mitchell of Mahaska county, Iowa, beg leave to submit the following:

Elmer E. Mitchell was born January 27, 1863, in Mahaska county, Iowa, near New Sharon. He was educated in the public schools of his county, after which he took a two years' general college course. For six years he taught in the public schools, spending his vacations on his father's farm. In 1890 he was appointed to a position in the United States census office in Washington, D. C. Two years later he was called to a position in the United States government printing office. During his incumbency of these positions, he attended the University of Washington,

from which he graduated with a Master's Degree of Law. He later took a post-graduate course in Columbia University Law School and was admitted to the practice of law in the United States courts. After the death of his father, he engaged in farming and stock raising in Mahaska county, on his farm which was known as Mitchell Meadows. He was a member of the Iowa state Senate during the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth sessions. His death occurred March 17th, 1924, on his farm near New Sharon, Mahaska county, Iowa.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, By the Senate of the Forty-second General Assembly of Iowa, that in the death of Elmer E. Mitchell the state and the community where he lived have suffered the loss of an influential and honorable citizen; and,

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the Journal of the Senate and that the Secretary be directed to send an engrossed copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

F. C. STANLEY,
OSCAR ULSTAD,
F. M. BEATTY,

Committee.

Senator Stanley spoke as follows:

I was not personally acquainted with Senator Mitchell but have learned of his life and work from those who knew him.

He was born on a large farm in Mahaska county near New Sharon, Iowa. His early life was spent on the farm. He was schooled at the district school and the public schools of his community. Later he secured the equivalent of one or two years of college work. At that time this amount of education was above that secured by the average young person. He taught school in the country schools of his county. Later he secured an appointment in the government printing office at Washington, D. C. While in that position he made use of his spare time in attending the law school from which he later graduated and was admitted to the practice of law, not only in the lower courts but also in the higher courts of the United States.

His interest in public affairs is shown by the fact that he later became a candidate for the position of state Senator from Mahaska county. In this campaign he was successful and served two sessions in the General Assembly of Iowa. In many respects Senator Mitchell was an eccentric character but a view of his activities through life shows that he was a man interested in the constructive things. He gained as much education as was available to him. He always took an interest in the civic affairs of his community, of the state and of the United States and at the time of his death was contemplating becoming a candidate again for the position of Senator from Mahaska county.

The resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.