

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE CAPITOL CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Administration Committee and approval of the Legislative Council, regarding the formation and planning for the observance of the 100th Anniversary of the construction and use of the Capitol Building, Representative John Connors, Chairman of the Administration Committee, met with a number of state officials and citizens for the purpose of initiating the planning of the observance. The Committee met on October 18, 1983 and members present were: Representative Connors; Serge H. Garrison, John Goeldner, and Julie Elder, of the Service Bureau and Public Information Office; Ms. Linda Elliott, representing the Capitol Planning Commission and the League of Iowa Municipalities; Mr. George Mills, a recognized authority on the history of the General Assembly and Capitol Building; and Mr. John Robinson and Ms. Barbara Campbell, both representing the Historical Department.

The persons present discussed adding additional Committee members to the planning committee to represent certain ethnic groups as well as Pioneer Lawmakers and the Legislative Ladies League. It was decided to ask these persons to attend the next meeting.

At this meeting it was agreed that it would be appropriate to hold on January 17, 1984, a 100th Anniversary Ball, a joint convention of the two Houses, recommend the passage of a resolution commemorating the event, and ask the Governor to address the joint convention. It was agreed that an attempt should be made to recreate some of those events which took place on January 17, 1884. It was also agreed that a rotunda display should be developed, a time capsule interment should be planned, the use of postal meter imprints should be initiated, a Pioneer Lawmakers Session should be held, and the development of a poster reproducing news stories and headlines from 1884 should be considered.

The Committee met again on November 1, 1983, and persons in addition to those who attended the first meeting attending were: Mr. Adrian Anderson, Director of the Historical Department; Ms. Dorothy Kennedy, representing the Legislative Ladies League; Ms. Ila Plasencia, representing the Spanish speaking people; Mr. Don Wannatee, representing the Mesquakie Indian Community; Ms. Betty Wentz, representing the Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers; and Mr. Robert Wright, Sr., representing the Black Community.

At this meeting plans for the January 17th Birthday Ball were discussed. Linda Elliott reported that a band and various other entertainment groups had been contacted, and arrangements regarding invitations, tickets, refreshments, clean-up and other issues were taking place. It was reported that a design for the display had been completed by the Historical Department. The Pioneer Lawmakers are being contacted concerning a possible session and the Legislative Ladies League has agreed to help with the Ball. It was agreed that the interment of a time capsule would be appropriate for later spring and possibly this even could be held in conjunction with a Capitol restoration fund-raising banquet. The postal meter designs can be completed in four to six weeks. The issues facing the Law-

General Assembly of 1884 are being researched and the possibility of creating a poster is being studied. Ms. Plasencia, Mr. Wannatee and Mr. Wright are researching historical facts relating to their respective groups and will provide cultural groups to perform during the Birthday Ball.

The next meeting of the Capitol Centennial Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16th, at 2:30 p.m. in the Speaker's Conference Room.

A problem facing the Committee is that of financing and it is presently estimated that costs for the January 17, 1984 event would be between \$5,000 and \$10,000.