

Senator Bennett spoke as follows:

I consider it a great privilege indeed to be able to make a few remarks in this memorial in regard to my fellow townsman, Senator E. L. Crow. He served his state and district so credibly in the Thirty-fourth and the Thirty-fifth General Assemblies. Senator Crow was a man of most unusual personality. He radiated good fellowship. He was possessed of most unusual energy. He always stood for the finer things in life. He was always a leader, did much to improve his town and his community, and above all to meet him would give you cheer and inspiration. He was always friendly, full of fun and had a forward-looking view of things always which gave courage to his fellow men who had the slightest contact with him. He was an excellent father and husband and his was a life of sacrifice, and splendid unstinting service. While he was a member of a different political party from myself, that did not in any way interfere with our fine friendship for each other, for he was always fair and considerate and forgiving. I feel that in the passing of Senator Crow I have lost a fine and wonderful friend, and that his community and the state have lost a man of strong character, sterling worth and of distinguished service to his community and the state.

The resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

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JOHN F. WEBBER

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee which was appointed to report resolutions commemorating the life, character and services of the late Hon. John F. Webber, beg leave to submit the following report and move its adoption:

John F. Webber, prominent citizen of Ottumwa, who was shot to death at his home, 133 E. Court Street, Saturday night, April 7, 1928, was born in Ferris, Illinois, September 26, 1874. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Webber.

He gained his early education in the public schools of Hancock county, Illinois, and in the meantime helped his father on the farm on which the family lived. He pursued an academic course in Carthage College, Carthage, Illinois, and later entered the law college of the State University at Iowa City and finished the law course there. After leaving school he traveled for three years for a nationally know farm implement company. In 1902 he entered upon the practice of law, opening an office in Ottumwa. Later he became interested in the Ottumwa National Bank and the Wapello County Savings Bank. A Democrat in politics, he became a candidate for State Senator in 1910 and was elected. He was a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Appropriations Committee, Judiciary and other important legislative committees. He was recognized as one of the leaders in the legislature of that day, on matters pertaining to taxation, and laws governing public utilities. He was one of the authors of the workmen's compensation law, passed by the Thirty-fifth General Assembly, and was one of the measure's most ardent supporters.

During the latter days of his life he acquired numerous land holdings

in Iowa and Illinois and became known for his stock feeding enterprises. He was intensely interested in the economics of agriculture and was a keen student of farm conditions. A short time following the economic slump which struck the middle west, after the so-called inflation period had passed, Webber and others appeared before the Executive Committee in the State House at Des Moines, and, due largely to his efforts and those who supported him, land values as between farm land and city property were adjusted. This effected a saving of thousands of dollars to the farmers of Iowa.

In 1919 he became president of the Ottumwa National Bank and retained that position until January 1, 1928, though previously he submitted his resignation from that office to the directors, due to his burden of other business duties. He was also president of the Wapello County Savings Bank, an institution which he headed at the time of his death.

Senator Webber was one of the outstanding figures in the good roads movement in his county and state. During the road campaign here in the early part of 1926, he made numerous speeches throughout the county in behalf of the proposed bond issue. He was also a member of the board of directors of the Iowa Good Roads Association. He was a member of the Wapello Club and a charter member of the Ottumwa Country Club.

He was prominently mentioned recently in connection with being a candidate on the Democrat ticket to run for Congress from the Sixth District.

On October 2, 1900, he was united in marriage to Miss Estella L. Bailey of Ferris, Illinois, who with two sons, John Francis Jr., and Bailey C., survive him. He is also survived by his mother, Mrs. Mary Webber Lambert of Carthage, Illinois, and one brother, Charles A. Webber, of Ferris, Illinois.

FRANK SHANE,  
W. A. CLARK,  
F. M. BEATTY,

*Committee.*

Senator Shane spoke as follows:

I was a member of the House of Representatives during part of Mr. Webber's service in the Senate and our relations at that time were very close. During the years following we had many pleasant business contacts. I knew him intimately and admired him greatly.

He was one of the outstanding men of southeastern Iowa—kind, genial, yet possessed of wonderful business ability. His passing was a distinct loss, both to his community and to the state. "May he rest in peace."

I move the adoption of the report.

The resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

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GEORGE S. ALLYN

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee appointed to prepare resolutions in commemoration of the life, character and services of the Honorable George S. Allyn, begs leave to submit the following report: