

son, Santee of Black Hawk and Owen of Appanoose as such committee.

The committee appointed to notify the Senate that the House was ready to receive it in joint convention reported that it had performed its duty. The report of the committee was accepted and the committee discharged.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of the President of the Senate and the honorable body of the Senate.

The President was escorted to the Speaker's station, the Secretary to the Chief Clerk's desk, and the members of the Senate were seated throughout the House chamber.

JOINT CONVENTION

In accordance with concurrent resolution duly adopted, the joint convention was called to order, President Elthon presiding.

President Elthon announced a quorum present and the joint convention duly organized.

Senator Bellman of Warren moved that a committee of six be appointed to notify the Pioneer Lawmakers that the joint convention was ready to receive them.

President Elthon appointed, on the part of the House, Representatives Dillon of Louisa, Naden of Hamilton and Freed of Webster.

President Elthon appointed, on the part of the Senate, Senator Bellman of Warren, Senator Byers of Linn and Senator Walker of Hamilton.

The committee waited upon the Pioneer Lawmakers and escorted them to the well of the House.

President Elthon extended his personal welcome to the Pioneer Lawmakers.

President Elthon presented to the joint convention Senator D. C. Nolan of Johnson who welcomed the Pioneer Lawmakers on behalf of the Senate and offered the following remarks:

MR. PRESIDENT, HONORED GUESTS, MEMBERS OF THE PIONEER LAWMAKERS OF IOWA, FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

It is a high honor to be asked to take a small part in this biennial joint convention in honor of the members of the Pioneer Lawmakers of Iowa who are assembled here today.

Seventy years have passed since Senator Norman Boardman of Clinton first suggested that Iowa lawmakers of years past, following the custom of the living members of past Vermont Legislatures, meet in reunion.

As a result of Senator Boardman's suggestion, some 24 former members of the Iowa General Assemblies sent out a call to a meeting, by published notice and letter, of past members of the Iowa Legislature, which meeting was to be held in Des Moines on February 24, 1886.

Such well known men in the annals of Iowa history as Josiah B. Grinnell, Benjamin F. Gue, George G. Wright, Robert S. Finkbine, C. F. Clarkson, Hoyt Sherman and Charles Aldrich joined in the call. Eighty-seven responded and were present, when the reunion opened at 10:30 a.m. in the old Foster Opera House in downtown Des Moines, on the day assigned.

Following the discussion for a formal permanent organization and a perpetuation of the reunion, the meeting was adjourned with the former Senators going to the Senate and the Representatives to the House, on the hill. Thus was the beginning of your revered association, the Pioneer Lawmakers of Iowa, and your affections for our state and those who served with you in our state are like the rivers of her borders, "flow on to an inseparable union."

The speeches which were made and the reminiscences that were shared at that first historic meeting of your organization were recorded and published for succeeding generations to read and study. These sacred pages of Iowa history reveal the hopes and dreams as well as the doubts and fears of those early lawmakers. Despite the hardships and sufferings of our founding fathers, optimism prevailed in their deliberations. The same basic problems faced them then that faced you in your days as they do us today—they needed money for schools and roads. Our three state colleges were then long established, as well as most of the institutions under the present-day Board of Control. This Capitol Building had been completed and dedicated and these legislative halls occupied in 1884.

Like our forebears who settled Iowa in the 1840's, when Iowa became a member—state—of the greatest union of free men in the history of mankind, these Pioneer lawmakers were not willing to follow the beaten path, to do what somebody else had done because somebody else had done it, or to think the same thoughts of somebody else. No, they were true pioneers, self-reliant, confident and courageous.

Symbolic of these men, you are their rightful successors. Through your courage, your integrity and intense devotion, you have carried nobly forward the torch of vision and intelligent leadership. It took men richly endowed with the attributes of "faith, hope and charity" to mold and preserve for us a great state as we know Iowa today.

It has truly been said that a country which has no pride in its past, loses all inspiration for its future. The mandates which govern us are not the laws in our statute books, but a higher and better bond—a civilization composed of the consciousness and heart and mind of the people of a former time. It is to you our gratitude is due.

May we of the Fifty-sixth General Assembly ever strive in our de-

liberations and our work to emulate your spirit and purpose for our beloved state, so that it may be said of us as it can be said of you:

“The architect with pride may view
The edifice his brain has willed;
A grander temple honors you—
The commonwealth you helped to build.”

President Elthon presented to the joint convention Representative Clark H. McNeal of Wright County who welcomed the Pioneer Lawmakers on behalf of the House and offered the following remarks:

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR ELTHON, MR. SPEAKER, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,
AND MEMBERS OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

I wish it were possible for me today to set down the proper words to welcome you on this occasion. Normally, I am not at loss for words, but today I find it difficult to bring proper words to the tip of my tongue to honor you today.

Therefore, I have chosen to select from the sage of the writers of the past, the proper phrases befitting this occasion. Thus, I feel on this occasion we should benefit not only those we honor but that we also should take a lesson ourselves, I quote these passages.

The immortal Shakespeare said:

“Their Crowns are in their hearts not on their heads
Not deck'd with diamonds and Indian stones; nor to be seen
Their Crowns are called content
Theirs are Crowns that seldom Kings enjoy.”

Surely these men possess such Crowns. They must be crowned with content, for surely they have performed their tasks well.

Oliver Wendell Holmes once stated: “The greatest thing in the world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving.” It is important to take a stand, and these Pioneer Lawmakers did. But more important they gave motion and direction to this great State of Iowa. It is that motion and direction for which we are grateful today. It is our aim that we the present lawmakers will continue to give purpose and direction in all things coming before us.

Thomas Carlyle said: “If there is a harvest ahead, even a distant one, it is poor thrift to be stingy of your seed corn.”

Surely these men were not stingy with their seed. They were the hardy stock. We hope that they are satisfied with us who are the harvest of their years, and that we in turn may plant for the harvest ahead. An old proverb states:

“There is nothing noble in being superior to some other man.
The true nobility is in being superior to your previous self.”

Without a question, these men became superior only in elevating themselves to higher standards than they possessed the day before.

In a recitation of famous authors it would be amiss for me to cease on this occasion without this quotation from Mark Twain, when he said: “I am an old man and have known many troubles, but most of them never happened.”

I presume these noble statesmen here today assembled believed as we believe that the problems then facing them were the most difficult and unmanageable of any problems facing any generation, yet today they would undoubtedly be the first to admit that the problems they presumed to be unconquerable troubles, in the main, never really happened. We need not fear these problems and difficulties, if we face them in a true spirit of democracy and possessed with knowledge.

So today we hallow the memory of those departed from your midst. We honor those of you who visit us here today. We appreciate working with Pioneer Lawmakers such as the Honorable Gus Kuester, the Honorable Dewey Goode, Senator Byers, Senator McFarlane, and others. We welcome you, the Pioneer Lawmakers of Iowa, each and every one. May God bless you all.

President Elthon presented to the joint convention Senator Arch W. McFarlane of Black Hawk who addressed the joint convention as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT, MR. SPEAKER, MEMBERS OF THE JOINT CONVENTION AND FRIENDS:

Before I enter upon my prepared speech, I am very pleased to have the honor of performing a very pleasant duty. At our Pioneer Lawmakers meeting this morning, C. C. Clifton of the Des Moines Register who has been covering the legislature for almost forty years was unanimously elected as an honorary member of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association. The thought among those gathered was that Mr. Clifton has been very instrumental in assisting in the passage of good legislation and helping to defeat poor legislation. His service to the State of Iowa is equal in many instances to many of the lawmakers, and it is my privilege and pleasure today at this joint convention to inform Mr. Clifton that he was unanimously elected as an honorary member of our association.

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I say to you that I appreciate the kind words that have been given by those that were chosen to give the addresses of welcome, both by the members of the Senate and House and to our presiding officer. I further wish to express my very great appreciation for the privilege of appearing before this joint convention and the members of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association and invited guests.

Forty years ago I first entered this Assembly as a young man in the Thirty-sixth General Assembly. There were many outstanding men, members of both the House and the Senate, of which I should just like to enumerate only a few. In the Senate there were Wallace H. Arney, Joseph H. Allen, Nicholas Balkema, Justin R. Doran, John T. Clarkson, Leslie E. Francis, Joseph R. Frailey, Fred P. Hagemann, Clem F. Kimball, Guy M. Gillette, Frederick Larrabee, Addison M. Parker, Robert Quigley, Eli C. Perkins and Chester W. Whitmore and in the House were William I. Atkinson, Joseph H. Anderson, Justin Barry, Henry Brady, Lee W. Elwood, William N. Gilbert, Ross C. Gray, Thomas F. Griffin, Allan J. Kane, David W. Kimberly, William F. Kopp, Peter J.

Klinker, David Mackey, Rube McFerren and Milton B. Pitt, and many others. Then in the next session came others of like importance and excellent ability. In the Senate were W. T. Evans, Perry Holdoegel, W. G. Haskell, Byron Newberry, Ed M. Smith, A. V. Proudfoot and A. L. Rule and across the hall in the House were John H. Darrah, S. W. Klaus, Ira W. Jones, John N. Slosson, J. O. Shaff, C. B. Santee, Stanley R. Smith, W. A. Mooty and, last but not least, James B. Weaver. These were all outstanding men.

I am calling these names to your attention because they are so familiar and they were untiring workers and gave the people their best so that we who follow them should profit by their labors. These members had many complications in those days and it seemed to those of that time that they were almost insurmountable, yet, they went at their labors in the same manner and with the same enthusiasm that the members of the legislature do today. It was only through their hard work and human understanding that they were able to accomplish the great things that were accomplished following out the foundation which was laid by the generation before that and leaving a more solid foundation for those that were to follow:

It happens that I have the privilege of serving today as a member of the General Assembly in companionship with four members of the House who are sons of pioneer legislators who served with me a good generation ago and that I also have the privilege of associating in the Senate with the son and a nephew of former colleagues of mine of many years ago. I make these comments because I wish to emphasize that the Iowa General Assembly is a continuing body; that it has its traditions of service which are being carried on from generation to generation by men of the same type and of the same breeding and lineage of the law-makers of the past.

We have established in Iowa a state and local system of government which, in the very nature of things, has its faults, but which I would not exchange for that of any state of the Union.

Iowa has good government, and the laws we have passed help keep it so. Iowa has good schools, established under the laws we have passed, and our successors will make them better schools.

We have set up a judiciary under which the protection of our laws is guaranteed to all, and whose integrity has never been questioned. We have established protection for our poor, our widows and our orphans. We have safe working conditions for the employees in our industries; we have shown due regard for our problems of sanitation and public health.

I myself have seen our road systems pass from paths into highways, here again we have laid the foundation for things to come.

I do not need to tell you that I am very grateful for this privilege but my duty here today is to introduce the speaker of the afternoon and I do not need to tell you that I appreciate this honor.

I do not need to mention him by name for he is known to all of you. He is probably the most distinguished public figure which Iowa has produced during the last generation of its history. His span of life is a long one, his memory is carried back to the days when northern Iowa

was a relatively sparsely settled community, when the covered wagon was still a familiar sight and when the plowshares turned up buffalo horns when they broke the virgin soil.

He served his county ably as county attorney and then took his place in the halls of Congress, first for six terms as a representative and then, for one term, as United States Senator. He was a pioneer in our national program for the recognition of agriculture. He probably has done more than any man living or dead to impress upon the national consciousness the importance of agriculture in our public economy.

It was he, more than any other man, that brought about recognition of the fact that without a prosperous agriculture, the nation cannot develop any very true prosperity. He gained recognition as an outstanding statesman and his abilities were recognized by substantial support in two Republican national conventions for the office of the presidency of the United States.

After his service in Congress he returned to his native state to immediately receive recognition as one of the outstanding attorneys of his day, a distinction which he still holds as an active practitioner in the City of Des Moines.

I refer, of course, to the Honorable Lester J. Dickinson, whom I proudly introduce to you.

Senator Arch W. McFarlane presented to the joint convention the Honorable L. J. Dickinson, former Congressman and United States Senator from Iowa, who addressed the joint convention as follows:

MR. CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS OF THE SENATE, AND OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MEMBERS OF THE PIONEER LAW SOCIETY, AND GUESTS:

I am not sure that I belong in this Association for the reason that I never served in the legislature of Iowa. I never served in the House or the Senate of Iowa, but I have had a lot of fun teasing the boys as to what they ought to do and I want to say to you that the legislative program is a program in which you will be called everything except a worthy servant.

If you are in politics, cultivate a thick hide; if you don't, you will feel that somebody is taking a pot shot at you that you don't deserve, but after you have been through it for time after time, you will find people like you even if they say things you don't like to have them say. In politics you will find a lot of people who are associated with our higher groups will say "he is a politician". Be a politician. If we don't develop more politics and politicians in the United States, we will have a serious situation here because too many people are paying too little attention to what their duties are as American citizens.

I am glad to see a group of worthwhile people carrying on the duties of the legislature in Iowa. I don't care whether you have annual or semi-annual sessions. I often stated in Congress that I thought we would be better off if we didn't pass too many bills. I want to say this, that the thing the American people want to do is to get more interested in politics and less interested in some other things. I hate to hear a fellow

say: "I don't want to put a school man in my school district." Well, I say to him, "Did you vote?" "No," he says, "I didn't have time." What chance, I ask you, is there of things going right if we neglect our duty to do the thing we ought to do. Why complain if you don't like what is done?

I have talked to many legislatures and legislative bodies, but I have never talked to the Iowa legislature before. My days on this earth are numbered. Arch McFarlane talked about most of the boys I knew and knew well for many years, and I will say to you frankly, and I believe that Arch will bear me out on this, it is easier to make a living in private life than it is in politics. Lots easier. There are a lot of people who think that legislative service is just a big vacation. I tell you any man who comes down here and spends his time, or any woman, will lose more than he or she could possibly draw out of the state treasury of Iowa as compensation for their services. I know.

Most important is to have men here who are good men. I am glad to see the younger fellows here. Somebody has got to move in in the place of the old fellows who are getting lame and tired and losing their heart. We, you and I, believe in development. Red Barber on the General Electric program that you listen to says that 'progress is our most important product'. A lot of us folks are old enough to sit around and listen to that philosophy. I like to think that progress is the most important thing in the State of Iowa, and I like to think, too, that we have made plenty of progress. I think the men in this room have helped that progress with your vitality and enterprise.

I remember once visiting with an old friend in Texas. They had had five drouth years in Texas. I said to him, what in the world can you do in Texas, if we had had five drouth years in Iowa, I don't know what we could do. And he said to me: You can't do much to Texas that a few good oil wells won't cure!

Here in Iowa we don't have oil wells, but we do have farming. Why they limited the acreage you could plant to corn, so what did they do? They planted the rows of corn closer together. They used more fertilizer to the acre. They grew more bushels to the acre. Now where they used to grow 30 bushels to the acre they are not satisfied with less than 70 bushels to the acre, so they have just as much corn to the acre. In other words, Texas furnishes us gasoline and we furnish the corn to feed the steers. A fair exchange—corn to feed the Texas steers and gasoline for us in Iowa. That is the thing that Iowa is doing all the while. I can remember the time when we used to have these prophets of gloom who said that people will be starving, we can't grow enough crops, there isn't going to be food enough to feed them all. They never thought in those days that the Iowa farmer would narrow his rows of corn and use more fertilizer. I guess before we are through we will make 100 bushels to the acre a standard crop, and we are going in the right direction.

Legislation is a peculiar thing. There is always somebody that wants something. I read not long ago something about having a legislature of lobbyists in Des Moines. Now I believe in lobbyists because a lobbyist has got his story learned and will tell it to you and you can believe it

or not or get the other side, and that way you get the information you need to get, to make an intelligent decision. The way the thing is publicized you would think a lobbyist is a cruel creature when as a matter of fact he is one of the best friends the legislator can have. Now I have been up against real lobbyists.

The next thing, it isn't good to have too much legislation. We have an old system of checks and balances. We should have two houses on this account. I don't want to see them pass any law for unicameral legislation like they have in Nebraska. It's narrowed down to a single house in Nebraska where the fellows carry on year after year and they get in certain channels and get fixed in certain lines. I am a believer in two houses. They are not too large in Iowa. Why? Because over here is one section of Iowa that has some one thing it wants. Over here is another section of Iowa that has something it wants. When you get together, you have a substantial program that is shown by the record of your legislature. It has shown that it is for the best interests of Iowa that you have this interplay of wants. Perhaps you say I don't know whether or not we should have a toll road. Oh yes, you say, they are nice in Pennsylvania, but I don't know if it would be profitable in Iowa. But if I was in the legislature I would spend a little midnight oil studying whether it would be for the best interests of Iowa or not. A lot of you people here can remember the old mud road fight. It was a sizzler. A lot of you can remember the days of the expansion of the capitol grounds, when that issue almost defeated Governor Clarke. It was that discussion which emphasized it and made it one of the real problems of Iowa, and it was decided in the right way, and it was a good way. A lot of you legislators here are too young to remember those things. I can see some of you though that can remember as far back as I can. Our legislatures have always done a good job.

On our taxes now. Sure we are approaching a system where a lot of people will retire when they get to be sixty-five years old. I won't have to work if I don't want to. I am not so sure we ought to quit at sixty-five. I am older than that now, and I still like to work. If you don't believe it, I open the office every morning a little after eight before the younger fellows get there. Of course I get up in the morning, that helps some. Then I go home right after 3:30 or 4 o'clock, and let them work! Divides things up the way they ought to be divided up.

I don't know what we ought to do with reference to our schools. I wouldn't try to suggest anything to this body, but I do believe that Iowa with the least illiteracy of any state in the union has been doing a good thing so far as our schools are concerned. I think we will continue to do so. There is one thing I do dislike about our school system. We educate good men who immediately move some place else and take a bigger job at a bigger salary than we can furnish to them in this state. But nevertheless all of these things help make Iowa, the manhood and womanhood of Iowa, the wonderful thing that it is. The thing that I think is the most important, is that whatever Iowa does, let's see that it is for the progress of Iowa that we take these steps. Let's make it forward not backward. I don't recall that Iowa has ever had to repeal many laws, in other words, most of our legislation has stood the test

of time, and has weathered the storm, so there is one of the things that is assurance that what you do is for the best interests of Iowa. Of course, there are those fellows who will dispute this!

I don't know how far you ought to raise taxes. With everybody asking for more out of the government and saying that the government ought to do more for them, then somebody has to raise more money, but it means the people like it. Why I can recall when the federal government only owed about four billion dollars, now it owes 275 billion! They were just as careless with their change as I was! In other words, we cannot keep on going, expecting that the government is going to furnish us the things we need, when we ought to be able to put our own initiative in it and work it out for ourselves. Any time you have an additional dependent resting on the dole, you have one more problem for the taxpayers of your state.

I have no particular ideas that I want to suggest to you. I have often wondered how things work as well as they do. I have seen eighteen year old boys that never thought they would be as dumb as they thought their fathers were. When they got older, they found these things got deeper and deeper, and they had to find a way to solve them. Let's make ourselves independent of government resources if we can, and work out our problems under this private enterprise system we are all so proud of in this country.

You will find wherever you go, whatever you do, there are noble hearts and spirits brave. There are souls that are good and true, and if you give to the world the best that you have, the best will come back to you. For life is just the mirror of king and slave, it is just what you are and do, and if you give to the world the best that you have, the best will come back to you.

It is a real pleasure to appear before this body. Arch McFarlane gave me twenty minutes. I said I would only take twelve minutes. Actually I will only take ten minutes.

I remember men making long speeches, and the fellow that followed them made a short speech and was appreciated more. I am glad to meet this wonderful group. I believe in politics. I believe in the young men and the young women being in politics.

I will do the best I can to keep this government carrying on with the two party system. One more suggestion along that line. I always hate to hear a hardheaded business man say I am going to vote for the man. I don't care about the party. In other words he is putting his individual judgment against all the best thought in his party, and he thinks he knows more about how to run the government than a political party that is working on the job every day.

I don't believe anyone ever changed my Republicanism. I never thought I should be on an independent basis. I thought it should be in the party, in the organization. I have dealt with the Democrats a lot. I had a lot of friends among the Democrats. They often wanted to trade favors with me and I wanted to also. We worked together. You think you can get along with the other fellow, but you know what counts? It's when they call the roll and you have ten more votes than the other side!

I just wanted to make a few friendly suggestions which come from an old fellow plodding along, practicing law, enjoying my life practicing law with the young fellows, but I enjoyed public service too. I believe in public life, in public service if you are qualified for it, and I believe you can do a real service. Don't shrink from assuming responsibility as a public servant, but help carry on the problems of your state and the problems of your nation.

Good luck and goodbye!

The minutes of the joint convention were read and approved.

Senator Byers of Linn moved that the joint convention be now dissolved.

Motion prevailed.

The House reconvened, Speaker Hanson in the chair.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Scheerer of Boone, from the committee on safety and law enforcement, submitted the following report:

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee on safety and law enforcement, to whom was referred **Senate File 55**, a bill for an act relating to beer, malt liquors and the age of minors, begs leave to report it has had the same under consideration and has instructed me to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that the same **be amended as follows, and when so amended the bill do pass.**

1. Amend Senate File 55 by striking from section three (3), line thirteen (13) through seventeen (17) inclusive.

2. Further amend Senate File 55 by striking all of section eight (8).
CHESTER A. SCHEERER, *Chairman.*

Also:

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee on safety and law enforcement, to whom was referred **House File 134**, a bill for an act to amend section one hundred twenty-four point twenty-four (124.24), Code 1954, relating to the permit fee charged for class "C" permits, begs leave to report it has had the same under consideration and has instructed me to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that the same **be amended as follows, and when so amended the bill do pass.**

Amend House File 134, section one (1), by striking all after line two (2) and inserting in lieu thereof the following: Line five (5) of subsection three (3), the word "twenty-five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "fifty".

CHESTER A. SCHEERER, *Chairman.*

Watson of Warren, from the committee on judiciary 2, submitted the following report: