

Composition of the Assembly

For the third time in eight years the enigma of Iowa politics continued to present itself in the form of the general election returns which, in 1962, showed that once again Iowans had chosen a Democrat to be their Governor while electing a Republican majority to the legislature.

As in 1956, they had turned a Republican Governor, Norman A. Erbe, out of office after his first two-year term. To succeed him they chose Harold E. Hughes, a Democrat, who was completing his first four-year term on the Iowa Commerce Commission. But, while giving Commissioner Hughes a comfortable margin of 41,944 votes, they switched back in strong numbers when it came to picking legislators and elected more Republicans than in 1960, actually picking up four seats — three in the Senate and one in the House.

So there were 79 Republicans and 29 Democrats in the House, together with 38 Republicans and 12 Democrats in the Senate, when the 1963 legislature opened on January 14. Of some significance was the fact that there was a noticeable drop in the number of farmers from previous years, although they continued, as usual, to hold a lion's share of the seats. Of the 158 members, 73

listed themselves as farmers, or in closely aligned pursuits, compared to 85 in 1961, 81 in 1959 and 82 in 1957. The number of lawyers was down, too, among the members but they held their traditional second place. Twenty-one members listed themselves as lawyers, including one lawyer-businessman, a drop of one from 1961, three from 1959 and seven from 1957. This table shows the occupations of the members:

Occupation	House		Senate		Total
	Rep.	Dem.	Rep.	Dem.	
Farmer	27	9	8	5	49
Lawyer	6	4	8	2	20
Businessman	9	3	5	0	17
Farmer-Businessman..	7	2	0	1	10
Retired	7	2	1	0	10
Farm Manager	3	0	2	0	5
Insurance	3	0	1	1	5
Retired Farmer	2	0	2	0	4
Banker	1	1	2	0	4
Contractor	3	0	0	0	3
Homemaker	2	0	1	0	3
Auctioneer	1	2	0	0	3
Manufacturer	1	0	1	0	2
Farmer-Banker	0	0	2	0	2
Pharmacist	1	0	1	0	2
Insurance-Real Estate	1	0	0	1	2
Insurance-Investments	0	0	0	1	1
Assembler	0	0	0	1	1
Publisher	0	0	1	0	1
Builder	0	0	1	0	1
Veterinarian	0	0	1	0	1
Fruit Grower	0	0	1	0	1

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Farmer-Contractor ..	0	1	0	0	1
Ingredient Buyer	0	1	0	0	1
Educator	0	1	0	0	1
Farmer-Teacher	0	1	0	0	1
Railway Express					
Agent	0	1	0	0	1
Chiropractor	0	1	0	0	1
County Institutional					
Director	1	0	0	0	1
Executor	1	0	0	0	1
County Farm					
Manager	1	0	0	0	1
Lawyer-Merchant	1	0	0	0	1
Creamery President..	1	0	0	0	1
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	79	29	38	12	158

Fewer new members were elected in 1962 than in any recent year. The turnover rate had varied from a high of 32.9 per cent in 1953, 1955 and 1957, to a low of 29.7 in 1959 and 1957. When the smoke cleared from the 1962 election there were only 31 freshmen legislators, a turnover rate of 19.62 per cent. This table shows which session each 1963 legislator was serving:

Session	House		Senate		Total
	Rep.	Dem.	Rep.	Dem.	
First	14	9	8	0	31
Second	28	5	9	3	45
Third	11	6	2	4	23
Fourth	11	5	3	3	22
Fifth	6	2	2	0	10
Sixth	3	0	4	1	8
Seventh	2	1	1	0	4

Eighth	2	1	4	1	8
Ninth	1	0	2	0	3
Tenth	0	0	0	0	0
Eleventh	0	0	1	0	1
Twelfth	0	0	1	0	1
Thirteenth	1	0	0	0	1
Fourteenth	0	0	1	0	1
	—	—	—	—	—
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The senator serving his fourteenth session was J. T. Dykhouse, 72, a Rock Rapids Republican and retired businessman. Elected in 1936, he first took the oath in January of 1937 and has served continuously ever since. For the second time in as many years, the runnerup in length of service was Representative Dewey E. Goode, 64, a Bloomfield Republican and retired businessman. He was elected in 1932 but has not served continuously.

Among Democrats, longevity honors went to Senator George E. O'Malley, 57, Des Moines lawyer, and Representative Casey Loss, 58, Algona farmer. Each was serving his eighth session but only Senator O'Malley had served continuously. In the "oldest" and "youngest" age categories, the honors were divided between the two parties in both chambers. Oldest House member was Representative Fred B. Hanson, 74, an Osage Republican, who is secretary-manager of a county fair, and the youngest member was Representative Lorne R. Worthington, 24, a Lamoni Democrat and livestock auction man. In the Senate, the old-

est honor went to Senator George L. Scott, 75, retired farmer and Republican from West Union. Senator Robert Fulton, 33, a Waterloo lawyer and a Democrat, was the youngest. In the House the youngest Republican was Representative Charles E. Grassley, 29, New Hartford farmer, while Senator Richard C. Turner, 35, Council Bluffs lawyer, was the youngest Senate Republican. Oldest House Democrat was Representative Bruce E. Mahan, 72, Iowa City educator, with Senator Peter F. Hansen, 67, Manning insurance and investments salesman the oldest Senate Democrat. Here's the age-range table of the 1963 legislature:

Age Range	House		Senate		Total
	Rep.	Dem.	Rep.	Dem.	
21-25.....	0	1	0	0	1
26-30.....	2	1	0	0	3
31-35.....	3	2	1	1	7
36-40.....	5	2	6	2	15
41-45.....	12	5	3	1	21
46-50.....	10	3	2	4	19
51-55.....	11	2	4	1	18
56-60.....	15	5	9	2	31
61-65.....	11	3	7	0	21
66-70.....	6	4	2	1	13
71-75.....	4	1	4	0	9
Totals.....	79	29	38	12	158

Average age of legislators was virtually the same as in 1961 when it shot upward by nearly

two years from 50.8 in 1959 to 52.6. In 1963, it went to 52.7, a shade below the 53-year average of members serving in 1951 and 1953, but slightly above the 52-year average age in 1955. This table shows the average age of legislators who served in the last four sessions:

Year	House			Senate			Both Chambers		
	Rep.	Dem.	T.	Rep.	Dem.	T.	Rep.	Dem.	T.
1963	52.9	50.9	52.4	55.2	48.2	53.5	53.7	50.1	52.7
1961	51.8	52.3	52.0	55.8	50.1	54.1	53.0	51.6	52.6
1959	50.4	49.5	50.1	54.1	48.1	52.1	51.7	49.6	50.8
1957	52.7	50.0	51.9	53.6	57.5	50.6	53.0	49.0	51.8

Educationally speaking, more 1963 legislators had high school and/or college educations than those who served in 1961. Conversely, fewer had only grade school training. Of the 158 members, 153 had high school educations and 113 of these had college degrees, or had taken work beyond high school. This compared favorably with the 1961 figures of 151 and 110, the 1959 figures of 150 and 111, and the 1957 figures of 143 and 116. This table shows the educational backgrounds:

	College or Beyond H.S.		High School		Grade School		Total
	Rep.	Dem.	Rep.	Dem.	Rep.	Dem.	
Senate	33	7	5	5	0	0	50
House	55	18	21	9	3	2	108
Totals	88	25	26	14	3	2	158

The number of legislators who were veterans of World Wars I, II and/or Korea was down slight-

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ly from 1961. A survey of the 1963 membership showed that 68 had served their country in war compared to 71 in 1961 and 78 in 1959.

<i>Served in</i>	<i>House</i>		<i>Senate</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Rep.</i>	<i>Dem.</i>	<i>Rep.</i>	<i>Dem.</i>	
World War I.....	8	7	4	1	20
World War II.....	19	7	11	4	41
Korea or since.....	5	2	0	0	7
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	32	16	15	5	68

With two exceptions, all legislators belonged to a church or had a church preference. Methodists, who led in 1961 with 50 members, and in 1959 with 41, again claimed the greatest number. Members listed themselves as:

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>House</i>		<i>Senate</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Rep.</i>	<i>Dem.</i>	<i>Rep.</i>	<i>Dem.</i>	
Methodist	25	6	14	1	46
Presbyterian	22	2	7	1	32
Catholic	2	9	1	4	16
Lutheran	7	4	4	0	15
Congregational	4	1	3	0	8
Protestant	3	1	1	1	6
Baptist	1	1	2	1	5
Reorganized L.D.S.....	2	2	1	0	5
Christian	1	0	1	1	3
Episcopal	2	0	1	0	3
Community	3	0	0	0	3
Evangelical U.B.	1	2	0	0	3
Church of Christ.....	1	0	1	0	2
First Reformed	2	0	0	0	2
Unaffiliated	1	0	0	1	2

United Presbyterian..	0	0	0	1	1
Disciples of Christ....	0	0	1	0	1
E. & R.	0	0	0	1	1
Friends	1	0	0	0	1
Unitarian	0	1	0	0	1
United Church of Christ	1	0	0	0	1
Mission	0	0	1	0	1
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	79	29	38	12	158

All but 28 of the 158 members were born on Iowa soil — two more than in 1961 and one fewer than in 1959. The birthplace of members follows:

<i>Birthplace</i>	<i>House</i>		<i>Senate</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Rep.</i>	<i>Dem.</i>	<i>Rep.</i>	<i>Dem.</i>	
Iowa	61	27	30	12	130
Illinois	5	0	2	0	7
Minnesota	3	0	0	0	3
South Dakota	2	0	1	0	3
Indiana	2	0	0	0	2
Nebraska	1	0	1	0	2
Missouri	0	0	1	0	1
Kansas	1	0	0	0	1
Arkansas	1	0	0	0	1
Montana	0	0	1	0	1
New York	1	0	0	0	1
North Dakota	1	0	0	0	1
Norway	0	0	1	0	1
Michigan	0	1	0	0	1
Washington	0	0	1	0	1
Canada	0	1	0	0	1
Wisconsin	1	0	0	0	1
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	79	29	38	12	158

Greatest difference between the makeup of membership of the 1963 legislature and that of its immediate predecessor undoubtedly could be found in the significant drop in the number of farmers and the even sharper drop in the number of new members. It's quite possible that these factors weighed more heavily than might appear on the surface in some of the session's crucial battles, specifically those involving legalized liquor and taxes.

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