

## Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers Convene

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ISSN 0003-4827

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### Recommended Citation

English, Emory H. "Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers Convene." *The Annals of Iowa* 30 (1949), 3-38.

Available at: <http://ir.uiowa.edu/annals-of-iowa/vol30/iss1/2>

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# *Annals of Iowa*

ESTABLISHED 1863

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*Vol. XXX, No. 1*

*Des Moines, July, 1949*

*Third Series*

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## IOWA PIONEER LAWMAKERS CONVENE

By EMORY H. ENGLISH, Secretary

The Thirtieth biennial meeting of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association of Iowa opened in the General Dodge Memorial room of the State Historical building at Des Moines, March 15, 1949, at ten o'clock, with about sixty members in attendance, and the association president, Chief Justice H. J. Mantz, of the Iowa Supreme court, presiding. Judge Mantz's home is at Audubon, and his legislative service covered five sessions, being in the Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth General Assemblies in the house and the Thirty-ninth, Fortieth and Fortieth extra in the senate.

The morning program began with the invocation by the Rev. Claude R. Cook, curator of the Iowa State Department of History & Archives, as follows:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we are grateful for the service and the honor which the members of this organization have brought to our state in the past. May blessings and honor continue upon us as we assemble in this historic gathering and in this historic place. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. Amen.

**President MANTZ:** It is certainly gratifying to see so many here. We delayed a few minutes, expecting the governor to deliver his address of welcome. However, as he is delayed, Mr. English and I have decided to proceed with the program.

The secretary read a list of those of former official station who by reason of their service to the state of

Iowa twenty or more years ago are now eligible to membership in the association, the greater portion of those listed being from the membership of the Forty-third General Assembly.

President MANTZ: Pioneers, we have assembled here in our biennial meeting. We meet here to renew acquaintances and reminisce, and sometimes when we have a meeting we refer to it as a sort of post mortem. However, it is gratifying to know that so many can attend this meeting today.

We have formerly served the state of Iowa in various capacities, and I take it it is the wish and purpose of all to perpetuate the ideals and traditions of our forefathers so that we can be true to the faith of our fathers.

The world in its troubled and unsettled condition is seemingly going along almost without a balance wheel, and it is sometimes disturbing when we contemplate what our sons and our sons' sons are going to face in the future. I think we are pretty much agreed that the United States of America is about the only going concern today where liberty prevails, where law prevails—while anarchy is in other places.

We have come down through this course of years not as an accident, but simply because we had the pioneers who blazed the way, and they knew what they were doing, and the state of Iowa did not just happen. It is because someone worked it out under the fundamentals of good sane government. We still hope to carry on in that spirit.

This morning we are honored to have with us the governor of the state of Iowa. Usually at our meetings we have the governor with us, and we are honored to have him with us this morning. He is head of the executive department of Iowa. He is faced with problems and perplexities of many kinds. In fact the other day after I went in to see him on a humble mission I remarked to him as I was going out, "I wouldn't want to be governor." Well, maybe he enjoys the work. But anyway he is a

man we think will keep his feet on the ground. He will go forward with an eye single to the welfare of our people. He will perform his work I believe faithfully and trustworthily and earnestly. We cannot ask for more.

It is with a lot of pleasure that I present to you Governor Wm. S. Beardsley of the state of Iowa, who will give the address of welcome to the Pioneers.

#### ADDRESS OF GOVERNOR BEARDSLEY

Governor BEARDSLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice, Ladies and Gentlemen, indeed this is a happy occasion for me to extend greetings on behalf of the state government to you, the Pioneer Lawmakers.

I have been much impressed by the remarks of Justice Mantz, not because of what he has said of me personally, but of the ancient traditions and landmarks. They mean a whole lot to us, and surely the people of Iowa have builded well. We in Iowa have much to be proud of. We have much to be thankful for, and we should constantly persevere and vie with each other in doing the things that prove ourselves worthy of this rich heritage that is ours.

We must pay due respect to the ancient landmarks. We must ever be mindful of the fine traditions of our state and our people because, after all, it is on this firm foundation that the Iowa of today has been built, and by preserving these ancient landmarks and traditions—only by doing that can we make the future of Iowa secure, and that is our greatest responsibility.

There are those among us who are constantly impugning the accomplishments of the past. They are ready to cast them aside as just dusty pages of history, if you please. In my judgment they are derelict.

On the other hand, there are those who are constantly imbued with the notion that we should worship at the feet of every new-fangled specific or idea, whether it has been weighed in the scales of experience and found worthy or wanting. That likewise is dangerous. This state of Iowa was not made that way. However, Iowa was made because she was populated with people who not only had character, but who had vision and courage.

In my judgment the secure way to maintain the fine traditions of the past and meet our responsibility today and to build for the future is that we will be conservative enough to be sure of our ground and forward-looking enough that we allow for con-

stant progress. And in my judgment—pardon me for using that word “my.” I have nothing but contempt for the man who is always saying “I”. I like a lot more the fellow who says “I believe” than the man who says “I know.” But in my judgment within that realm of philosophical movement we can have stability, we can meet our problems, we can make the future secure.

It is true we are overwhelmed with many complex problems. We have ceased to be a pioneer state. The borders of our state, like the borders of our nation, have been penetrated from border to border, and as we go into further development we find complex conditions developing which many times are confusing, but if we will pierce that curtain of complexity and find the fundamental thoughts, the fundamental truths which are based on the true principles of justice and liberty and equality and freedom we will find the solution.

We can liken it to masterpieces of tapestry—they are in this building no doubt. One can be overwhelmed with the beauty of the structure of that tapestry. It is complex, but if you will dissect it you will find running through it certain fundamental threads that support the whole superstructure. And when you find that you have got the foundation, and when you find that you have got the threads that will lead you along the road to progress.

A few more years and I will be eligible to join this organization. I want to say to those who have preceded me in the house I do not recognize a gentleman here whom I had the pleasure of serving with, but many of them I have met through these later years. Yes, they are here. I have profound respect for the accomplishments of the Iowa legislature.

That chap who wrote a book some years ago, “Inside America,” went into the forty-eight states and tried to analyze them. And he said, “Who runs Vermont? Who runs Kansas? Who runs Iowa?” He asked that question here in Des Moines. Lots of times there are certain vested interests that are accused of running a state. There are certain groups. That is not true in Iowa. The answer that he came up with is that the legislature runs Iowa. It has done a right good job. You can take the level of government today in Iowa and compare it with surrounding states and we are the peer of all the states, and the greatest contributing factor to that fact has been the integrity, the honesty and the character of the men who have sat in the Iowa house and senate.

So I am happy to be here this morning and greet you, ladies and gentlemen. I salute you in your accomplishments. I share with you your joys. I am grateful for this privilege of being here and wish you a successful convention. God bless you and keep you.

President MANTZ: Thank you, Governor Beardsley. I appreciate very much your very fine address. Now, Pioneers, the response to this word of welcome will be given by Senator Leslie E. Francis.

#### RESPONSE TO ADDRESS OF WELCOME

The governor retired and Senator Francis spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Honorable Sirs, and Ladies: I wanted to ask the governor a question. Maybe I can answer it myself. I wanted to find out what he was doing and where he was living forty years ago. But now I suspicion that he was a little boy on a farm. I imagine that the girls called him Will and the boys called him Bill, and now we call him the Honorable Governor of the State of Iowa, William S. Beardsley.

We have had several periods of political acitvity in this country. Originally a man to succeed in politics had to have been born in a log cabin. I was the twelfth and last of our family. The first eleven were born in log cabins, and they double-crossed me by building a farmhouse just before I was born.

Then the next period was the rail-splitting period. Unless a man could split a sixteen foot rail and build a "stake and rider" fence that would stand up he might as well stay out of politics.

Then came the third period, that a man just had to be born on a farm if he was going to get anywhere politically.

Now we have the fourth period, that the candidate had to live down on the old farm when he runs for governor of Iowa, and that I think is the most effective slogan of them all. Forty years, and the little boy becomes governor of Iowa.

Twenty-seven or eight years ago I was interested in oil in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas and had an office in the Waldheim building in Kansas City. Whenever I was in that city I lived at the Baltimore hotel. As I used to go down that long hallway to the lobby I noticed on the right a very fine men's clothing shop. Near the door was a pleasant looking man. If you went in he was liable to shake hands with you. If I wanted to see that man today I would have to go quite a ways a week from now, to Washington, where I would find him back of a big old desk ruling this country as far as he can under present political conditions, and having the destiny of half of the people of this world very largely in his control. Those two illustrations indicate what a magnificent capitalistic nation we have and the opportunities that are given.

## THE AMBITIONS OF YOUTH

I was nominated for governor myself one time. I was raised on a farm, and you know in those days a boy had to learn how to be a man at a very early age. As soon as he was tall enough to harness a horse he was a man, and I grew quite tall even back in those days, and I had my own team until the time came for them to sell it to somebody else.

And one day my folks told me to go out and plow a certain field the next day. And because the fishing was good and the farm was on the lake shore I was out there by sunrise. A gentleman came by in a lumber wagon, stopped at the end of the furrow and waited until I came up. When I got down there he said, "Whose boy are you?" I told him. He said, "You will be governor of Iowa some day." And you know I have always wondered whether he was right or not. I have come recently to conclude that he might have been mistaken.

But I did want to be a United States senator. I think that is the finest position in the world. I was a candidate once for that. I would have been nominated except that a fellow by the name of Smith Wildman Brookhart, whom you may have heard of, got more votes than I did. But I always thought I would have made a better United States senator than he did.

I wanted the governor to be here, but his duties made it necessary that he should go. I want to still say to him that I would like to be United States senator, and that if either of our present United States senators should happen to resign, my telephone number is 5-1686, and I would come right over and accept the appointment.

I came down to this legislature so long ago that I see no one here old enough to have been in the legislature when I was elected forty years ago. You ladies will not believe that, but that is the fact.

That was the strongest senate we have had in this state of ours in all those intervening forty years. I want to name a few of the men who were there: James A. Smith, of Osage; Joe Mattes, of Odebolt; Joe Allen, of Pocahontas; Charlie Saunders, of Council Bluffs; Shirley Gilliland, of Glenwood; Whipple, of Vinton; a man by the name of Cassius Dowell from Polk county; a fellow from Newton over here by the name of Fred L. Maytag. Those names are familiar to you. They were powerful men.

I entered that senate scared to death. I felt a deep awe to be in the presence of such men as those. But I found them to be just like the rest of the human race—fine gentlemen.

In that session there came in a body of young men. I do not think there has ever been a senate in the history of Iowa where so many powerful young men came for their first service. Fred Larrabee, son of a famous governor of Iowa; a fellow from Albia down here, who earned the money that took him through school digging coal out of the bowels of the earth, John Clarkson—it is a strange thing that I have got to refer to this memorandum to name those men as I want to name them; Nick Balkema, of Sioux county, the father of our present road system, the man who did more to drag Iowa out of the mud than any other man; a man by the name of Bill Allen, from Fairfield, who became secretary of state at the time when that office was next in its influence to that of the governor of the state of Iowa; George Cosson, from Audubon, came here a young man, author of the Cosson laws, and later attorney general for six successful years; John Hammill, who later became governor of Iowa for three terms. As our presiding officer we had one of the finest men I have ever met in a long experience, George W. Clarke, of Adel, later to be governor for two terms, and to almost go down in defeat because he stood firmly and staunchly back of the capital extension bill that created these grounds that are so beautiful and wonderful for this state of Iowa—2,312 votes between him and defeat in the entire state of Iowa.

Down at the desk was a reading clerk who had a voice that could be heard at the furthest extreme of the house chamber, a fellow by the name of George Wilson, later governor, and later United States senator. And a little after that session there came in a young fellow from Cherokee, Iowa, whom my children called "Pa" Gillette, and he is now at Washington and George Wilson is back in Iowa—which indicates the changes in political life.

I have known every governor of Iowa for fifty years. Some of them were splendid governors, outstanding governors, as splendid as any state in the union could boast. None of them were figureheads. I wanted to say to our governor—I will say it to you—I think he is starting out well. I think he will make an outstanding governor of the state of Iowa, and I wish him success. And above all, Mr. Chairman, and ladies and gentlemen, I wish him happiness of mind and heart and soul in his service on behalf of the state of Iowa.

President MANTZ: Thank you, senator. The next on our program is the appointment of the committee on nomination of officers. We appoint the committee that select or recommend to this Pioneer Lawmakers Association the officers for the ensuing year. They serve



without pay and take joy in their work. I am appointing on that committee Ray Scott of Marshalltown, I. A. Smith of Independence, Missouri, and William Kerr of Grundy Center, and I have in my hand, Judge Scott, a list of the officers now serving which might be of assistance; so that committee, if you care to, can retire at this time and make your nominations and report before our noon adjournment. I will say, Pioneers, that following that adjournment we go over to the Christian church in this neighborhood where we are to be served with our luncheon.

### THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

It is needless to say that we welcome you here today. As president I do not propose to make any extended remarks. We have a distinguished group here and it will be interesting to hear the reminiscences they may have to offer. Some times during the past we have listened to some rather extended addresses, rather formal. I take it that today you are not particularly interested in that. It is the things that happened during the past I believe that you are more interested in.

We are assembled here in a rather historic place. I don't know whether you know it or not but this room is called the General Dodge room. General Dodge was one of the famous men of Iowa, one of the generals of the Civil war. He was the man that was responsible for the building of the Union Pacific line from Council Bluffs, Iowa, over to Ogden, Utah. He was a famous man. You will find in here pictures and various things connected with his life. You will find somewhere around here letters addressed to him and signed by Abraham Lincoln. And when General Dodge passed away he left to the state of Iowa in trust his personal papers pertaining to his service, and also pictures and statuary. They are all here in this room. We who are assembled here today should think of General Dodge as one of the pioneers that did so much to develop the resources of our country.

I do not propose to make an extended address. I will just tell you of a little incident that has always stuck in my mind. It occurred when I was a member of the senate back shortly after Senator Francis' time—about thirty-six years ago, something like that. I was appointed to one of the heavy committee assignments—the committee on chaplains. There were three of us appointed. I was named as chairman. The other two members did not seem to be very ecclesiastically minded, so they turned the matter over

to me to see that we had chaplains there, as some pessimist has said, to look over the senate and pray for the people. Well, that was part of my duty. I really enjoyed it.

But we had then a president of the senate who was a stickler for time. Ten o'clock meant just sixty minutes after nine to him. It irked him if there was any delay and things didn't go on time. And I might say in passing that one of our doorkeepers was a veteran of the Civil war. He was a Mormon elder from down at Clinton I believe it was, and he picked up a good many five dollars there in the morning when the chaplain was not there on time. I would usually take the chaplain to the rostrum and introduce him to the president and then retire.

This particular morning the chaplain performed his service, came down, and I chatted with him. It was part of my duty to see that he was registered properly so that he would get his stipend. And while we were talking he said, "I would like to ask you a question." I said, "All right." "What kind of a man is that president anyway?" "Well," I said, "he is our lieutenant governor. We elected him. We think he is a very good man. Why?" "Well," he said, "when I got up there this morning he gave three raps and brought up the senate, then he looked at the card, announced by name and said that I would deliver the invocation that morning, and then in an undertone said to me as he nudged his elbow into my ribs, 'Parson, make it snappy.'" That is what I propose to do here this morning.

As I said to you in the beginning, I am very happy to see so many out to this meeting. So that is the extent of my remarks this morning as president.

The next in order will be the Necrology report by our secretary.

Secretary ENGLISH: I will read a list of the members of the association who have passed away during this two year period. Included are names of several men whose official service dates back to years almost beyond the memory of those present today.

Three house members are John A. Storey, who was in the Twentieth and Twenty-first assemblies from Adair county, and later in the Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth assemblies from Warren county, and served also as a district judge in 1896. Then there is listed John O. Kasa from Emmet county in the Twenty-fourth and M. E. De-Wolf from Pocahontas in the Twenty-seventh and also

Geo. M. Titus, of Muscatine county, a former president of this body, who first served in the senate in the Twenty-seventh assembly. Another distinguished Iowan, also listed is George E. Roberts, of Fort Dodge, who served his first term as state printer in 1883.

The list of those who have died since our last meeting in March 1947 includes:

LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS DECEASED SINCE MARCH, 1947

(Whose Services Began in 1929 and Earlier)

Name	County	Sessions Served	First Year
Geo. M. Titus.....	Muscatine	S 27-28	1898
John T. Moffit.....	Cedar	S 28-29	1900
		Dist. Judge 1915-42	
Joseph H. Allen.....	Pocahontas	S 32-32x-33-	
		34-35-36	1907
Comfort H. Van Law.....	Marshall	S 33-34	1909
Henry L. Adams.....	Fayette	S 33-34	1909
Grant L. Caswell.....	Crawford	S 36-37	1915
T. C. Cessna.....	Poweshiek	S 38-39-40-40x-41	1919
George S. Hartman.....	Fayette	S 39-40-40x-	
		41-42-42x	1921
John A. Storey.....	Adair	R 20-21	1884
	Warren	R 38-39	
		Dist. Judge	1896
John O. Kasa.....	Emmet	R 24	1892
M. E. DeWolf.....	Pocahontas	R 27	1898
	Clay		
John B. Kent.....	Pocahontas	R 28	1900
George W. VanCamp.....	Adair	R 34	1911
Clark W. Huntley.....	Lucas	R 34-35	1911
George E. Brammer.....	Polk	R 36	1915
		Dist. Judge 1922	
Fred Durbin.....	Mills	R 37-38	1917
William M. Mooty.....	Grundy	R 37-38-45-45x	1917
John T. Hansen.....	Scott	R 37-38-40-40x-41	1917
		42-42x-43-44	
Wm. G. Van der Ploeg.....	Marion	R 38	1919
		Dist. Judge 1922-26	
Walter H. Vance.....	Madison	R 38-39	1919
O. E. Gunderson.....	Winnebago	R 38-39	1919
Charles E. Narey.....	Dickinson	R 39	1921
John M. Rankin.....	Lee	R 39-40-40x-41	1921
		Dist. Judge 1925-38	
		Atty. Gen. 1940-47	

Name	County	Sessions Served	First Year
E. P. Harrison.....	Pottawattamie	R 39-40-40x-41	1921
Emil C. Mathieson.....	Clinton	R 40-40x	1923
Howard A. Matthews.....	Des Moines	R 40-40x-41-42- 42x-43-44	1923
John P. Gallagher.....	Iowa	R 40-40x-44-45- 45x-46-46x-47	1923
Ellet Lepley.....	Grundy	R 41-44	1925
Marion H. McCaulley.....	Calhoun	R 41-42-42x-43-44	1925
Aaron V. Blackford.....	Van Buren	R 41-42-42x	1925
		S 43-44	

## OTHER OFFICIAL MEMBERS DECEASED

Name	Residence	Position	First Year
George E. Roberts.....	Fort Dodge	State Printer	1883
William R. Green.....	Audubon	District Judge	1895
		U S Repr.	1911
		U S Judge Ct Claims	1927
D. V. Jackson.....	Muscatine	District Judge	1902
Harry E. Eaton.....	Shenandoah	Pharmacy Board	1908
George C. Scott.....	Sioux City	U S Repr.	1912
		U S Dist. Judge	1922
Jerry B. Sullivan.....	Des Moines	U S Judge Court App.	1913
Miles W. Newby.....	Onawa	District Judge	1921
William W. Scott.....	Davenport	District Judge	1922
William J. Burbank.....	Waterloo	State Treasurer	1920

President MANTZ: The report will be placed on file.

The next on our program is an address by the Hon. Arch W. McFarlane. Will you please come up here Arch? Members of the association, here stands a man who was an institution in the legislature for many years. We might classify him as one of the elder statesmen. When I entered the house in about 1916 he was there. Then he had won his wings. He was a candidate for speaker. I remember voting for him. I bet my money on the wrong horse. But he was there, and he was later elected speaker, and I was pro tem. I received valuable assistance at his hands. He served, as the lawyers used to say, "since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." He is with us and I believe he will have something interesting to give us. Mr. McFarlane.

## MY YEARS IN THE IOWA LEGISLATURE

Mr. MCFARLANE: Judge Mantz, Members of the Pioneer Lawmakers: I am proud of this group today. I think it is wonderful that we should gather on an occasion like this, and I want to impress upon you the importance of attending the meeting this afternoon. I have presided over there at different times when the Pioneer Lawmakers Association came in, and there would be only a scattering of twelve or fifteen. It was not a very representative group. There are many more here this year—fifty-nine, I believe. We should all go this afternoon, and the larger the crowd the better impression we will make. I know that we will have a very fine meeting.

The judge wrote me some time ago and asked me if I would reminisce a little over my experience. I have been eligible for some thirteen years, and the last thirteen years I was in the legislature. I guess that is a unique record. I was first elected in 1914 when I was twenty-nine years old. The C.I.O. defeated me this year, so I am here. But I have had a wonderful experience. I was speaker pro tem and speaker of the house over there three sessions, and president of the senate two sessions. I don't believe anyone else has had that experience, and I guess I am the only man that sat in the house and the senate on the same day. But I am a Pioneer Lawmaker and I am glad to be associated with you.

The state is not so terribly old—102 years and a few months. It was in 1846 that our first governor was inaugurated—Ansel Briggs. We had a territorial governor, Robert Lucas, a few years before that. But that is only 102 years ago, and while I have not been in the legislature for that many years I have been there a third of that time, and I have seen some great changes.

You know when Governor Briggs was inaugurated governor his inaugural address touched mainly upon liquor and gambling, and petitions commenced to flood the legislature when they were meeting in Iowa City. And they tell me that liquor legislation petitions are still flooding the legislature, and they probably always will. I am not here to advocate any change in the law relative to the liquor situation or anything else about which I will talk to you this morning.

But I am going to reminisce a little bit and say that Iowa is in the liquor business in a tremendously large way. Last year, as an example, the people of Iowa, from the report of the tax commission on moneys received from the sales tax, spent more for liquor than they did for coal to heat their homes. They spent more for liquor than they did for telephones. They spent more for liquor than they did in the five and ten cent stores in the state of Iowa. And they also spent more for liquor than they did for

taxes to run all of the municipal and cities and towns governments of the state. So they are in a tremendous business. Possibly it is the best revenue collector that we have. As long as it is to be had it is going to be consumed.

I am not advocating any change in the program. I am just giving you that to show how things have advanced during the last few years.

When I first came to the legislature—and there are those here that were ahead of me, government was rather a small thing. It was not complicated like it is today. Probably the greatest thrill I ever had in all my life as a member of the legislature, and Judge Mantz will bear me out in this—I think he was speaker pro tem under me, during my first term or second term. Emil Larson was under me one term and you were under me the other. My most thrilling experience was the road fight that we had in the Thirty-seventh General Assembly. There were hardly any automobiles in Iowa. They were just starting to come in about 1910.

#### ROAD PROGRAM ADOPTED

Governor Clarke was elected in 1911, and in 1911 you started the road program when you adopted the highway commission. I think Sen. Leslie Francis has told you about that. That was the first step in the road legislation. You provided for a highway commission at Ames, but you didn't give them any authority; you didn't give them any money. The supervisors didn't have to pay any attention to the commission, and the township trustees didn't have to pay any attention to the supervisors. So we had lots of places where you might start out on a nice pleasant day in one township and run into a mudhole in the next township just a few miles away.

But over those four years that Governor Clarke was governor we really made a little advancement in highways. Without much effort and without much blare of trumpet, Governor Clarke, who was an excellent governor, worked extremely hard to map a program whereby we would eventually get some roads in Iowa.

But the big fight came in 1916. That is when we had a real road fight in Iowa, and it was a political fight. And it is a peculiar thing that Ed Meredith was the candidate against W. L. Harding. Ed Meredith's platform was permission to bond the counties, permission to bond the state and pay for it out of auto license fees and gasoline tax, with a commission at Ames that would have some power. Meredith carried just one county in the state of Iowa on that program. I think the program was a good program, but he was just a little bit too advanced at that particular time.

Well, all down through the years it was demonstrated that Ed Meredith was right on his particular program, but the people in those days didn't think so. There was not enough travel, people were not educated for roads. They didn't want them, and they wanted all of the local information and necessary building of those roads left to the township trustees or boards of supervisors.

Well, in that 1916 campaign, so some of them thought, was a demand to go back and repeal this highway commission law and go back under the old program. Now if you will remember, that was probably the greatest fight that was ever held in the legislature. Governor Harding was against those who believed in good roads. I am not taking any issues or any side with those that were on the opposite of this. I happened to be one of those that was for the maintenance of the highway commission. The governor was against us, and the speaker, Mr. Pitt, was against us. So we had to organize the house on the subject. I was the secretary and I collected a dollar apiece from our friends. I got one from Mr. Mantz. We all kicked in a dollar apiece.

There was one representative, Stanley Smith of Bremer, who gave us a dollar even though he was with the other side. He said I was right, he wanted to help us, although he could not vote that way. He had an explanation in the journal. I looked it up yesterday.

With that \$55 I rented a room in the Shops building, and the fifty-four men who were true blue and believed in good roads met in that room every night. We would hold up our hands and swear that we would stick together another twenty-four hours.

There were nine votes in the two days. I went over and got the record this morning. It was House File 353. We had a roll call March 9th, a call of the house, and all 108 members were present, but we had to wheel in a man by the name of Rees, from Fremont, who was sick. He came in on a stretcher and stayed with us for four days to hold our vote 54 to 54. There were seven votes which were 54 to 54.

I want to tell you—I have not said anything about it until I told it on the radio the other night—you know I am a radio broadcaster. I have advanced from the legislature. Incidentally, I am on every Thursday night at 8:30 from KXEL, Waterloo. I have a fifty-two weeks' contract with them. If you want to hear something about the legislature that you cannot learn right around here, I can give it to you. It has been a wonderful experience. It has made me young again to have my own radio program, and I am getting a tremendous kick out of it. I told this on the radio the other night and I thought it might be interesting to you.

I don't know how many hundreds of letters the members of the legislature get today, but there was more pressure brought to bear on that subject of good roads in 1917 than there has ever been on any legislation that I ever knew of. As I told you, the governor was against us, the speaker was against us, the committees were all packed against us. So five of us filed a motion to have a roll call on every motion that was made. There were no voting machines; everything was by roll call.

#### HERB DEAN'S MANEUVER

I sat on the left-hand side coming in, where so many of you have seen me sit for so long. Representative Herbert Dean sat next to me. He was from Osceola county. Next to him was Lee Elwood, from Howard. Lee was floor manager for us who believed in good roads. The vote was very close. On the first day every vote was a tie, 54 to 54. Well, we met that night down in the Shops room, and we had a Bible on that table and every man came up and put his hands on the Bible and took an oath that he would stick with us another twenty-four hours, which everyone did.

But in the meantime Governor Harding got hold of his father, who was a wonderful elderly gentleman from up in Osceola county, where Dean was from. And he was Dean's manager for his primary campaign and also for the general election, and he was one of Dean's closest personal friends, and Dean was with us. So the second morning the governor's father was sitting there between Mr. Dean and me.

Dean gave me a high sign along about eleven o'clock that morning and I followed him out in the cloak room, and the tears were rolling down his cheeks. This is the truth. He said, "Arch, the governor has done me a dirty trick." I said, "What's that?" He said, "You know I want to go along with you boys. You are right. But he sent and had his father come down here, who is my best political adviser, my best friend, one of my neighbors. He wants me to vote the other way."

I said, "Herb, why don't you do this? Why don't you vote for their amendments?" They had one amendment and we had two that we were trying to get through. Ours were the Elwood-Mackie and the Larson-Shortess amendments, and on the other side there was the McFerren and someone's amendment. I said, "Why don't you vote for their amendments? That will adopt them 55 to 53, but then you vote for us on the amended bill. Vote "No," and then they won't have any change in the law; it will remain just as it is." And he took his handkerchief out and wiped the tears out of his eyes and said, "That is just what I will do."

I said, "Don't tell the governor's father you are going to vote for their amendment until I have a chance to notify these other



fifty-two in the house." So I went back and got my secretary and got hold of a couple of other responsible secretaries—we were all suspicious of each other in those days, and I sent a note to these other fifty-two members and I said: "Dean is going to vote against us on the next amendment. Don't get panicky. He will vote with us on the main bill. Tear this up." And I tell you I could see those men getting those notes, reading them, and tearing them up and throwing them in the waste basket. Nobody ever saw it.

Then the next minute Rube McFerren moved the previous question. They thought everything was going to go through. They adopted their amendment. The vote was 55 to 53. And then they were on the main bill, and the question was, "Shall the bill pass?" I am telling you, gentlemen, that you could have heard a pin drop in that assembly hall. When they called the name of Dean—just as quiet as it could be—Dean hollered "No," and there was the tie again of 54 to 54, which defeated the bill. But the journal shows that it was a vote of 56 No to 52 Aye, because McFerren and Tucker on the opposite side changed their votes so they could move to reconsider.

#### MADE MCFARLANE SPEAKER

And that is what I think made me speaker at the next session, because I was elected unanimously for the part I had taken in the road fight. To me that was the most thrilling fight I ever experienced in my legislative career.

One of the most interesting remarks that I have ever heard in the legislature—I am just reminiscing here because I don't want to take up too much time—I remembered it yesterday coming down—one of the most clever remarks that I heard when I was in the house was by a man by the name of—I forget what his name was now. It seemed there had been a resolution introduced appointing an interim committee or study committee to find out where they could reduce taxes in the state.

And incidentally while I am talking on taxes I want to give you a little stuff that will knock your eye out. When I first came into the legislature the total amount of money collected on taxes to run this government here, including municipal, counties, cities, school districts and your state—you don't any of you have any idea—was only fifty-five million dollars, out of which the state got nine million dollars. That was the state appropriation. The rest of it went to school districts and for local government. That was fifty-five million dollars.

What did they collect last year? They collected last year property taxes for your schools, municipalities and counties, 142 millions. And the state collected in taxes, such as income tax, sales

tax, corporation tax and inheritance tax, and this does not include social security taxes, the state collected 138 millions, or a total of 280 million dollars. Now in just one-third of a century you have jumped from fifty-five millions to 280 millions. That is five times as much.

Why have you given five times as much? I told the legislature yesterday when they took me over there to talk, the population of the state is just about the same as it was thirty-five years ago; it has not increased any. Your acreage or your area has not increased any, and I think probably your land was worth as much or more than it is now. It was not eroded and it had not flowed down the river. They were saving some of that soil. Why all this increase in taxes? One reason, a small reason, is that we are in an inflated period, got a sixty cent dollar. That would be just part of it, ten per cent of it. Where is the rest of it? Well, people are demanding more. That is what makes it. People are demanding social security and welfare and everything in the world that you never had in this country.

#### A DIFFERENT AGE

Herbert Hoover said the other day that when he was a kid social security used to be in the basement and on the cellar shelves, and the neighbors took care of themselves and their families. But we have abandoned all that. It is a different age. I think more is coming. I don't want to look back. I want to look forward. I just want to know how we are going to get out of it.

Going back to my friend who made the clever remark, as I told you there was a committee appointed to reduce expenditures, and the resolution was offered by a man who had an institution in his county. He was the author of the bill, and this man I was going to tell you about was Cy Oliver, and I think he was from Monona county. This committee had been appointed and made its report to the legislature, and the report closed up an inebriate institution in his own county. Well, he didn't like that; that was not the way to save; it should have been somebody else's county. So when the report came up he got up and opposed it, this closing up of this institution in his own county. And he made a great speech against it, when just two years before he had made a great speech for reduction of expenditures and had a committee appointed so to do. So when the report came un, Oliver said: "Mr. Speaker, I have commenced to realize that it makes about as much difference whose bull is in the cabbage patch as it does whose cabbage patch the bull is in."

Why, just take the matter of this original road fight. Now instead of fourteen million dollars like we had originally on the

roads some fifteen or twenty years ago, they have got it up over a period of years to ninety-four million dollars. If any of us who were in the road fight years ago had suggested that, they would have taken us out and probably shot us as being insane. That is all there would have been to it.

But now we are in a different age. People who use the highways are going to have to pay for them. I am in sympathy with it. I think the highways are going to have to be improved. We have got to pay for them, and the users should pay too. That is the new program. I am not objecting to it. I think probably it is the right solution.

I am enjoying being here with you. I am a pioneer lawmaker. I am going to ask you when you go over there this afternoon and march into the house, don't look like you were ashamed to be a pioneer lawmaker. We are the ones that set up Iowa. We are the ones that made Iowa the state which it is. We are the ones. In the days long before when the icebergs came floating down over this great continent of ours they gouged out rivers here and they gouged out valleys there, and they deposited fertilizer on this great commonwealth that has never known a crop failure. Pioneer lawmakers have gone along and done everything they could to make Iowa a better state in which to live.

I am proud to be a member of the Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers Association.

President MANTZ: Thank you, Mr. McFarlane. What he said here brought to my mind the most dramatic incident in my legislative career. We were in the call of the house for three days, and the senate was imploring us to kill the bill because they were afraid it would pass in the senate. I remember the meetings over in the Shops building where we met night after night. We held these meetings to hold our ranks, and they held tight.

#### DEAN WENT ON HIGHWAY COMMISSION

It was certainly a dramatic thing when we knew that Herb Dean was sitting over there with the governor's father, and that was the first time he had been down to the session. We knew what was in the wind. We knew the pressure that was being brought to bear. Following the session when Herb Dean stood by his colors and voted his convictions, we met over there that night

and man after man arose and told of the pressure that had been put upon him. I did not tell it at that time, but I can tell you now my experience.

I had been practicing law for a few years, and of course it is always the ambition of a lawyer to become a judge. We had two or three members of the judiciary out there that were going to pass on or out, and the day before that meeting two or three of my good friends, personal friends, or I supposed they were friends, called me back in the cloakroom and made the suggestion that there was going to be a vacancy out there on the district bench and maybe I would like to have the appointment. I said, "Who are you talking for?" "Been down to see the governor." I said, "You go back and tell the governor that there is one thing that I have tried to preserve all my life and that is my own self-respect. I have to live with myself. I have been with these other fifty-three men all through this session and what an example it would be if I would go and change my vote on the last final vote and then later on maybe be appointed district judge." And I said, "If you are friends of mine don't you say another word."

But I do remember the tribute to Herb Dean that night up there in the Shops building. That gave him such a thrill. There were very few dry eyes there when Herb got up and said a few words. We recognized the strain and stress that he had been through during that time.

Mr. MCFARLANE: Incidentally, he was appointed on the Commission.

President MANTZ: Yes, Herb was later appointed to the State Highway Commission and made a very efficient member. When I think of the miles and miles of paving in this state now I believe that we did a very good job there.

## LETTERS FROM ABSENT MEMBERS

Next will be the reading of letters from absent members by the secretary.

Secretary ENGLISH: I give you excerpts from the letters showing continued interest in the association and its membership:

Dennis P. Hogan, San Antonio, Texas: "I would be glad to be there and see all the familiar faces at the Pioneer Lawmakers meeting, but Mrs. Hogan and I are in San Antonio for the winter. We will be home late in April. It is nice down here, not cold, and plenty of sunshine, though this year it has not been so good as usual."

Mrs. Carolyn C. Pendray, Maquoketa: "It is with real regret that I find that I am unable to attend the meeting next Tuesday. I had planned to do so."

Gov. Dan W. Turner, Corning: "It reminds me of old times to see your name signed to the Pioneer Lawmakers letter. I do not know why I never got started attending those meetings; partly, I guess, because in recent years we have been away from home in the winter. One event remains green in my memory when in 1904 John Herriott, lieutenant governor, selected me to make the address of welcome to the Pioneers on the occasion of their visit as I was the youngest member of the senate. That was the session when I first became acquainted with you. I am not sure that I can arrange to attend the meeting March 15, as I have a problem of shortage of feed for my cattle, but hope you have a fine meeting."

C. V. Findlay, Fort Dodge: "I think I should be congratulated on having been privileged to attend several meetings of the Pioneer Lawmakers association in Iowa, but I regret that I am unable to attend the session March 15, due to ill health, which prevents any physical activity. It would be a pleasure to greet again all those who for many years have been interested in the welfare of our state. I shall be thinking of you on this memorable occasion."

Claus L. Anderson, Stanton: "I regret very much that it will not be possible for me to attend the 1949 meeting of the Pioneer Lawmakers association of Iowa. Thirty-six years ago I was a house member of the 35th General Assembly of Iowa. Memories of that time recall a world at peace, a period of happiness and well-being. A surge of nostalgia is hard to resist. Cordial greetings to the Pioneer Lawmakers of Iowa of a bygone day."

William Carden, Winfield: "I am much afraid that I will not be able to get to the meeting, owing to some other matters. Hope there will be a good attendance and happy reunion."

Lloyd Thurston, Osceola: "Exceedingly regret that I will be unable to attend the Pioneer Lawmakers association meeting. Please convey my sincere good wishes to your members, and say that I will endeavor to be with them in the future. I am sure that former Representative Garber will bring you an interesting message."

Wm. D. Jamieson, Washington, D. C.: "How I would like to go out to attend the Pioneer Lawmakers meeting! One of these springs I hope to be able to be with you."

C. F. Clark, St. Petersburg, Florida: "I am exceedingly sorry that I will not be able to meet with you and the other boys. I have been obliged to come to Florida for my health, and so cannot be present at the meeting. At the Mayo Clinic they advised me that they had done everything for me that medical science could do and that the best remedy would be rest and Florida sunshine.

"This brought me down here to Florida three weeks ago and I expect that I will remain in the state for a couple months. Sorry that I cannot be with you at the reunion, but I cannot help feeling some satisfaction that I have missed the terrible winter weather that you have been having during the entire month of February as well as the two weeks in January that I did not escape.

"I have been looking forward to meeting old friends on that occasion, and was hoping to help you as much as possible to persuade those who served with me in the legislature to attend the meeting. Glad you secured Ray Garber as a speaker. I don't know of anyone who would fill the position any better."

John H. Darrah, Kansas City, Missouri: "It will not be possible for me to attend the Pioneer Lawmakers meeting. I am certain that my absence will be a very much greater disappointment to myself than to the organization. I recall being present as a member of either the house or the senate when the joint assembly was acting as host to the Pioneers, before I had earned the right or privilege of membership in this honorable organization of our predecessors who have collectively furnished the leadership and guidance which has governed the fates and fortunes of the grand old state of Iowa during the years of her growth and development. Notwithstanding my absenteeism, I have never lost touch or interest in the affairs of Iowa or the biennial meetings of the Pioneer Lawmakers, and I treasure above every other conscious consideration the memory of my associa-

tion with a very large number of the men who have reached eligibility for membership during the last decade."

J. A. Williams, Council Bluffs: "A court assignment on March 15 is going to prevent our being able to be present to enjoy meeting with the former legislators. We had particularly desired to be present this year on account of your official capacity, and we had been planning on it since the first of the year. I hope you have enjoyed your year as president of the association, and that it has enabled you to keep in touch with so many of your friends. We had such a good time last meeting and the fact that the association honored you made it particularly pleasing to me."

Wm. J. Goodwin, St. Petersburg, Florida: "I am exceedingly sorry not to be able to attend this year's meeting of the Pioneer Lawmakers association, especially so since Mr. Mantz and Mr. Nelson are officers—both of whom were in the senate when I was there. I would have liked to meet as many as I could again."

Guy M. Gillette, Washington, D. C.: "I am sorry that the pressure of legislative business requires my presence in Washington and I will not be able to attend the meeting. Will you be good enough to extend my greetings and warm personal regards to all of the folks."

M. A. Manning, Ames: "I fully intended to meet with you fellows March 15, but the dentist said today he could not possibly get my Pittsburgh Plate Glass teeth ready. Am very sorry, for I always enjoy meeting with old fellows, as I am only 88 and can learn a lot about the 'has been's' from old members."

Byron G. Allen, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota: "I cannot attend this session, and I will appreciate your extending my best wishes to the many old friends and former colleagues of mine who will be in attendance.

"Two years ago I became eligible for membership. My father, Joseph Holmes Allen, had long awaited the time when I would become eligible so we could attend your sessions together. We thought it would be great fun to make it a father and son reunion, and such a hope grew stronger after we had both moved to Minnesota.

"At the time of your Twenty-ninth session father's health was such that he could not make the trip, and he was in Arizona at the time of your meeting. As you know, father passed away on June 13, 1948, and we did not get to carry out our plan. Two years from now, I shall make every effort to attend for I will have been a twenty-four year veteran and shall make the trip in honor of my father."

Ora Williams, Decatur, Georgia: "I am mailing to you a bunch of Georgia daffodils, or jonquils, as a table decoration for the Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers association. These daffodils are almost gone for the season. They grow in wild profusion and are at their best about the first of March.

"I would be greatly pleased to meet once again with the Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers. Though I was never a member of the legislature, I was committee clerk several times, and you know, had much during my lifetime to do with the general assemblies of Iowa. On one occasion there was a move well started to send me to the senate, but a good friend objected because, as he said, I had already done too much in shaping up Iowa legislation. I had in fact a fine contact with legislators covering at least a score of sessions, and more than one section of the code carries phraseology of mine."

James J. Crossley, Portland, Oregon: "As a member of the Iowa state senate from the 16th district, serving in the sessions of 1900, 1904, 1906 and 1907, I extend my sincere greetings.

"Since leaving good old Madison county in the great state of Iowa, in the spring of 1908, I have since lived six and a half years in Alaska as United States attorney, then moved to Portland to practice law, then going to the Mexican border with the Oregon troops and serving on the border and at Fort Rosencranz for some time, then returning and going to France in World War I in 1917, with the Oregon troops, then transferred to the Rainbow Division, where I served in the field as Lieut. Colonel.

"I really have no request to make of you gentlemen except that you put Iowa on record as against the socialization of our national form of government, which I consider a stepping-stone to communism, that dangerous and Godless philosophy of Karl Marx, which, if followed, would destroy the freedom of the people of our great nation, and lead us into an absolute dictatorship and likewise help to destroy Christianity."

President MANTZ: It is certainly very interesting to know that these men still preserve their interest in the Pioneer Lawmakers of the state of Iowa.

Under the order of business of "Reminiscences by Members" a score and more in turn occupied the floor recalling the men and events of the sessions of the Iowa legislature in which they enjoyed membership. This the president characterized as exceptionally interesting, and one of the most enjoyable portions of the meeting,



closing with an announcement of the luncheon hour and the afternoon session following at the chamber of the house of representatives in the capitol.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President MANTZ: We will call for the report of the Nominating Committee, because we do not want to keep the people waiting for our lunch.

Judge RAY P. SCOTT: Your nominating committee begs leave to present the following report:

Our recommendations are:

- For President—C. F. Clark, of Cedar Rapids.
- For Vice-President—Carl W. Reed, of Cresco.
- For Secretary—Emory H. English, Des Moines.
- For Assistant Secretary—L. I. Truax, Des Moines.

Vice-Presidents, by districts:

- First—Joe Wagner, Davenport.
- Second—C. G. Cole, Greeley.
- Third—A. W. McFarlane, Waterloo.
- Fourth—F. C. Stanley, Oskaloosa.
- Fifth—Ed H. Smith, Winterset.
- Sixth—Frank M. Hanson, Garner.
- Seventh—Julius A. Nelson, Atlantic.
- Eighth—J. A. King, Spencer.

Executive committee: C. F. Clark, Carl W. Reed, Emory H. English, Ray P. Scott, Israel A. Smith and H. J. Mantz.

On motion those nominated by the committee were unanimously elected. The president expressed regret that the president elect, C. F. Clark, could not be in attendance, but announced that Carl Reed was.

Senator REED: May I say just a word? You have heard about the new office building to be erected over here on the state grounds. As I was coming over from the state commerce commission office this morning I saw the surveyors out there running levels getting ready to start that work.

## JOINT CONVENTION SESSION

The Joint Convention of the Fifty-third General Assembly convened in the house chamber at 2:00 p. m., Lieutenant Governor Kenneth A. Evans presiding, with the members of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association assembled as guests, presented by a committee appointed by President Evans consisting of Armstrong of Blackhawk, Clark of Appanoose, Hanna of Adams and Welch of Harrison on the part of the house and Senators Van Eaton and Hultman on the part of the senate.

President EVANS: Members of the Joint Convention, today we are particularly honored with the presence of these former lawmakers. At this time it is my privilege and honor to present to you Chief Justice H. J. Mantz, president of the Pioneer Lawmakers group.

President MANTZ: Governor Evans, Members of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association, Members of the Joint Session of the Legislature, and Friends: We will start our program this afternoon by some music to be given by Professor Roger Fee, of Drake University. He will render a couple of numbers.

Professor Fee sang "The Hills of Home" and "Because I was Shy," accompanied by Mr. Lucien Stark.

President MANTZ: The senate and the house have very graciously invited the Pioneer Lawmakers to be with them today as they assemble in joint session.

Responding to your very kind invitation, we are here to join you in a brief program. Some of our members who have attended past meetings have not been able to attend; some are here for the first time. In the closing weeks of your work, we appreciate the fact that you are busy; therefore, we hope that we will not trespass upon your hospitality. On behalf of our organization, I thank you.

In acting in my present capacity, I will follow our customary procedure, and an address of welcome will

be delivered by each branch of the legislature. That on behalf of the senate will be given by one of the younger members. A relative of his years ago was a member of the senate. He is a man devoted to civic affairs, and public interests. He comes from a family whose name is a household word in America. The product which he produces, distributes and sells has been a boon to mankind in that it has changed "blue Monday" into a half holiday. It gives me pleasure to present to you Senator Fred Maytag.

#### HALF THE SPAN OF IOWA'S STATEHOOD

Senator MAYTAG: It is indeed an honor, as the baby of the Senate, to have the privilege of welcoming the Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers on behalf of the Senate of the Fifty-third General Assembly. It gives me particular pleasure to do so because of the fact that my grandfather was a member of this body forty years ago, and served with some of you who are today the recipients of our affection and esteem. Our meeting thus bridges the gap of three generations of Iowa lawmakers, and in so doing carries us back, for this fleeting moment, over nearly half the life span of Iowa's statehood.

We who have put aside for an hour the many tasks of a busy session of the legislature in order that we may honor you, our elder statemen, look forward in our daily tasks to the future of this great state. It is appropriate that on this occasion we should look back with you and examine the great heritage which you have given us.

Iowa was richly endowed by nature with fertile land and favorable climate, but it took the sturdy pioneers who came here in search of a new home to convert those natural resources to useful purpose. We are grateful to them for having first tilled our soil, built our cities and towns, and established our industries, all of which have helped to make this the prosperous state that it is.

Even more, however, we are grateful to the early pioneers for having bred and reared such men as you, who continued to build upon the foundations of our constitution the good government which we now enjoy and which it is our duty and privilege to perpetuate.

It is said that every generation inevitably believes that the younger generation is going to the "dogs". I wonder what thoughts must be going through your minds, as you, with the greater wisdom and mellowness of your elder statesmanship, sit on the side-

lines and observe our efforts to carry on the functions of our government in the tradition which you have established. Do you regard us as rambunctious young upstarts? My grandfather sometimes felt that way about me. Or do you see in us the same qualities that you had when you were here? My grandfather was considered sort of rambunctious in his day, if we can believe the campaign literature put out by his political opponents.

Let us hope that as you watch us in our labors you can view our petty bickerings and our follies with a smile of amusement, our failures with tolerant understanding, and our successes with a nod of approval.

Whatever may be your attitude, we are happy to have you in our midst. Iowa is rich, indeed, to have such as you among our elder statesmen. With high regard for the service which you have rendered to the state, appreciation for the heritage you have passed on to us, and with the earnest hope that we may carry on in the fine tradition which you have established, I welcome you to this joint convention in the name of the senate.

President MANTZ: Thank you, Senator Maytag. Now, on behalf of the house, the welcome greeting will be given by one who has served in that body almost from the time the "memory of man runneth not to the contrary," as we used to say of the English common law. I would prefer to look upon him as an elder statesman. When he speaks the microphone is a useless contrivance. During his tenure in the house the record shows that he has consistently sponsored measures tending to promote the general welfare of the people of Iowa. It is with pleasure that I present to you Hon. A. H. Avery.

Mr. AVERY: About half an hour ago, my clerk passed this slip of paper over to me and said "Do you know that you are to make an address of welcome this afternoon?" I said "No." She said, "There is the paper." I said, "By-gum, I am going to fulfill the duty. I am strong for Pioneers, whether they are lawmakers or otherwise."

The Pioneer Lawmakers of Iowa have set a pace that we, of the present general assembly here, would do well to follow. I recall back in 1916 when W. L. Harding of Sioux City made a campaign for governor on a platform of "Mud Roads and the King Drag," and he had Jim Pierce of the *Iowa Homestead* backing him up; and they won that election on mud roads and the King drag in 1916.

And I recall later on we had a proposition that stirred the state from one end to the other, and that was to vote bonds to the tune of one hundred million dollars to build primary roads. The Supreme court held it unconstitutional. They did not vote them. But we went ahead on the basis of that which you had planned, but never dreamed of the fulfillment probably; we built primary roads in Iowa.

And the other day the house passed a bill appropriating fifty million dollars a year out of current revenue to build roads in Iowa. Some progress! Some progress!

I thank you Pioneers for the privilege of welcoming you on this occasion. I have always had a warm place in my heart for Pioneers and I now have an especially warm place in my heart for the Pioneer Lawmakers of Iowa. Thank you.

#### PERPETUATE IDEALS AND TRADITIONS

President MANTZ: Representative Avery, we thank you for your kindly greetings.

Historically, our organization had its beginning over sixty-three years ago. Many men who had much to do with the progress and development of the state were among the active members. Among its members were ex-governors, former senators and representatives, justices of the supreme court and many others.

It is the purpose of our organization to keep alive the ideals and traditions of the pioneers of Iowa, those hardy and heroic men who came into a new and untried territory there to build homes, rear families and keep alive the traditions of the past—to see to it that the things which Washington fought for, Jackson bled for and Lincoln died for would be carried on untarnished and undiminished.

Viewed in the background of the past, we realize that it takes a time of stress and struggle to impress upon a free people the value of their ideals and traditions and of the necessity of preserving them at all times and at all hazards.

The tendency, always, is to gradually drift away from the fundamentals of right living and good government and of clear thinking and to pursue a course, which if followed too far, inevitably leads to disaster. Fortunate,

indeed, is the people who have such ideals and traditions and when danger approaches and such are assailed arise to defend them to their uttermost.

As a people, we stand close to the shadows of doubt and uncertainty and are confronted with perils seen and unseen. As a people it behooves us to steadfastly adhere to those priceless heritages of the past—the ideals and traditions of the pioneer. Let us not be false to the faith of our fathers—those heroic men and women who made it possible for you and me to be here today.

Some of our members served the state of Iowa many years ago, and a few are here today after being away for many years. Naturally, they look about them and note the changes made in the passing of time.

One notable change is the manner of registering the votes on the various measures. Now, instead of the time-honored yea and nay, they see the former shown by the green light—the latter by the red light. They are in a sense stop and go signs, but operating at the same time. Formerly the roll call was slow, tedious and time-killing. The bill was read the third time and put on its final passage. The clerk called the roll, then there was the roll of absentees; some times the sergeant-at-arms was ordered to round up those who failed to vote. His first destination was usually the cloak rooms to find those who had gone there to smoke—possibly to avoid roll call. This done there was a verification of the roll call. All told it took about a quarter of an hour to get the job done.

Then it will be noticed that now each house member has a stenographer or clerk, a luxury then enjoyed only by members of the senate. Whether the change came about through ideas of efficiency or to take up the slack in unemployment might be one of the unsolved problems associated with legislation.

Now, we note that among your members you have those of the feminine persuasion. It is a good sign when there is added the feminine touch.

## EQUALIZED HANDICAPS OF DEBATE

Another change. We note on each desk a gadget called a microphone, so arranged that the member speaking in a moderate tone has to some extent removed the handicap of debate. I recall an incident that happened I believe it was in the Thirty-eighth or Thirty-ninth house. We had a member of the house from Van Buren county who had made a campaign in opposition to the capitol extension, and over on the other side of the house we had a member from one of the northern counties who was so unfortunate as to put his money on the wrong horse for speaker, and when he didn't get a live committee to work on or with he put in his time, as he said afterwards, just being a typical hell raiser.

One day he and the representative from Van Buren got into an acrimonious debate, shouting back and forth, on their feet at the same time, and the speaker trying to gavel them down without any success. And this representative from northern Iowa had been at one time a sort of exhorter, and then he became an auctioneer. After much shouting the representative from Van Buren, whose seat was next to mine, finally sat down, turned and said to me man to man, "You would not expect me to out-holler a damn auctioneer."

We note that you still have your representatives of what we used to call the "third house." Various organizations inspired largely by self-interest send their representatives here to try to keep some of the wayward members of the general assembly from getting off the reservation. According to the press these roving representatives are quite numerous. My understanding is that such are required to register. It is possible that some subsequent legislature will require such to wear badges or some suitable identification mark.

But after all is said and done I think that our state can take pride in the quality, character and ability of the members of the present as well as the past legislatures. My experience with them, covering about a

third of a century is that practically without exception, they kept in mind and worked diligently for the people and the state. They kept the faith and were zealous in advancing the general welfare.

We have this afternoon for our speaker one who was a member about thirty years ago. Then he represented a county in western Iowa. About that time the greatest issue in Iowa was the establishment of our primary road system. It was an issue where the lines were drawn to such an extent that when that matter was up we were under a call of the house for close to four days. The main issue was whether we would abolish or retain the highway commission. Every member was there; every member voted, and on the final roll call the vote to abolish the highway commission stood 54-54 and our great and magnificent system of paved highways got the green light and now as we traverse the main highways north and south and those east and west and drive to the ninety-nine county seats in Iowa we can well say that the fight and outcome was not in vain.

I present to you the Hon. Ray Garber, who will address you on behalf of the Pioneer Lawmakers.

#### A FULL CENTURY OF PROGRESS

Mr. GARBER: It has been twenty-five years since I have attempted to talk in this chamber. I perhaps am somewhat removed from the problems confronting you; so the story is applicable of the fellow who wandered into the club car on a train and said, "Is there a lawyer in the car?" No one answered, and he went out. After a while he came back in and evidently he was slightly intoxicated. He said, "Is there a doctor in the car?" No one answered, and he went out. Finally, he came back for the third time and before he could say anything a gentleman, who had been sitting in the corner of the car, stepped up and said, "I have noticed that you have been asking for a lawyer and a doctor. I am a Presbyterian minister. Could I do anything for you?" The fellow looked at him and said, "Hell no. I am looking for a corkscrew. I don't think you could do anything."

I think that applies to Judge Mantz's asking me to come here and talk to this assembly, and I feel the association has done you an injustice to schedule me for an address, for I feel that no group



is as much entitled to have one who speaks here think carefully and prepare that which he presents to you, because, after all, it is through you that there is reflected the hopes and aims of the men and women of Iowa.

The Pioneer Lawmakers Association, however, deems it a distinct privilege to be invited to attend and take part in a joint session of the Fifty-third General Assembly. A little more than two years ago, we celebrated the one hundredth year of statehood. In December of 1846, President Polk signed the bill admitting Iowa into the Union as the twenty-ninth state. At that time less than 100,000 people lived within our borders. In 1846 Iowa was a great undeveloped state and the citizens of that day could hardly venture a guess relative to the progress that would be made during the first century of statehood. They were, however, deeply concerned as to the future and great credit is due the state officials and members of early Iowa legislatures, and judges of the supreme and district courts, for the enactment and interpretation of laws that established the course, which, through a full century of progress, has made this the greatest state in the Union.

The members of the early sessions of the general assembly, following the admission of Iowa into the Union, were, as are the men and women of this session, of high intelligence and open minds. They were charged with framing the legislation for this great state.

The Pioneer Lawmakers Association was organized in 1886 by a group of members of early legislatures, state officials, judges and congressmen. It is met today for the thirtieth session, and each session since the founding has been an enjoyable reunion and the session this morning at the state historical building will long be remembered.

It was my great privilege to serve as a member of the general assembly in the Thirty-ninth, Fortieth and Fortieth Extra, or code revision, sessions. It was delightful today to mingle again and visit with a number of men with whom I served in 1921, 1923 and 1924, and after the morning meeting of the association recessed, I was convinced that it was an organization of friendship and for the upbuilding of our great state with a wish and desire for peace and good-will among men. The members of the association have full understanding of the American idea and ideals. Its basic tenet is that man is made in God's image, endowed by his Creator with inalienable rights among which are the rights to life, liberty and to pursue happiness. They understand that the colonists were actuated in their coming to America by two primary ideals. One, the right in freedom of conscience to worship their Creator in accordance with the dictates of their conscience; and the other, to pursue happiness with freedom to earn their bread as they

would; the right to aspire; the right without regimentation or undue regulation to be self-respecting, self-sufficient sons of God. These people faced a wilderness and land almost untouched but from their own energies applied to nature's bounties they progressed and gained security. The ruling classes of the old world still sought to levy taxes upon them without right to be heard as to their imposition. Although compromise and understanding was sought, it was in war that the declared liberties of these peoples were won.

A period intervened—ringing in the ears of the patriots were those immortal words, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Yet, defensive measures lagged. The serious minded people of that day believed that "in union there is strength." The weakness of the federation immediately became apparent, and seven years after hostilities ceased, a constitutional form of government for the several states was erected. Some of the citizens yet retained the thought of the ultimate sovereignty of the separate state, yet broader minds, realizing the universality of the concept of freedom, and realizing the force and power necessary to its preservation, sought to protect and preserve the Union of the states as the true guardian of our liberties. Through sixty years of almost unceasing debate the issue was ever present and finally that issue took the aggregated form of secession and with it came the Civil war, and at enormous cost the Union of states survived.

Up to that time a nation had existed—half slave and half free. Man in his racial pride had, in a portion of our country, denied to great numbers of our people, because of color alone, the thought of their common brotherhood—had denied to them the liberties and the freedom which were conceived to be the privileges of the white man and refused them the independent rights as said in the declaration to come from the Creator.

Beyond the graves of Bunker Hill, Valley Forge and of Yorktown, that progress to universal freedom might be made, it became necessary that there should be thousands upon thousands of graves at Bull Run, Gettysburg and Richmond.

In a meeting such as this we must look back to that other day and time, if we are to understand the America which is ours today, for in all the pages of modern warfare there is no warfare yet described where men of equal mentality, of equal education and of equal bravery met on a field of battle nor fought so long nor made such equal sacrifices.

## TRUE TEST OF NATION'S GREATNESS

War leaves its aftermath. There may be surrender but unless the spirit of reconstruction, while fair and firm, be a spirit as well of charity and one without malice, the feeling of suspicion and hate will yet survive—and so it was with America after the Civil war.

In 1917 and 1918 came the true test of our nation's greatness. The true proof that the assuaging hand of time had overcome the red-hot tempers that had survived Appomattox was that the first great American army, raised by selective service, came from the north, the south, the east and the west to protect and preserve the American ideal. Not on the shores of its own land but to protect the American ideal against the challenging forces of the old world which sought again to enslave Europe and of necessity constituted a threat of enslavement to America. The men of that army fought a good fight and fought it to victory.

We won the war, but for those things for which Americans fought and died, we lost a peace. The dragon's teeth of another conflict were taken from the councils of Versailles to the far-flung corners of the earth and there implanted in the hearts of ambitious men and desperate people. They grew, ripening into spheres of influence, and step by step came the invasion of Manchuria, the occupation of Ethiopia; the Sudetanland and invasion of Czechoslovakia, of Poland, of Denmark, of Norway, the lowlands and France, until the first phase of the World War was dwarfed in the blood and ruthlessness and fury with which man marched against his fellowmen.

All of the world's progress in the communication of intelligence and transportation, and in the improvement of the basic gifts of nature, were turned not to the improvement of the world, nor to the improvement of the state of man, but to man's destruction and his enslavement.

The counsel of certain groups and individuals went unheeded—a counsel which sought to advise the American people that there were people on the face of the earth so desperate that they were meat upon which their false Caesars might feed; that America, if she were to preserve the peace of the world, must make the sacrifice which would make her strong enough to be determinative, should she be drawn into the conflict, or, better still, that she be strong enough to prevent the first steps toward the total involvement of the world in war. But these counsels went unheeded. There were men, who, observing the audiences given to the pacifists, observing the small minority of youth taking Oxford oaths and combating the ideas of service, were concerned for the protection of America and her ideals.

Pearl Harbor was a rude awakening against the dissipation of our energies and social dreams and isolationist fancies. Notwithstanding the courage evidenced at Bataan and Corregidor there should always survive in the minds of Americans the humiliation and disgrace which are to be found in the words, "Too little and too late."

I have never believed that the American principles of the American form and system of government, the God-given principles, on which our government was erected and established to preserve, are for Americans alone, but I do say that of all the governments of the world ours is the only national government which is devoted to the establishment and preservation of the liberties of all mankind. A government which has demonstrated itself sufficiently universal to accept and absorb peoples from all lands, a nation broad enough to house the places of worship of those of every religion. A land big enough to receive and accord its rights and privileges of citizenship to the peoples of every color. A land protecting and preserving the rights of conscience and permitting freedom of speech to its every citizen. A land where any or all may freely assemble. A land which affords to every man the economic opportunity to be free from want and which affords him a strength and unity, which renders him free from fear.

#### THE WORLD'S LAST BEST HOPE

For the most part the people of Iowa have been outstanding examples of the feeling which should exist throughout America and throughout the world. They have worked in the works of peace and, while expressions of intolerance at times arise, those expressions are minority expressions and, in the end and as a result of common sacrifice, reason can and does prevail. America promises for the world the last best hope of earth.

The soldiers of the second phase of the World War, which ended in 1945, fought for the same things that the soldiers in 1917 and 1918 fought for, and those who are veterans of the war of 1917-18 are comrades with the soldiers of the second phase of the world's modern struggle. The soldiers of World War II fought on step by step, and no step without its cost, to the victory that could not be denied, and we can today well charge ourselves with the thought that we must be unceasing in our efforts to preserve the ideals for which they fought.

The Fifty-second and Fifty-third General Assemblies of Iowa have, by enactment, provided for a bonus for the Iowa men and women who served in World War II. The grateful people of Iowa, by a vote of five to one, approved the payment of the bonus to assist those men and women to rehabilitate and restore themselves

to normal life. To preserve the things for which they fought, we in Iowa must uphold the representatives of this nation, who speak for us in the councils of the United Nations. Peace will not come if, while giving lip service to the American idea, we deny it in our hearts and in our conduct. Understanding will not exist abroad if it does not exist among Americans at home. We must be ready in peace to extend our hands to all people without thought of selfishness or greed or hate. We must see to it that through a concert of nations the sacrifice of the honored dead of all wars, which have established the American idea and the American ideal, shall not have been in vain. We must pledge to ourselves that the war which ended in 1945 is in truth and in fact the last world war—but, come what may, America, in the face of the ambitions of man and of people, shall never be weak again.

The Pioneer Lawmakers Association extends to all the present state officials and the members of this, the Fifty-third General Assembly, its sincere greetings. We have great confidence that your work during this session will not only bring credit to the membership, but will render great service to all the people of this great state.

President MANTZ: I thank the members of the general assembly for their kindness and courtesy in inviting the Pioneer Lawmakers. We wish you success. I now turn the meeting back to the president of the senate.

President EVANS: In behalf of the general assembly I say to you Pioneer Lawmakers it has been a real honor and privilege to have you with us here today. And to Mr. Garber we wish to convey our thanks as well.

Thereupon, at 2:50 o'clock p. m., the joint convention stood adjourned.

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### ALL HISTORY UNROLLED AS A SCROLL

I go into my library and all history unrolls before me. I breathe the morning air of the world while the scent of Eden's roses yet lingered in it, while it vibrated only to the world's first brood of nightingales, and to the laugh of Eve. I see the pyramid building; I hear the shoutings of the armies of Alexander.—Alexander Smith.

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