

Traer established its municipal electric light and power and steam heating plant. Mr. Shortess took keen interest in the plant, and gave much personal time to the planning and management of it for years. Earlier he had served six years on the town council.

Mr. Shortess was very active in Republican party affairs. In 1914 he was elected as Tama county's representative in the lower house of the state general assembly and served two terms. During his second term he was a candidate for speaker of the house, and was defeated by a narrow majority.

During World War I he was chairman of the Red Cross drives and always put Tama county over the top. He was a leader in every movement for public improvements, paving, sewerage system, library, park improvements, the municipal plant, etc. He was one of the earliest advocates of hard surfaced roads for Tama county and did much effective personal work in the state general assembly and as a private citizen to lay the groundwork for the system of roads of which all Iowa is so proud today.

Mr. Shortess was one of the oldest active members of the Masonic fraternity in Iowa, being a member 64 years. He was a member of Traer's Congregational Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Shortess were the parents of two children, Clifford Keith who died July 7, 1936, and Glen who is employed by the Spartan School of Aeronautics at Miami, Oklahoma.

Therefore, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Fifty-first General Assembly, That in the passing of the Honorable F. E. Shortess, the state has lost a valued and honorable citizen and the House would tender, by this resolution, its sincere sympathy to the surviving members of his family, in their sorrow; and

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the House and that the Chief Clerk be instructed to send an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

LAWRENCE PUTNEY,
HARRY E. WEICHMAN,
H. R. FREI, JR.,

Committee.

Unanimously adopted,

WARD B. SMITH

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee, appointed to prepare a suitable resolution commemorating the life, character and public service of the Honorable Ward B. Smith, begs leave to submit the following memorial:

Ward B. Smith was born in Old Bradford, near Nashua, Iowa, March 20, 1858. He was the son of Leander and Eliza Smith, one of the pioneer families who helped in the building of the Little Brown Church in the Vale, being very active members.

Mr. Smith received his education at the Bradford Academy and as a young man taught school for a few terms, later representing a harvester company.

On December 21, 1882, he was married to Sarah R. McCreary, who passed away in 1919. Following their marriage they lived in Indianapolis, Indiana, for one year. They returned to make their home on the farm southeast of Nashua. For several years after Mr. Smith left the farm he followed the occupation of stock buyer and in 1904 the family moved to town where Mr. Smith lived until the time of his death.

On January 25, 1922, he was married to Mrs. Luna Bartsch, who died in 1939. Following her death he spent the remaining years of his life with his daughter, Mrs. Lucille Meier. He passed away November 21, 1943.

Mr. Smith served in the Fortieth, Fortieth Extra and the Forty-first General Assemblies of the State Legislature of Iowa. He also served as a member of the Board of Supervisors of Chickasaw county and held various town and church offices and was a member of the Congregational Church and president of the Nashua State Bank.

The following taken from his obituary:

"Mr. Smith was a man of integrity and uprightness, highly esteemed by all who knew him. He was a kind husband, and indulgent father, a true friend, and neighbor and a loyal citizen."

He is survived by an only daughter, her husband, one grandson and one granddaughter.

Merlin Meier, his son-in-law, wrote this poem in honor of his memory:

HONORABLE WARD B. SMITH

- "His life was long, his words were few,
He made his vows and kept them too,
His promise was with honor bound
And when he spoke, then truth did sound,
Within his home he was a man
Who lived a life that few men can,
His manner kind to friend and foe
Showed forth where e'er he'd go,
And lucky is the girl, the lad
Who chose him for their own granddad.
His life is past, but there lives on
The memory of the way he won,
How better then this world would be
If all would live the life did he."

Therefore, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Fifty-first General Assembly of Iowa, That in the passing of the Honorable Ward B. Smith, the State has lost a valued and honored citizen and his family a loving father and grandfather and the House would tender, by this resolution, its sincere sympathy to the surviving members of his family in their sorrow; and

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the House and that the Chief Clerk be directed to send an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

ARTHUR C. BLATTI,
JOE F. GARDNER,
WILLIAM KRUSE,

Unanimously adopted,

Committee.