

The nays were, 2:

Madden Whisler

Absent or not voting, 12:

| | | | |
|------------|------------|---------|---------|
| Burke | Foster | Houston | Renda |
| Busch | Hanson | Kennedy | Seibert |
| Fischer of | Harrington | Maule | Utzig |
| Grundy | | | |

The bill having received a constitutional majority was declared to have passed the House and the title was agreed to.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER TABLED

Miller of Des Moines moved to reconsider the vote by which House File 307 passed the House and that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

SENATE FILE 157 SUBSTITUTED FOR HOUSE FILE 158

Rickert of Louisa-Muscatine moved that Senate File 157 be substituted for House File 158.

Speaker pro tempore Miller in the chair at 11:45 a.m.

Motion prevailed.

(Business pending at adjournment.)

Maule of Monona moved that the House recess until 1:30 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The House reconvened, Speaker Steffen in the chair.

Carnahan of Wapello moved that a committee of three be appointed to notify the Senate that the House was ready to receive it in joint convention.

Motion prevailed and the Speaker appointed as such committee Carnahan of Wapello, Denato of Polk and Grassley of Butler.

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 was accepted and the committee discharged.

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

The President of the Senate was escorted to the Speaker's station, the Secretary of the Senate to the Chief Clerk's desk, the members of

the Senate were seated throughout the chamber and the Pioneer Lawmakers were escorted to the well of the House.

JOINT CONVENTION

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

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

President Fulton presented Senator George O'Malley, who, on behalf of the Senate, welcomed the Pioneer Lawmakers with the following remarks:

MR. PRESIDENT, MR. SPEAKER, MEMBERS OF THE PIONEER LAWMAKERS ASSOCIATION, MEMBERS OF THE JOINT CONVENTION AND GUESTS:

It is a distinct privilege to extend to the Pioneer Lawmakers a hearty welcome from the Sixty-first General Assembly and particularly the Senate. I am pleased to see so many back here roaming the legislative halls greeting each other with enthusiasm and telling how they did it in the days of yore.

I'd like to say that, the Lord willing, it won't be too long until I will be eligible to become a Pioneer Lawmaker and I hope to attend many of your future meetings in the days to come.

I think you will find that the legislative processes are as stimulating today as they were in the past when you were the leaders and when you the protagonists on one side or the other. However, I think you will note now with reapportionment, that the numbers are greater and that many, many changes are in process which we hope will speed up the legislative process. I particularly want to call attention to the fact that the matter of secrecy has been eliminated, and I hope forever. Probably the greatest contribution to fast legislative action is the open confirmations by the Senate eliminating the executive session. Now we call the roll and take care of confirmations in regular order, thereby eliminating the matter of secrecy and running everybody out of the Senate except the Senators and the presiding officer, Secretary of the Senate and Sergeant-at-Arms. This, I am sure, has been a real accomplishment and I hope it continues to be the policy in future legislatures.

Certainly one of the most cherished honors that can come to any citizen in this state is to have had the privilege to serve in the legislature and observe the dedication which the members display in considering various pieces of legislation.

It is a great privilege to represent the people of Iowa in this General Assembly and I know it is one of the most cherished traditions that you veterans have to reminisce about.

We, the lawmakers of today, commend you, the lawmakers of yesterday, for the work you have done in the passing of legislation which you considered to be in the public interest. It appears that you came to grips with many problems of your day such as taxes, and of course we have the same problems this session, in addition to the matter of governmental reform and once and for all, laying to rest, if possible, the matter of reapportionment.

I am delighted to see so many of you here and I hope that you all will return to the next lawmakers' meeting two years hence.

Thank you.

President Fulton presented Representative Floyd P. Edgington, who, on behalf of the House, welcomed the Pioneer Lawmakers with the following remarks:

MR. PRESIDENT, MR. SPEAKER, PIONEER LAWMAKERS AND FELLOW LEGISLATORS:

It is a great pleasure today to welcome the Pioneer Lawmakers on this occasion. I know it must bring back memories of the great problems that you shared with your colleagues in forming the patterns that helped make Iowa the great state that it is now. For example, it was your foresight for the growing problems of education which made it possible for all children to attend school, regardless of where they might live. And also, you provided for schools of higher learning that have gained national recognition, and produced the students that now lead our state. In addition, you were responsible for the great road system that made it possible for agricultural products to be marketed, and the sixteen foot pavements that were a boon to Iowa in the early days.

I think it would be well for us present lawmakers to realize that the achievement of yesterday did not come easy, and without tireless effort, and foresight of those who served before us. We only hope that when we are Pioneer Lawmakers we will be as highly regarded as you, and for the same good reasons.

Thank you.

President Fulton presented the Honorable Henry W. Burma, President of the Pioneer Lawmakers, a former member of the House in the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth and Fiftieth General Assemblies, Speaker of the House in the Fiftieth General Assembly and member of the State Board of Control from 1951-1957.

The Honorable Henry W. Burma addressed the convention and gave recognition to the following older lawmakers: the Honorable Emery English of Polk County who is ninety-two, the Honorable Ed White of Shelby ninety years, the Honorable John Gardner of Linn ninety years and the Honorable J. A. King who is seventy-nine.

The Honorable Mr. Burma then presented Dr. Woodrow W. Morris, Associate Dean, College of Medicine, State University of Iowa, and Director of Gerontology at the University, who addressed the convention with the following remarks:

THE AGING IN OUR SOCIETY

By WOODROW W. MORRIS, Ph.D.

THANK YOU, MR. BURMA, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR FULTON, MR. SPEAKER, SENATOR O'MALLEY, REPRESENTATIVE EDGINGTON, HONORED PIONEER LAWMAKERS, MEMBERS OF THE SIXTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

I consider it an unusual honor and a distinct privilege to have been invited to address you on this occasion. I suspect that my relationship to the Institute of Gerontology at the University of Iowa and the fact that we here honor those who have gained the status of "Pioneer Lawmaker" have something to do with this invitation and with my presence

here on this rostrum. Well, the study of the aging process and concern for the well-being and general status of those approaching the later years of life are dear to my heart and I welcome the opportunity to address you this afternoon on the subject of The Aging in Our Society.

From my previous experiences in working with Iowa legislators I have been impressed with the fact that you are also deeply concerned with the problems of all of our citizens and particularly of those falling within the category of the aged and aging. Evidence of this interest on your part as legislators includes such outstanding pieces of legislation as the Iowa Nursing Home Licensing Act of 1957 which established minimum standards for nursing and custodial homes for the protection of those of our people who find it necessary to seek this kind of care; more recent evidence of your interest and concern is to be found in the currently operating medical aid to the aged program which has become a model health care program for other states; and there is currently a bill to establish a permanent Commission on Aging in the legislative mills of the present General Assembly, as S. F. 351, which will come before you for consideration before too long. For all of these and other legislative acts, present and past General Assemblies deserve the congratulations of all of our people.

A great deal has been said over the past several years about the increasing proportion of older persons in this country and I think little more needs to be said about this now. Suffice it to say that there are more than sixteen million persons over 65 in America today who make up almost 9 percent of the population. Furthermore, the numbers and proportions are increasing at a rapid rate. One current prediction is that the number in the over age 65 group will increase by over one million every three years. In Iowa this means some 350,000 persons, and this is the highest proportion of the population in this age group of any of the fifty states—that is, over 12 percent. However, I suspect this is not why the aged are a problem. The aged are a problem because of the nature of the society in which we live which, by any standards, is an extremely wealthy society possessing all of the natural resources necessary to solve most of our major social problems. It is common knowledge, however, that in this affluent cultural setting we as a nation have not yet faced up completely to the specters nor found final solutions to the problems of racial inequality, unemployment, depressed areas, to say nothing of the aged who represent only one group now demanding attention.

The cultural setting in which groups of people live and the attitudes fostered by this cultural setting, insofar as aging and the aged are concerned, are the factors which I should like to stress today.

For example, one of the findings of a survey conducted in Iowa during the summer of 1960 serves to point up several of these attitudes. This finding is that Iowans in the age range over 60 tend to think of themselves as "middle aged." Any differences between groups are minor, be they men and women or folks from metropolitan or non-metropolitan areas. It is true that, as age increases, there is less and less clinging to the middle age concept, however, men from urban counties tend to maintain this through age 74, after which age they tend to shift all the way over to a self-concept of "old man." All other groups prefer to think of themselves as "elderly" when they give up the "middle aged" self-concept—the term "elderly" apparently seeming to them to be less stigmatic, more dignified, and a somewhat "softer" designation than "old."

All groups tended to postpone thinking of themselves as "old" to from 10 to 15 years beyond their current ages. Thus, over 60 percent of the 60 to 64 years olds tended to say they would not think of themselves as "old"

until some time in the age range of 70 to 85. Well over half of the 65 to 69 year olds postpone the "old" idea until they are in the age range of 75 to 89. Over 40 percent of those in the early 70's said that they would wait until they were in the 80's and those over 75 years of age preferred the range from 85 to 89.

As age increased there was a tendency to view the meaning of "old" in terms other than chronological years. Many said something to the effect that they would begin to regard themselves as old in relation to the state of their health, of which more will be said later on.

There is a question among the so-called experts as to whether or not maintaining the middle aged self-concept is healthy or whether it would be better for older people to accept the fact of their aging status. It seems to me that to define oneself as "old" suggest a final surrender in life to aging and what it means and which would seem naturally to be denied as long as the concept of relative youth (that is, middle age) can be maintained.

Now a number of factors govern the ability with which a person can maintain such concepts. These are the factors which help to integrate a person into society, that is, which help him to continue his middle age patterns into later years. A few such patterns include: (1) Group memberships, especially relationships with friends and family, (2) Resources of property and prestige, and (3) Major social roles. Let me review the first two of these briefly after which I should like to devote the major portion of this paper to the major social roles.

I. Group Memberships. People are integrated into society not only by the resources they command and the functions they perform, but also through their social relationships. Here the picture for old people is clear. Their participation in clubs and organizations declines steadily with age as poor income, widowhood and illness increase. Their informal relationships also steadily diminish. Neighborhoods change, families separate as children marry and pursue jobs, relatives and friends move away or die. More of their time is spent at funerals than ever before. In other words, old people progressively lose their group supports as networks of relatives, friends and neighbors wither away through time.

What possible substitutes exist for these deteriorating social ties? One is the formation of new friendships with younger people nearby. However, younger age groups tend to be indifferent to or reject the old. This is trenchantly expressed in Joyce Cary's novel, "To Be A Pilgrim":

"Love is a delusion to the old, for who can love an old man? He is a nuisance; he has no place in the world. The old are surrounded by treachery for no one tells them the truth. Either it is thought necessary to deceive them, for their own good, or nobody can take the trouble to give explanation or understanding to those who will carry both so soon into a grave. They must not complain of what is inevitable; they must not think evil. It is unjust to blame the rock for its hardness, the stream for its inconstancy and its flight, the young for the strength and the jewel brightness of their passage. An old man's loneliness is nobody's fault. He is like an old fashioned hat which seems absurd and incomprehensible to the young, who never admired and wore such a hat."

II. Property and Prestige. Property ownership and the prestige that comes from the possession of knowledge, skills and other competitive abilities are factors which would tend to assist a person at any age to maintain independence; and independence is the keystone of self-prestige. Even a quick review of this matter indicates that the aging portion of our population is gradually, and in some instances quite rapidly, losing out in the struggle. Property ownership, for example, is gradually becoming spread

out in this country throughout the population, and control and ownership is not particularly centered in the hands of older people. The same is true of competition in the field of employment where automation in the many new types of jobs which have been created in our economy seem mainly to favor younger age groups. Even in the matter of home ownership, we found in the Iowa survey a decline with increasing age. While most of the respondents in their 60's and early 70's were still residing in their own homes, among persons past age 75, a fairly large number had given up their homes. This was particularly true of older persons in urban counties and especially among women in these counties. In the metropolitan areas, almost one-third of the men past 75, and close to half of the women in this age group, were no longer living in homes they themselves owned.

Other prestige factors, such as the possession of specialized skills and strategic knowledge to an increasingly smaller degree qualify the elders as authorities for the younger members of society. This is reflected in a variety of ways, not the least important of which is related to the amount of formal education attained by those now in the age group beyond age 60. For example, the median of formal schooling completed by our Iowa sample was somewhere in the range of fifth and eighth grade. The average young person in Iowa today completes about an eleventh grade education, while an ever-increasing number are going on to advanced studies in colleges, universities, into technical training courses, and so on. Today the important occupational and other skills are being taught through formal education rather than the more informal, on-the-job training. In summary then, of this point, the aged today seem not to be the great bulwark of property ownership, nor the strategic agents of either instruction or sources of great wisdom for our society in general.

III. Major Social Roles. Here we are concerned with those important characteristics which describe and determine a person's position in society. These characteristics include: (a) his marital status, (b) work, (c) income, and (d) health. I think you will readily agree that, to the degree that an older person can maintain these major role characteristics from middle age, his later years will pose less serious problems, but conversely as these major roles are lost, the later years become increasingly strained, frustrating, and tend to lower morale. In plain language, what I am saying is that older people are relatively better off and better integrated socially if they are (a) married and living with their spouse, (b) still at work, (c) suffering no significant loss of income, and (d) in relatively good health. Again they are apt to be in increasingly more serious difficulty if they are widowed, retired, suffering serious loss in income and in poor health.

Now, what is the situation with the aged with regard to these four factors?

A. Marital Status. Again, referring to the Iowa Survey of Life After Sixty we find, as one might expect, the aged show a serious disruption of marital status. As elsewhere in the country, widowhood in Iowa increases with advancing age and comes earlier for women and to more of them than for men. Between the ages of 60 and 69 more than four out of five men were married, after which widowhood increases until we find that those over age 75, 35 percent are widowed. Widowhood among women is more extensive at all ages—the percentage ranging from 27 percent in the age group 60 to 64, to 77 percent in the age group over 75. It is obvious from this that widowhood affects more women than men and that it has a harder impact on them as well. There is no reason to believe either that this trend will not continue in the future because women are younger

than their husbands, have lower mortality rates at any given age, and their life expectancy is increasing faster than that of men. Hence, despite increasing longevity, the surplus of older women in increasing and the strains added both to the individual and our society will not become lessened in the future.

B. Work. The percentage of older people in the labor force has been steadily decreasing since the beginning of the century. About two-thirds of the men were employed in 1900 while only about one-third are employed today and only about half of them, full time. The situation is somewhat better in Iowa. We find about one-third of the subjects in our survey (all in the age group over 60) reported full time employment with an additional 23 percent reporting part time employment. The percentages of those who are employed, of course, decline sharply with increasing age.

There is a marked tendency for those who are still working to be the self-employed, that is, those primarily in farming, small business and the independent professions; but the future for some of these groups is gloomy as we all know. The family farm is gradually losing out to larger, more corporate type farms and small business men are giving way to chain stores and similar large enterprises while more and more professionals are entering the world of business and government employment. The remaining older workers are working for other people and since employment is a fairly strict function of labor supply, when labor is scarce old people may work, but when labor is abundant they do not, and it is as stark as that. What the era of automation will bring is pretty clear.

C. Income. This factor, of course, is related to employment. When old people continue to work, they maintain their income fairly well. In fact, if their health is good, they may even be better off financially than in earlier years because their children are independent, they may well have paid off the mortgage on their home, and their personal needs are frequently more modest; but for the big majority who are retired, income is chopped off to approximately half, or less, of what it was before. For the older age group as a whole, income figures are appalling and one is led frequently to wonder how many of these people manage to keep body and soul together at today's prices. Nationally, one-fourth of women over 65 have no income at all; three-fourths have less than \$1,000 per year, and only one out of twelve have as much as \$2,000 annually. In Iowa we found the median income for all women (60 years of age and over) to be approximately \$1,300, with 11 percent reporting less than \$500 annually. The situation of the men is not quite so bad but it is bad enough. Nationally, close to one-third have between one and two thousand dollars income, and only the final one-third have as much as \$2,000 per year. In the Iowa survey we found the median income for all older men to be about \$2,500 and in both these instances, as well as that of the women, the median income declines sharply with age. Thus, only about one older person in five has an income approaching \$40 per week. Try to imagine an old couple, or for that matter even a single person, subsisting on less than this in today's market. While the financial situation in Iowa appears to be somewhat better than the average for the nation as a whole, it still would appear that a fairly substantial number of older people in Iowa are living on very marginal incomes which are not sufficient to enable them to remain financially independent or to meet unexpected financial emergencies.

D. Health. Modern medicine has made tremendous strides in reducing acute infectious disease rates; but the aged suffer mostly from long-term, expensive chronic illnesses. The findings from health surveys among the elderly reveal that they tend not to complain about their health; in

fact, the biggest majority report few major health difficulties. For example, in Iowa, only 36 percent of our sample reported any major health difficulties. While this percentage appears to be small, and recognizing that our survey results are a conservative estimate because we interviewed only the relatively well aged who were still at home and able to be interviewed and none who were in hospitals, nursing or custodial homes, it is startling to project this to the total population of people over age 60; this 36 percent conservatively suggests that there are probably some Iowans in this age range with one or more major health difficulties. In the national reports the major dividing line seems to occur at age 75 and I would recall for you the fact that more people over 75 are widowed, retired, and have low incomes in addition to poor health. One should not be misled by survey results which simply ask the aged to characterize their health status. The initial reaction seems to be to report good or excellent health. This happened in Iowa with the biggest majority of our respondents. A report from the National Opinion Research Council indicates similarly that most older people would say "I am not really very-sick." This report estimates not more than 14 percent of the older age group is really sick. In another report, also coming out of the University of Chicago, we read "various studies have shown that above the age of 60, two out of five people have some form of chronic disease and we can clearly see what the pattern of the needs for medical science are and will be: it clearly lies within the degenerative field. The high death rates from heart disease and cancer today do not stem from better diagnosis or increased susceptibility. It is simply that there are more persons living in those ages where these diseases are most prevalent."

I suggested earlier that old people will still be fairly well integrated in society if their major social role characteristics remain unchanged, that is, if they are married and living with spouse, are still working, have an adequate income and are in reasonably good health. It has been shown, however, that the chances are slim for a man over age 65 to have a favorable rating on all of these items and the chances are even poorer for women.

Now I have surely described a bleak and dismal picture; one which bears very little resemblance to the world described by the oft-repeated platitudes which somehow include the word "golden" when referring to the later years of life. What are the solutions to these problems? How can the picture be made more favorable, if not "golden"? Time and time again it has occurred to me that the two most important elements are income and health. Well, I would suggest that it would be interesting to know what would happen if we could assure the the material welfare and health of older people. I mean by this, assuring them of any medical care they may need under any circumstances without quibbling about their eligibility or how much it would cost. I also mean by this, assuring all older people of a genuinely adequate income and standard of living, again without quibbling about these factors. Now, lest I be misunderstood, let me make it very clear here that I am not proposing expansion of the welfare state nor am I proposing socialized or government medicine. What I am saying is that these things are possible in our culture and in our times, living as we do in a society boasting the highest standard of living, the greatest material wealth, and the highest level of educational attainments ever achieved in the history of mankind. It is almost exciting to contemplate what could be if all this material wealth and the ingenuity of American know-how from both governmental and non-governmental sources, from both public and private enterprise, from the several professional, business, industrial, and voluntary organizations of all types—if all this material and intellectual wealth were to be focussed full-glare on the

problems of income maintenance and the health of our people. How energetically, how willingly, and how generously these needs of our older people are met may be the most significant step we can take as a state and as a nation.

There are many other less material factors to be considered which time does not permit discussing now. Important research remains to be done in dealing with such problems as the social isolation of the aged; the attitudes of younger people toward the aged; the attitude of the aged toward themselves and the precursor attitudes of the aged toward old age when they themselves were younger, for it may well be that it lies in the realm of the attitudes of all of us that the status and position of the older person in society is in part determined. Here we are dealing with such problems as alienation of the old from the young and possibly also of the alienation of the young from each other and of man from man. In treating this topic we come upon the most difficult question of all which is the problem of dealing with changing cultural patterns, attitudes, and beliefs. A glimpse of what may possibly be a key to the solutions we seek was given in a paper presented by Marjorie Fiske Lowenthal at the 1964 meeting of the American Gerontological Society, Minneapolis, Minnesota:

“The individual who is most likely to age successfully, despite a plethora of the vicissitudes and insults of aging—is the one who consciously moves through a transitional stage which primarily involves the substitution of enduring human values in place of the instrumental goals which, in our society, are likely to have been paramount at earlier stages of his development.’ It is the word ‘consciously’ which I find encouraging, for it suggests that further work on the developmental process may help us to conceptualize the norms and expectations for aging which are now so sadly lacking.”

This is, as I said, the most difficult question of all—but its difficulty should not serve to deter us from seeking appropriate solutions.

Uban of Black Hawk moved that the joint convention be now dissolved.

The motion prevailed.

The House reconvened, Speaker Steffen in the chair.

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Published copy of Senate File 503 and verified proof of publication of said bill in the Marion Sentinel, Marion, Iowa, March 18, 1965, was filed with the Chief Clerk of the House prior to the time said bill was placed on passage in the House.

WILLIAM R. KENDRICK, *Chief Clerk,*
House of Representatives.

OBJECTION TO HOUSE FILE 561 (On Steering Noncontroversial Calendar)

We object to House File 561 being placed on the noncontroversial calendar.

MILLER of Page.
REDFERN of Lee.
GILLETTE of Clay-Dickinson.
HANSEN of Lyon-Osceola.
CRAIG of Marshall.