

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Leave of absence was granted as follows:

Bradley of Clinton on request of Siegrist of Pottawattamie.

## COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE SENATE

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

The motion prevailed and the Speaker appointed as such committee Hahn of Muscatine, Lord of Dallas and O'Brien of Boone.

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

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of the President of the Senate, the Secretary 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 in the House chamber.

## JOINT CONVENTION PIONEER LAWMAKERS FIFTY-THIRD BIENNIAL SESSION (House Chamber - 2:00 p.m.)

In accordance with House Concurrent Resolution 20 duly adopted, the joint convention was called to order, President Boswell presiding.

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

Senator Horn of Linn moved that a committee of four be appointed to escort the Pioneer Lawmakers into the House chamber.

The motion prevailed and the President appointed as such committee Senators Fink of Warren and Rensink of Sioux, on the part of the Senate, and Renken of Grundy and Connors of Polk, on the part of the House.

The committee escorted the Pioneer Lawmakers into the House chamber.

President Boswell presented Senator Tony Bisignano of Polk, President pro tempore of the Senate, who welcomed the Pioneer Lawmakers on behalf of the Senate.

President Boswell presented Representative Harold Van Maanen of Marion, Speaker pro tempore of the House, who welcomed the Pioneer Lawmakers on behalf of the House of Representatives.

President Boswell presented the Honorable Minnette Doderer who responded to the welcome.

The Honorable Minnette Doderer announced the 1975 class of legislators who were eligible to become members of the Pioneer Lawmakers.

Honorary members of the 1975 class were Lobbyists: Charles Wasker and Richard Bergland.

The Honorable Minnette Doderer presented Michael G. Gartner, Editor and Co-owner of the Ames Daily Tribune, Ames, who addressed the joint convention as follows:

Mr. Speaker, Representative Doderer and Pioneer Lawmakers and not-so-pioneer lawmakers.

I'm flattered to be here with you today, and I know I was not your first choice as speaker. Representative Doderer told me that first she asked President Clinton, and I know that his inability to come is disappointing to many of you.

However, I shall try to do my best to fill in. I shall waffle on several issues, change my mind on some, and promise you whatever you want. And, after I'm through, my wife will talk to you about health care — and commodity futures trading.

And I'll try to stay within his usual time frame for a speech — about an hour and a half.

I should tell you that on Sunday I'm the commencement speaker at Waldorf College in Forest City, where I'm a last-minute fill-in for Bob Dole. I'm an equal-opportunity pinch-hitter. Up there, of course, I'll take the opposite position of everything I say here today. And I'll bring my NRA posters.

Actually, I'd like to talk with you here today about something that I'm interested in every day of every year and President Clinton and Senator Dole are interested in for a few weeks ever four years — Iowa.

I love Iowa.

I was born here and raised here, and while I go off periodically to do this or that, I keep returning. For five years recently, I commuted from here to New York every week simply because I love Iowa, I wanted to keep in touch here, and I didn't want to raise my family in New York.

A person is lucky if he finds a place that he loves, just as he's lucky if he finds a person he loves. And when you find that place, just as when you find that person, you should never let go.

There are lots of things I love about Iowa — the law library in this building, the courthouse in Adel, the rolling hills around Decorah, the views from Lansing and McGregor, the Ledges and the Loess Hills, the town squares and town characters, the elegance of Terrace Hill, the soulful faces of our cows in spring, the starkness of the cattle in the snowy fields on a chilly winter day, the sheep-shearing at the State Fair, the band concerts on summer nights, the basketball hoops in farmyards, the river as it cuts through Iowa City, the morning coffee in the town cafes.

I could go on and on, as I know you could.

For this state has about everything wonderful you could ask for from God and Neil Smith — though, of course, God is on his own now.

But the thing I love most about Iowa is its values.

Iowa is open — its spaces and its government.

Iowa is clean — its air and its politics.

Iowa is honest — its people and its politicians.

Iowa believes in education — for rich and for poor.

Iowa believes in hard work — on the farm and in the factory.

Iowa believes in equality — for every man and woman and child, for everyone of every color, of every religion, of every belief. Why the very first case in the Supreme Court of Iowa — 1 Iowa 1, decided even before we were a state — was a case that guaranteed freedom to a Missouri slave.

There simply is no place like Iowa in the world.

And I think you — I think we, I think all Iowa — should make that fact the centerpiece of everything we do.

We should do four things:

First, we should put our money and our time and our thought and our energies into making sure Iowa builds on those values.

Second, we should put our money and our time and our thought and our energies into making sure we have an infrastructure that lets us enjoy those values — an infrastructure of parks and roads and trails and lakes and livable towns and lurable cities.

Third, we should find a way to boast of what we have, to embrace those who are just passing through for a few years, to inoculate others with the wonders and awe of Iowa, to ensure that when people leave Iowa — after a week or after 20 years — they never forget us.

And fourth, we should find a way to celebrate that which we're so lucky to have — which we sometimes take for granted, sometimes tend to squander, sometimes look askance at.

I have some ideas for you.

Let's get rid of the Department of Economic Development. Let's have, instead, a bureau called Iowa Values. Let's not entice factories and firms with economic giveaways that any state can match. Let's let Iowa Values spend that economic-development money, instead, building on that which is unique, which no other state can match — our life style and our people.

In the long run, it's our hard-working people, our good schools, our roads and parks and lakes and trails, our lovely countryside and lively cities that will entice new industry here and keep old industry from leaving. Let's take those old-fashioned assets and combine them with new-fashioned ideas to make Iowa simply irresistible.

What if we said we believe so strongly in educating our young that we are increasing our school year by a whole month? That's in effect adding a year-and-a-half of learning for every Iowa boy and girl who graduates from high school — making them a year-and-a-half smarter than youngsters from other places, giving them a year-and-a-half leg up as they enter college or the market place. Would that not be a great thing for those youngsters? Would that not lure business people who want their children to get great schooling, who want to be able to hire smart people, who want to live where education is prized and praised?

A longer year in schools — schools that are linked by the imaginative and innovative and unique fiber-optics system, a truly visionary plan — forget the backroom politics that led to it — a visionary plan that will set this state apart. It must be completed, and it must be completed now. You'd think twice about leaving a state that cared about educating your children, that cared about taking them into the next era of technology. But you wouldn't think twice about coming to such a state.

Let's have that department called Iowa Values subsidize the schools so we can do all this. We've got the greatest kids in the world; let's let them be the smartest, too.

Let's have Iowa Values work with our young another way: Let's have it set up a Peace Corps, an Americorps, no, an Iowa Corps of youths. Let's make community service mandatory as a requirement for graduation. Let's send the young out to help Iowa's old — we have a higher percentage of old people than any other state. Let's send the high schoolers out to read to them, to walk with them, to talk with them — and to learn from them. Let's have these smart kids tutor the young in the use of computers. Let's have them do physical work, too — cleaning up eyesores and fixing and painting and sawing and hammering. Will that not teach them about good deeds, teach them about Iowa, teach them about values? Will that not help them develop a pride in Iowa, a loyalty to her?

And those old people. Let's enlist them, too. Why shouldn't every retirement home adopt a school? Why couldn't the old people there read to the little kids, help them with their homework, listen to them — hug them? Would that not be wonderful for both young and old? You can't have too many grandparents. You can't get too many hugs — whether you're 8 or 80.

Let's make that a project of Iowa Values.

Let's quit wasting our time arguing about dumb things — the death penalty and abortion and prayer in school. Let's, instead, pour our energies into finding ways to save our small towns, to reinvigorate them, somehow, as growing branches of regional centers — the Carrolls and Mount Pleasants and Algonas and Waverlys and Fairfields of this state. Every town can't have a hospital and a school, but it can have good roads leading to hospitals and schools, it can have safe and secure homes, it can have access to the new technology. That new agency, Iowa Values, must ensure that every town is safe and livable, that every town has links to a regional center, has links to technology. If we are to prosper, we must worry about the automobile highway as well as the information highway. Both must be modern and bump-free.

And let's build our pride as we build our highways.

Let's tell the world what a wonderful place this is. All the corporations in Iowa spend hundreds of millions of dollars a year advertising in magazines and trade journals, on billboards and television, on T-shirts and semi-trucks. What if they all agreed just to add one little line at the bottom of every advertisement – a line that said, "XYZ Corp. of Indianola – proud to be an Iowan."

Wouldn't that message of Iowa pride begin to sink in on people elsewhere – people who aren't proud of where they live and work? Wouldn't they start to wonder about Iowa? Wonder what it is that we have and they don't?

What if every tenth ad, say, went one step further and added one little fact about Iowa. These ads might end with a one liner, like: State fact: Iowa has the lowest murder rate in America. Or: State Fact: Every school and hospital and town hall in Iowa is linked to America's only state-wide fiber-optic system. Or: State fact: Iowa's youngsters score the highest in the nation on college-entrance exams. Things like that. And I'll tell you this: You'll never run out of eye-opening facts.

Let's have those people in our new agency – Iowa Values – go to work on that.

I've got another idea. Every fall, let's have a huge festival – in Des Moines one year, then Cedar Rapids, and Davenport and Ames, and Iowa City – a different place each year. Let's celebrate the land and the people.

Let's have it combine the great things we stand for – the Iowa Values – our good life, and our smart people, and our incredible resources. Let's have it last a weekend, and let's have everything from scenic bike rides to barn dances to seminars and speeches.

Let's tie it in to that great world food prize that John Ruan gives.

Let's invite an ex-Iowan – someone who was born here or who lived here – to come and speak to us about something we should know about – be it war in Bosnia or architecture in Los Angeles. Let's learn, and let's have fun. The Iowa Festival – and the Iowa Speech.

And let's invite back, every year, 200 former Iowans for this celebration. Men and women from business and education and sports and entertainment and government and science and what-have-you. And let's pick 25 of them each year and give them a new award, the Iowa Award, that recognizes their achievements and, not incidentally, keeps Iowa on their minds.

Let's have the governor and the presidents of the universities hand out those awards and honor those people.

Let's give them to men and women who exemplify the Iowa values – values of hard work and honesty and education and selflessness.

Wouldn't that be a great autumn festival? New Orleans has its Mardi Gras. The Twin Cities have their Winter Carnival. Boston has its marathon. Why can't Iowa have its celebration?

Along with this, of course, we need all the things that all of you have worked so hard – and continue to work so hard – to give this state.

We need a sound tax structure that's fair to city and farm, business and home, rich and poor.

We need the laws that ensure safety for all, help for the needy, care for the sick, comfort for the aged.

We need the vision that provided the concrete highways of the 1920s and the information highway of today.

We need the leadership that sets examples for the young, that shows the way for those of us who are ready to follow.

Historically, Iowa has provided all of that – its legislators have, its judges have, its business people have, its farmers have, its educators have.

But now we are entering a new century, and we must think in new ideas.

And one of those ideas, I hope, will be to reaffirm our belief in Iowa values, to reassess how we can strengthen those values, and to reposition this state to use those values as a way to grow and prosper.

That's about all I have to say.

I'm flattered, again, to have been asked to speak with you.

I know I didn't quite live up to what I promised. I didn't speak as long as President Clinton might have.

And I didn't waffle.

But I couldn't.

For I have no doubt about one thing:

I love Iowa.

Thank you.

On motion by Gipp of Winneshiek, the joint convention was dissolved at 2:30 p.m.

The House stood at ease at 2:31 p.m., until the fall of the gavel.

The House resumed session at 2:43 p.m., Speaker pro tempore Van Maanen of Marion in the chair.

### QUORUM CALL

A non-record roll call was requested to determine that a quorum was present. The vote revealed fifty-eight members present, forty-two absent.

### CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

#### Regular Calendar

The House resumed consideration of **House File 528**, a bill for an act relating to criminal and juvenile justice, including providing that certain identifying information regarding juveniles involved in delinquent acts is a public record, exempting certain offenses from the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, placing a juvenile in detention as a