

The
PALIMPSEST



Southwest Iowans Ask House Schools Committee to Expand Educational Television Network

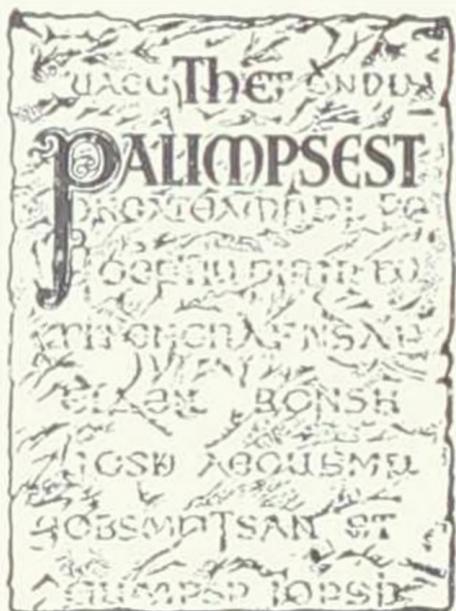
The 64th General Assembly of Iowa
(Second Session)

Published Monthly by

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JUNE 1972



The Meaning of Palimpsest

In early times a palimpsest was a parchment or other material from which one or more writings had been erased to give room for later records. But the erasures were not always complete; and so it became the fascinating task of scholars not only to translate the later records but also to reconstruct the original writings by deciphering the dim fragments of letters partly erased and partly covered by subsequent texts.

The history of Iowa may be likened to a palimpsest which holds the record of successive generations. To decipher these records of the past, reconstruct them, and tell the stories which they contain is the task of those who write history.

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Illustrations

All photographs were taken by Frank T. Nye of the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, except that of William R. Kendrick.

Author

Frank T. Nye is associate editor of the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* and has covered sessions of the General Assembly since 1935. He has written reviews for *The Palimpsest* beginning with the 54th General Assembly.

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THE PALIMPSEST

EDITED BY WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

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64th General Assembly Reconvenes

A feeling of grim determination was in the air on January 10, 1972, when the Iowa legislature convened in an even-numbered year for the second time since the annual-session amendment was ratified by the people in 1968: Determination to make it a short session.

Leaders vowed to keep it short and the presiding officers of House and Senate emphasized that in their opening remarks. Good-naturedly, they suggested that one way to do it would be to cut down on excess verbiage during floor debates.

Lieutenant Governor Roger W. Jepsen even brandished a giant-sized gavel, admonishing members he would use it, if need be, along with Mason's *Manual of Legislative Procedure*, to keep debate "positive and productive." And on the House side of the rotunda, Speaker William H. Harbor requested the cooperation of members "in maintaining self-discipline in matters of lengthy debate."

It was an election year, so the presiding officers

were aiming their remarks specifically at legislators who were candidates, or likely candidates, for higher office. They assumed these gentlemen might give way to the natural tendency of most aspiring politicians to want the floor periodically for long-winded flights of oratory, tailored more to draw attention to their respective candidacies than to clarify issues raised in debate on pertinent legislation.

In truth, then, they were including themselves, for the Lieutenant Governor was running for the Republican nomination for Governor (although he withdrew his candidacy after the session ended), while the Speaker was seeking the Republican nomination for Lieutenant Governor.

Other aspirants included Senators John Tapscott, Des Moines Democrat, a candidate for Governor, and Arthur Neu, Carroll Republican, a candidate for Lieutenant Governor. Also eyeing the Lieutenant Governorship was Senator James Schaben, Dunlap Democrat, while two Republicans, Senators Tom Riley of Cedar Rapids and John Walsh of Dubuque, were potential candidates for Second District Congressman.

In his opening remarks, Lieutenant Governor Jepsen put the nix on any spending ideas Senators might be planning for the next year. The State treasury was in "a bare bones financial situation," he reminded them. Therefore, anyone proposing to spend money should be prepared to tell where it was coming from. Referring to the state's \$5.5 mil-

lion financial deficit at the end of the last fiscal year, he said there was no need to dwell on what happened to the money, "We spent it."

Then he delivered a homespun lecture, discussing his idea of the American philosophy of government as outlined in the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence:

"Government is supposed to maintain social order, prevent individuals from harming or defrauding each other, and leave everybody with the freedom otherwise to lead his own life. . .

"Government can give the people nothing which government has not taken away from them. And the amount which government doles back to the people or spends to promote their welfare is always less than it takes."

For his part, Speaker Harbor reviewed the work of the 1971 legislature and observed that a number of study committees had carried on research during the interim between sessions to enable the 1972 legislature to cut the time needed for a short, meaningful session. However, he cautioned, good intentions "can be meaningless unless each of us dedicates himself to this cause."

"All of Iowa," he continued, "will be looking to see if we have spoken empty phrases or do we mean what we say—that a short, meaningful session is our creed in '72."

The emphasis on a short session was not lost on a majority of members. Visions of the fatiguing,

all-night hassle preceding adjournment of the 1971 session lingered in their minds and they wanted no part of another such scene. Moreover, they had heard enough from the home folks in the interim between sessions to convince them that these wild 20-hour meetings do nothing to improve the image of the General Assembly in the public's mind. The answer seemed obvious: Make this election-year legislature short and productive.

Toward that end they got off to an even faster start than in the 1970 session, which was the first in an even-numbered year since annual sessions started. There was a good reason for the faster start. In 1970 six new Senators and two new Representatives had been chosen in special elections to fill vacancies created by seven resignations and one death after the 1969 session ended. The ceremony of swearing in these new members, plus the routine business of assigning them seats and to committees, took some time in 1970. But in 1972 there had been no vacancies to fill.

Republicans, holding majorities of 63 to 37 in the House, and 37 to 13 in the Senate, dominated opening ceremonies. Even so, the Democratic minority got in a lick here and there. One of the most telling came on opening day when Senate Republicans voted to send back to committees some 85 bills that had been left on the calendar when the 1971 legislature adjourned. It was in the form of a public razzing from Senator Gene Kennedy, Du-

buque Democrat. Kennedy chided Republicans for placing so much emphasis on the need for a short session, saying "they're already sending out smoke signals for us to go home when we should be talking about getting things done."

Senator Kennedy charged Republicans with trying to kid the taxpayers into thinking they were saving them tax dollars when they actually were wasting time by returning to committees 85 bills that already had the approval of these committees dating back to 1971.

Over in the House, the situation was a bit different. Where the Senate had left its 1971 calendar intact, only to clear it on 1972's opening day—over the protests of Senator Kennedy and others—the House had dumped its calendar into the sifting committee as the 1971 session drew to an end. So on opening day, 1972, the House rescued 21 bills that had been in the sifting committee's possession and re-referred them to standing committees.

Other opening ceremonies included the appointment in each chamber of the usual committees to notify the other chamber, and the Governor, that the House and Senate were ready for business. Also, as in 1970, Governor Robert D. Ray was invited to address a joint session of the legislature on the afternoon of the opening day.

The Governor's Message

Only two years earlier Governor Ray had made history when he became the first chief executive to address an annual-session Iowa legislature in its even-numbered year. On January 10—the opening day of the 1972 legislature—Ray made history again when he became the first two-term Governor to address the second even-year meeting of an annual-session legislature.

There had been much anxiety in 1970 over what form the Governor's address would take since there were no constitutional guidelines for such a message to an even-year legislative session. So Governor Ray set precedent by choosing to make his address serve a two-fold purpose: On the one hand he had discussed the state's economic health, which is what the constitution requires of each Governor upon completion of a term in office; on the other hand he had outlined a program for the legislature's consideration, required by the constitution of each Governor at the start of a term.

So, where there was anxiety over the form of his address in 1970, there was none in 1972. Clearly, legislators expected him to follow the precedent he had set.

His public statements during the previous six

months indicated that was exactly what he would do. They had included several warnings that the state treasury's condition remained at low ebb. Simultaneously, they had voiced his ideas on the kind of program the legislature could enact at a minimum cost.

If confirmation was needed, it came on January 4 when one of the Governor's chief lieutenants, Representative Andrew Varley, Stuart farmer and leader of the Republican majority in the House, released a list of 18 "Major Issues To Be Considered by the House" during the 1972 session. As it turned out, nine of the 18 issues were duplicated in the 25-point program Governor Ray outlined in his message. First, however, the Governor directed his remarks toward the state's economic condition, but only after taking note of an empty seat in the House chamber, where he addressed the joint House-Senate session.

He was saddened, he said, to see "one very special face that is missing among you, and that is of course the Dean of the Legislature, Dewey Goode"—who was in ill-health at his Bloomfield home. Representative Goode, whose 30 years in the legislature constituted the longest service record of any incumbent, did not make it to the 1972 session. His death took place March 26—two days after the legislature went home.

Governor Ray sounded the 1972 keynote when he observed "it is time for action and not for

words." He said people the nation over have made it clear that "they are turned off by inflated rhetoric . . . They expect their government—at every level—to come to grips . . . more aggressively, more effectively, than ever before . . . with issues and problems that affect people in their every day lives."

The people no longer are willing to grant public officials "the luxury of evasiveness" in this day of action, he continued. "They not only question the credibility of government; they increasingly question the gap between promise and delivery. They increasingly demand that the gap be closed . . . the greatest service which you and I can render to the people in . . . the present session is to keep our words and our deeds harnessed together."

Turning attention to the state's fiscal health, the Governor reported, happily, that current revenues were up, saying: "Unlike a year ago, I no longer shudder when I hear the knock of the comptroller at my door."

During the economy lag in 1971, the Governor observed, he and the legislature "faced the problems this drop in revenue created; we took drastic measures to live within our means as Iowans expected us to do. Today, though we are far from being a state with overflowing coffers, our bills are being paid and the state's financial condition continues to improve" as indicated by revenues running slightly ahead of last spring's projections.

Implementation, in 1972, of new programs enacted by the 1971 legislature would result in huge savings, the Governor predicted. These programs included (1) better balancing of judicial loads through rearrangement of judicial districts; (2) a "massive reorganization" of the Iowa Liquor Control Commission and (3) the establishment of the General Services Department which, alone, "will enable us to do a better job at a potential savings of \$3 million a year."

Another kind of savings would result, he continued, from implementation of the new soil conservancy law in a broad program of better land use.

His report on the state's condition completed, the Governor proceeded to unveil his 25-point program for legislative action. Although the 25 points "were not of equal importance," he listed them in this order:

Judicial Reform: A unified trial court system is needed to replace the present archaic, outmoded judicial structure that is older than the state itself.

Department of Environmental Quality: Protection of the environment will continue to be a foremost human concern for the remainder of this century; a well-muscled new department is one essential needed to assure that protection.

Amusement Ride Safety: Last summer's three tragic accidents demonstrated the need for mandatory safety inspection and regulation of amusement rides.

Junkyard-Billboard: There is no doubt that the federal government will deny Iowa its full share of highway aid until legislation is adopted for junkyard beautification and billboard control.

Home Rule: The municipal code of Iowa needs redrafting to implement the home rule amendment ratified by the people in 1968.

Civil Rights for the Disabled: The civil rights act should be extended to provide equal educational opportunities for disabled individuals according to their abilities.

Department of Transportation: The several state agencies dealing on a piece-meal basis in this area should be combined into a single department.

Pornography: Iowa needs a law to control the sale and distribution of obscene material.

Adult Rights for New Voters: A person old enough to vote is old enough to be vested with other responsibilities, privileges and obligations of adulthood.

Vietnam War Bonus: Iowans voted bonuses to veterans of World Wars I, II and the Korean War. They should be given the opportunity today to do the same for "those young men who went off to a widely unpopular war in Vietnam."

Bargaining for Public Employees: Iowa needs a structure for collective bargaining with public employees. This is a time when that question can be debated rationally and intelligently without the pressure of a crisis.

Ombudsman: The soundness of the idea of an ombudsman (citizens' aide), to help the individual who is frustrated "in trying to pierce what is—to him—a faceless wall of public bureaucracy" is no longer in question. A \$50,000 appropriation is needed to set up the office in statutory law.

Drunken Driver Reform: Special schools should be established where convicted drunken drivers can earn back the right to operate motor vehicles.

Concealed Weapon Permits: Some limitations need to be placed on the issuance of permits to carry concealed weapons.

Uniform Fiscal Year: To clarify budgeting procedures, a uniform fiscal year should be established in law for all levels of government.

World Food Expo '76: The concept of a World Food Exposition is breath-taking in scope and promises long-term benefits to this state. The legislature should appropriate \$250,000 to the Iowa Bicentennial Commission to take land options and to begin preparations for a World Food Exposition in 1976.

Iowa Crime Commission: A \$600,000 appropriation is needed to match federal funds for local crime commissions.

School Lunch Assistance: A \$575,000 appropriation is needed to enable the state to comply with the national school lunch act.

School Budget Review Committee: A \$500,000 appropriation would enable this committee to aid

individual school districts that have special problems too diverse to be covered by present law.

State Park Users Fee: Legislation should be completed to provide a modest user fee for state parks.

Tax-Exempt Properties: Municipalities, counties and school districts, and the people living in them, cannot afford the luxury of providing services required for much of the real property not now on the tax rolls. Tax exemptions of real property extend beyond the original intent of the law.

Commerce Commission—Interest Rates: The commission should be given power to establish a fair rate of interest to be applied on customers' money on deposit or to be refunded.

Low-Rent Housing: The public referendum requirement for approval of low-rent housing projects for elderly and low-income citizens should be repealed.

County School Districts: The county school system is outmoded and should be eliminated. Provision should be made in any repeal legislation, however, for continuance of special education programs historically carried out by county boards.

Uniform State Building Code: Iowa needs a uniform state building code to bring order out of the confusion in this area. Also, the state housing code should be modernized.

While his program was "not all inclusive," the Governor said it was reasonable and attainable—

even during a short legislative session. He suggested that legislators were familiar with most of the items listed, which smoothed the way for "informed debate."

There were other important matters deserving the legislature's attention, Governor Ray continued, that he did not include in his program since he recognized "time and reflection" often is necessary "to achieve legislative and public support for important proposals . . . however much I would prefer immediate results." He settled for a brief mention of these items "which you have, or I am sure will want to have, under legislative study":

Educational Television: It is imperative that we continue to move toward establishment of a statewide television network. Within a few days the present network will be reaching 65 per cent of the state's population, leaving 35 per cent without access to its programs.

While the Governor did not go all out for immediate expansion of the Iowa Educational Broadcasting Network, probably because of the low ebb of the state treasury, citizens in Northeast, Southwest and Northwest Iowa did.

These were the areas not receiving educational television and people arrived in droves several times during the session to let legislators know it. They demanded of the House-Senate Schools and Appropriations Committees that IEBN be expanded promptly.

Anna Smith of Clarinda, a teacher at Iowa Western Community college, told the House Schools committee: "We'd like to be a part of Iowa instead of Nebraska. Our children get educational television from Lincoln, Nebraska, and they think Lincoln is the capital of Iowa. What do we do to bring educational television to Southwest Iowa?"

"Southwest Iowa is better off than we are," suggested Representative John Mendenhall of New Albin. "We can't get educational television from either Minnesota or Wisconsin."

In the end, the delegations proved that pressure from the people is productive. They persuaded the legislature to put up funds to expand the network.

Penal Code: It is heartening to see that an extensive study of proposals "to revise the penal code, and penal reform, is under way in this body . . . much can be done to improve our system to condition transgressors for return to society." The Governor said he still believes the regional jail concept is right.

No-Fault Insurance: The legislative study committee on this subject will await analysis of the experience of other states before recommending a change in Iowa laws. In the absence of legislative action at this session, then, the Governor expressed the hope that insurance companies themselves would move in this area.

His program launched, Governor Ray philoso-

phized on the good life in Iowa. In his travels around the state, he said, he had observed "a healthy change in attitude toward this very special place we call Iowa." Iowans no longer underrate themselves and their state. This is not to say "we are free of problems and difficulties for we are not. But we still have a society with the capacity to deal with them.

"Professor Laurence Lafore, a newcomer to our state, who wrote the article in *Harper's Magazine*, that has been widely circulated across the nation, expressed so well a feeling of Iowa when he said: 'Iowa is a unit of consciousness; it has a culture of its own' . . . then he added: 'Nobody in Iowa has any sense of being anybody's social inferior.' To this I would add: 'Iowa is a place where everybody is somebody.' "

The Governor concluded:

"It has been said that Iowa is a wise partnership of land and people, a place for human beings to live as well as to exist. And that is what Iowa is all about.

"In the days of this session and in the days beyond, I know that we, too, will strive to work together in a like partnership to continue building here in Iowa the good society. And that is what Iowa is all about."

Major Legislation

Governor Ray and Lieutenant Governor Jepsen were at loggerheads much of the time. Republican leaders in House and Senate differed over priorities. Every legislator was concerned over what the new legislative districts would be like when the Supreme Court finished drawing its reapportionment plan. Pressure was on from all sides to end the session quickly, for it was an election year.

Yet, despite these negative factors, the 1972 legislature wrote an enviable record few of its predecessors could match—and in a much shorter time.

Lieutenant Governor Jepsen said flatly that this legislature “did more in less time than any in Iowa history. . . Its track record will be hard to equal.”

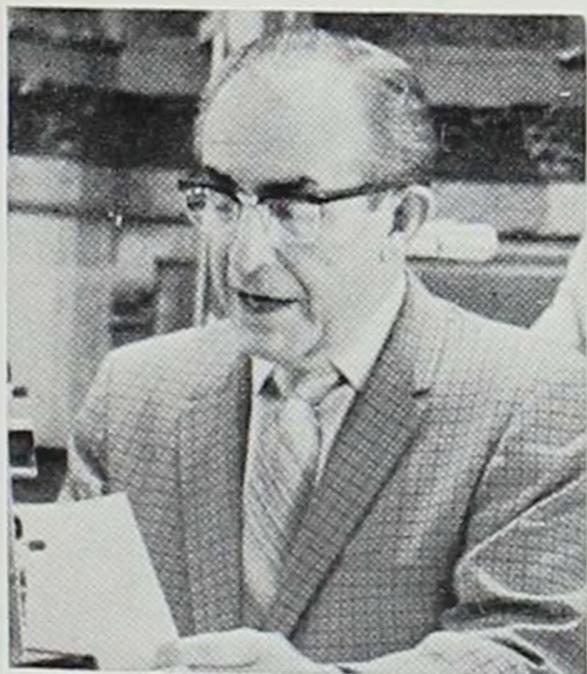
Speaker Harbor, so wracked with pain from a troublesome gall bladder that he presided only a part of the session’s final day, described it as “one of the most productive sessions in the history of Iowa. It handled all priority bills in one form or another.”

The Republican leaders, Clifton Lamborn of the Senate and Andrew Varley of the House, chorused “productive” in assessing the legislature’s performance. Each suggested that Governor Ray should be happy with the .600 per cent batting av-

BEHIND THE LEGISLATIVE SCENES



LEGISLATIVE SERVICE BUREAU STAFF—(seated) Diane Bolender, Linda Tigges, Jeanne Miller; (standing) Thane Johnson, Burnette Koebornick, Director Serge Garrison, Philip Burks, John Dwyer. Not in picture: JoAnn Brown, Don Hoskins, Mark Soldat.



Secretary of Senate
CARROLL LANE



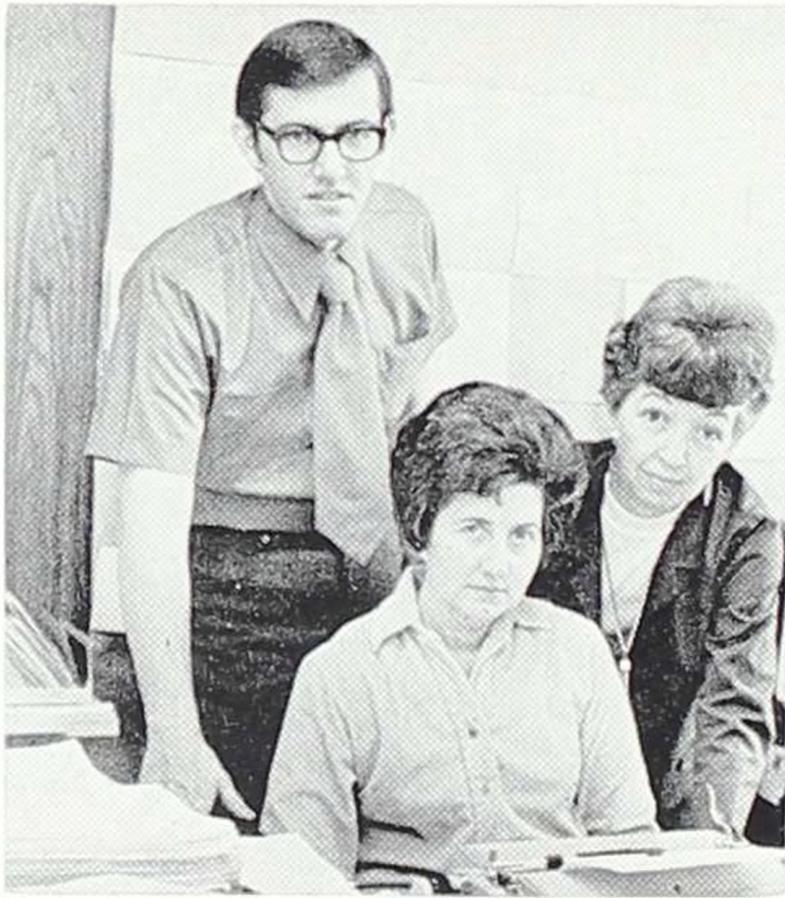
COMPTROLLER'S STAFF — Comptroller Marvin Selden (seated), Arthur Claus, William Krahl, James Rose.



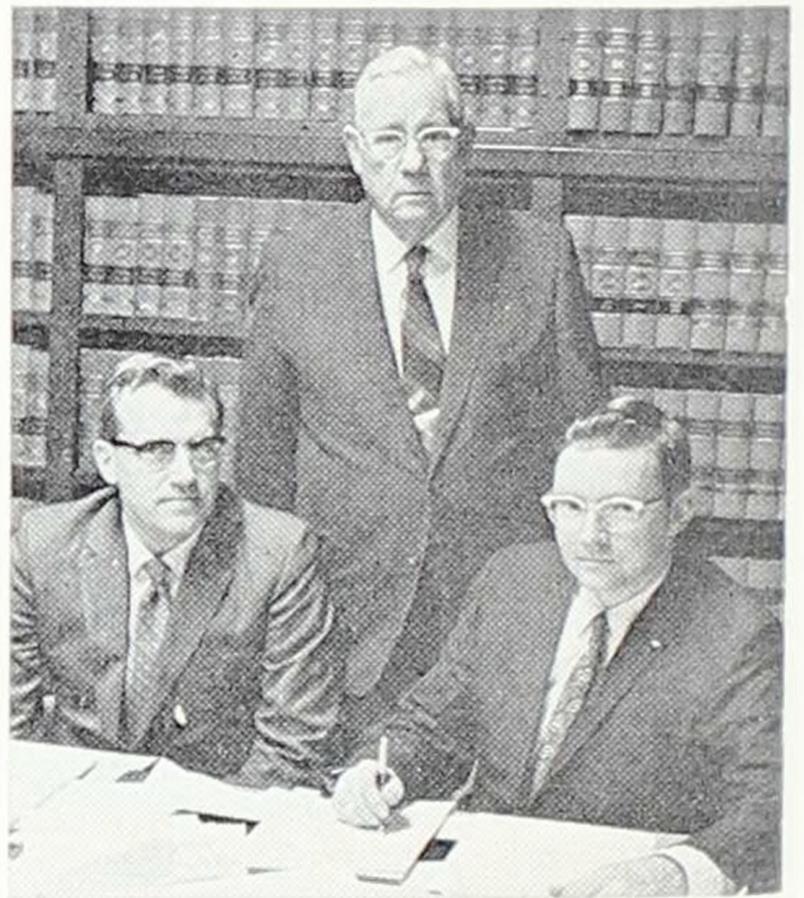
FISCAL DIRECTOR'S STAFF—Charlotte Munson, David Bolender, Director Gerry Rankin.



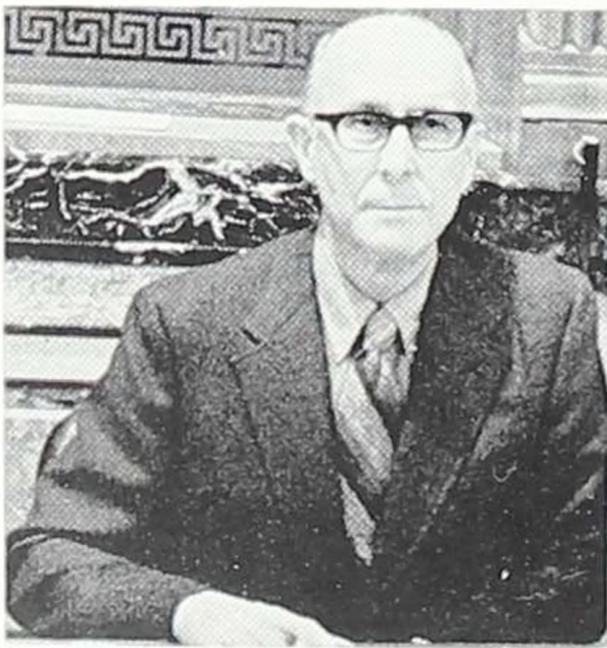
Chief Clerk of House
WILLIAM KENDRICK



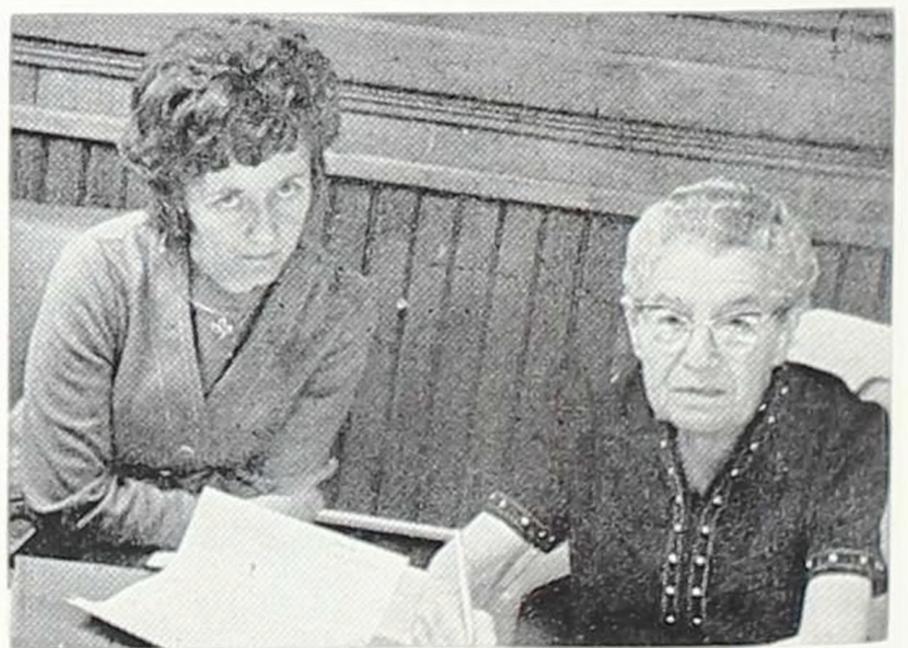
INDEXING STAFF — Terry Pepper, Juanita Swackhammer, Supervisor Maxine Gunton.



APPORTIONMENT EXPERTS — John Liittschwager, Chief Justice C. Edwin Moore, Philip Burks.



Senate Sgt. at Arms
R. K. SHAWHAN



HOUSE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL — Pauline Kephart, enrolling clerk; Counsel Lillian Leffert.



CODE EDITOR'S STAFF — Editor Wayne Faupel, Phyllis Barry.



House Sgt. at Arms
CLARENCE ANDERSON



Chief Clerk's Clerk
DOROTHY POTHOFF



PRINTING CENTER—Shirley Roach, Marcene Walvatne.



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S STAFF—
Joyce Ann Johnson, Beverly Dunn.



Speaker's Secretary
MARYJO WELCH



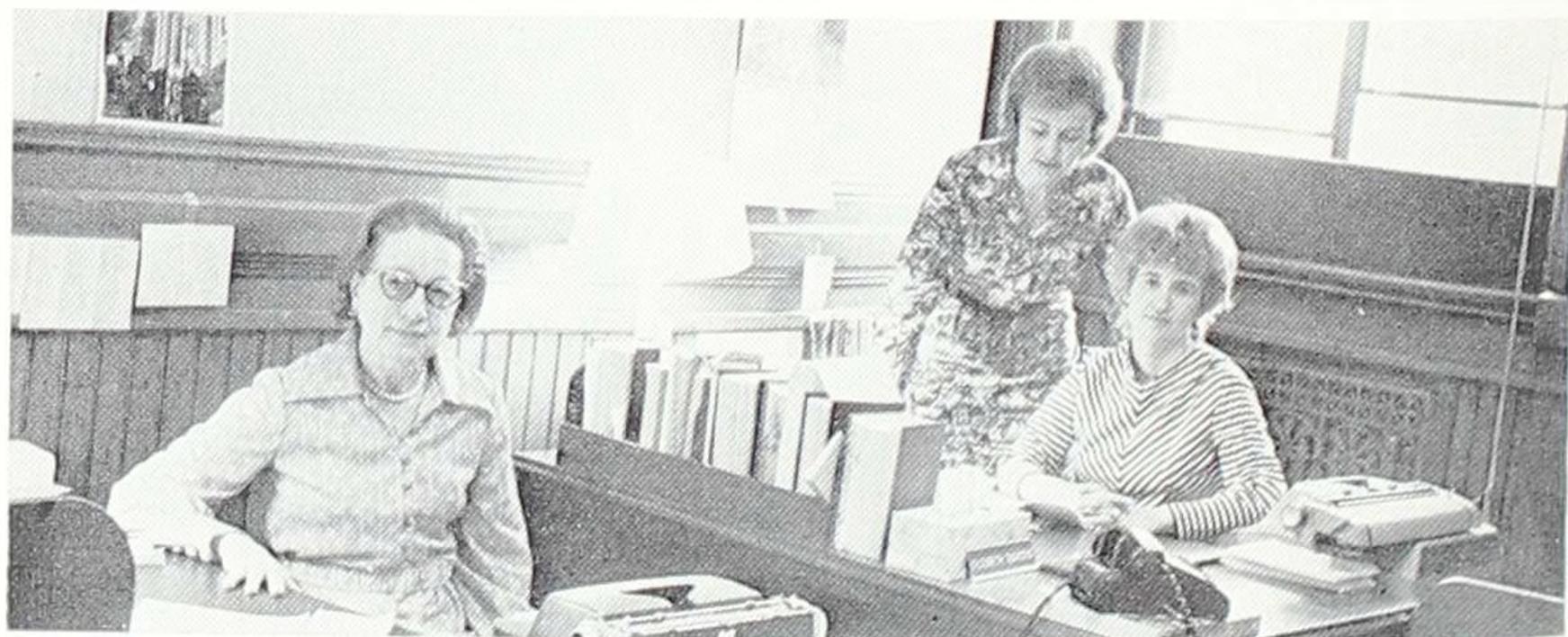
Chief Clerk's Secretary
DOLORES ABELS



SENATE SECRETARY'S STAFF—Marie Thayer, Ruth Fisher, assistant secretary.



SENATE TELEPHONE CENTER—Rosemary Massman, operator; Pages Chris Cobb, Doris Briles; Martha Erickson, operator.



HOUSE JOURNAL STAFF—Sue M. Reed, chief clerk; Alyce M. Elmitt, engrossing clerk; Elizabeth A. Isaacson, journal clerk.



A group of lobbyists in House lounge.



SENATE SECRETARIES IN RELAXED MOMENT—Genevieve E. Snetselaar, Carol Golding, Marilyn Osborn, Phyllis J. Swab, Golda Beals, Elizabeth Ligouri.



Senator Keith's Secretary at Work
PEGGY THOMSON



Senate Bill Clerk
NOLA CARYLL WILBUR



Senate Enrolling Clerk
COLLEEN DILLON



Asst. Sen. Journal Clerk
ROBERTA HICKERSON



Senate Journal Clerk
DOROTHY NEPSTAD



House Payroll Clerk
BILLIE JEAN WALLING



Senate Payroll Clerk
MARY ANN ABBOTT



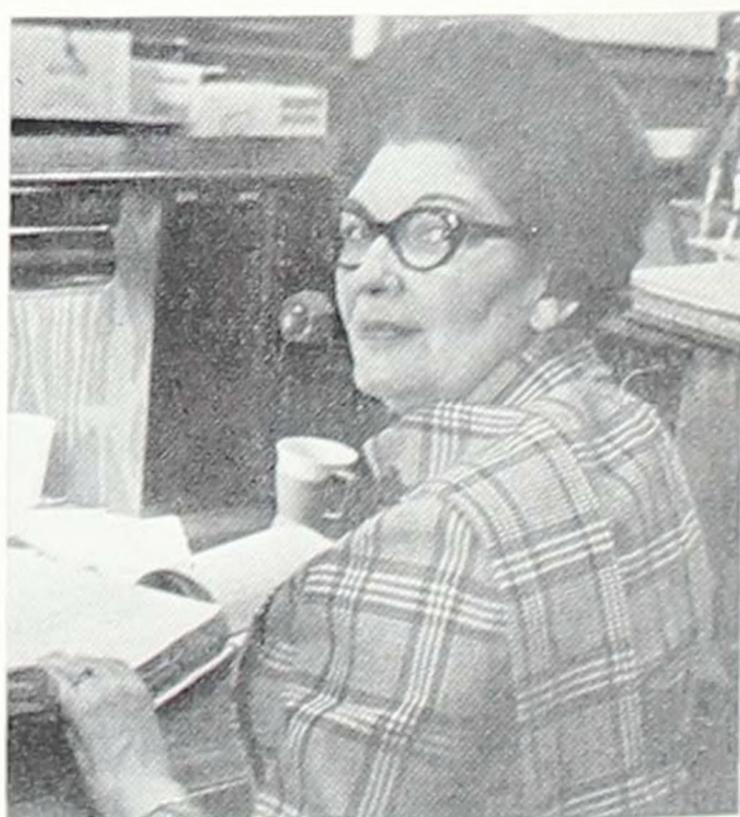
House Supervisor of Clerks
ELIZABETH J. O'CONNOR



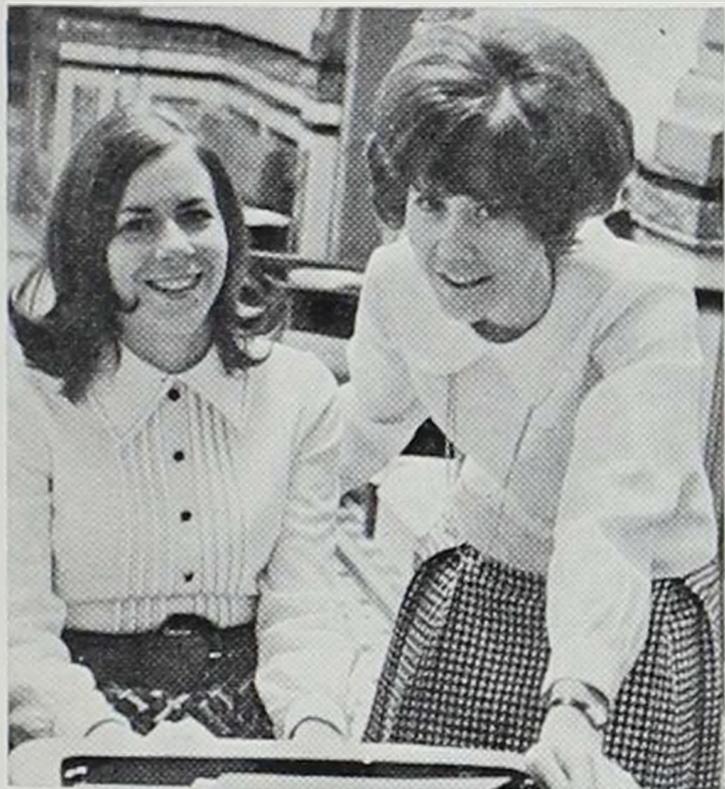
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SENATE QUEEN Jan Ver Hoef, Senator Laverty's secretary; HOUSE QUEEN Connie Eichhorn, Representative Willits' clerk.



Asst. Chief Clerk House
BURL B. BEAM



THE BEARDED ONES—Reps. Joseph Johnston, Norman Rodgers; Senator James Potgeter; Reps. W. B. Monroe, Charles Uban.



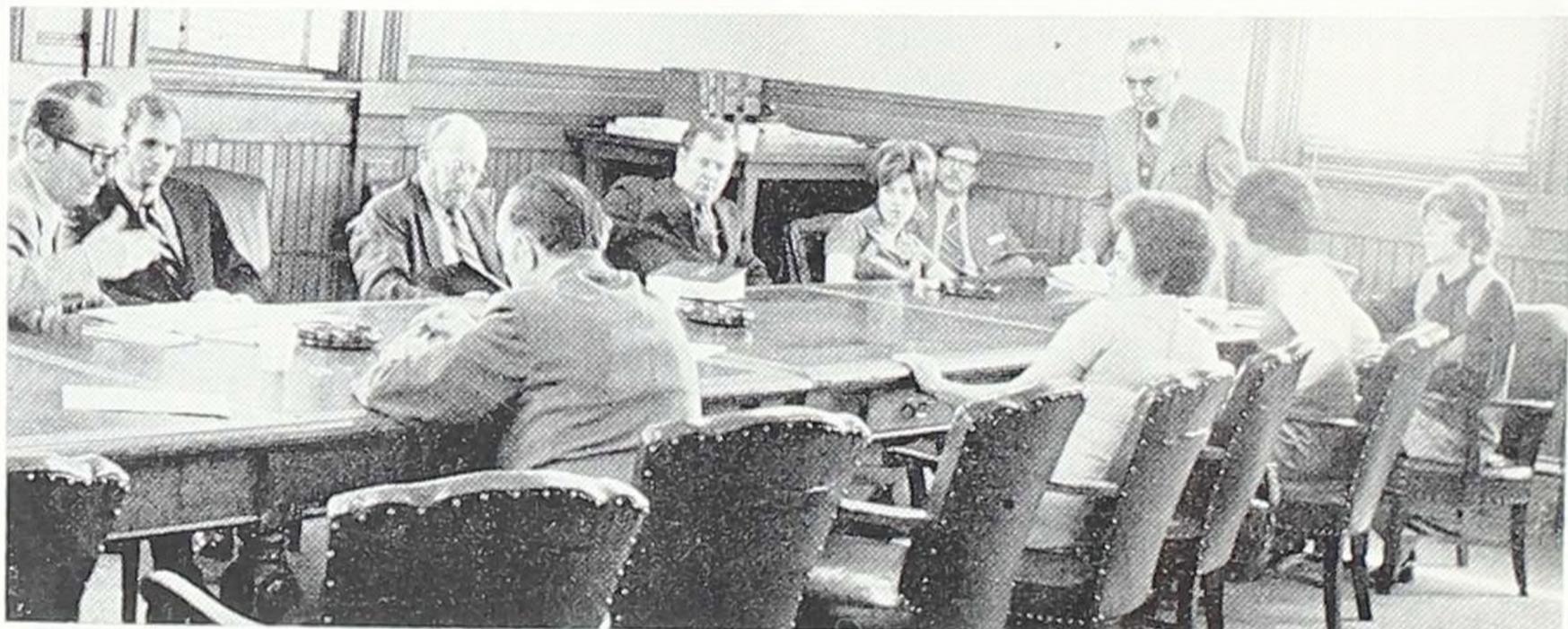
Speaker of the House
WILLIAM H. HARBOR



Lieutenant Governor
ROGER W. JEPSEN



Conference committee on unified court bill headed by Senator Tom Riley.



Conference committee on lowering adult rights age headed by Representative C. Raymond Fisher.

CLOSING THE SESSION



Senate Custodial Worker James "Shorty" Sullivan removes secretaries' desks.



Secretary Peg Backman packs bill books for Senator R. Dean Arbuckle.

erage attained when 15 of his 25 priority bills were enacted.

But these were Republican leaders talking and their party controlled the legislature, so they might be expected to say such things. What about leaders of the Democratic minority, who might be expected to enter strong dissents? They differed somewhat in their appraisals. Senate Democratic Leader Lee H. Gaudineer, Jr., labeled it an "average" session. But House Democratic Leader Dale Cochran, with reservations, agreed with Republicans that it had been a productive session.

Cochran was quick to point out that it would not have been if House Democrats had not helped to make it so. "I have mixed emotions," he said. "I feel we passed good, constructive pieces of legislation only because of the aid of Democrats who wanted to vote for the best interests of the people."

Time and again, he recalled, many of the 37 House Democrats saved Republican priority items that would not have received a majority vote without minority party help.

He charged that Governor Ray and Lieutenant Governor Jepsen spent so much time playing "silly games" in vying for political advantage that confusion and disunity split Republican ranks to the point where Democrats had to step in to rescue some of the Governor's bills.

But Gaudineer said that "generally speaking" the session lacked "the human touch." He was

"thoroughly disappointed" that little heed had been given to problems of fixed-income and low-income elderly and others, including those on old age assistance rolls.

But enough talk. What did the record show?

For one thing, it showed Cochran was right on some bills—they could not have been passed without help of House Democrats. And in the Senate, votes of two Democrats were needed to pass the unified court bill—a favorite of the Governor's.

But the record also showed House Democrats had virtually deserted the majority on the World Food Fair bill, another of the Governor's favorites, which failed to pass by only one vote on the last night of the session. Not a single one of 13 House Democrats, who had supported it much of the way, voted for it on final passage. Needing 51 votes, it got 50.

Aside from bills on the Governor's priority list, the record showed that the legislature considered and passed several other important measures, including one setting a precedent—a direct appropriation to a private school.

This bill allocated \$500,000 in state funds to the College of Osteopathic Surgery and Medicine in Des Moines to buy land and buildings formerly occupied by St. Joseph Academy, for a new college site. Legislators felt the osteopathic college was doing more to train family physicians to serve the needs of rural Iowa communities than the Col-

lege of Medicine at the University of Iowa. So they voted to put up the money over the protests of those who said it violated the constitution.

The legislature also passed bills to:

Expand the state educational television network by 1975 to areas not receiving it. The first of three annual \$800,000 appropriations was voted to prime the expansion pump. Federal funds to match the state's \$2.4 million were expected to complete financing of the project.

Revise election laws and to set the residency requirement for voting at 30 days. Previously the residency requirement was six months.

Limit the percentage of state bank deposits that a bank holding company may control and authorize banks to establish suburban branches.

Initiate a renal kidney disease program with a \$30,000 appropriation.

Authorize use of newly-acquired Terrace Hill mansion in Des Moines as a home for future Governors.

Change the primary election date to August 1 from June 6 to allow more time for candidates and the public to become familiar with new legislative districts.

Of Governor Ray's 25 priority bills, the 15 adopted by the legislature were to:

Unify the state court system by replacing lower courts with magistrates.

Combine four pollution control agencies into a new Department of Environmental Quality.

Lower the adult rights age to 19 from 21, except for voting (where it is 18) and for holding some public offices.

(Governor Ray and the House favored 18 for adult rights to be consistent with the voting age established in 1971; Lieutenant Governor Jepsen and the Senate favored 19, fearing 18 was too young for drinking rights. A conference committee recommendation for 19 was adopted.)

Provide low-rent housing without a public vote.

Require hot lunch programs in all public schools beginning in 1973. An appropriation of \$575,000 was made as the state's share of the cost.

Permit Iowa Commerce Commission to require utilities to pay up to 9 per cent interest on refunds to customers.

Appropriate \$100,000 in matching funds to the Iowa Crime Commission.

Establish a uniform fiscal year for all state agencies and subdivisions, starting July 1 and ending June 30.

Extend to physically handicapped and disabled persons the provisions in the civil rights act to help them find employment.

Establish a uniform state building code.

Establish a new home rule code for municipalities, implementing an amendment ratified in 1968.

Screen junkyards and ban billboards along major highways.

Require state safety inspection of amusement rides.

Establish education courses at area schools for those convicted of drunken driving.

Establish in law the office of citizens' aide (ombudsman), in operation since October, 1970, by executive order.

In addition to these priority bills, the legislature

also completed action on House Joint Resolution 8—the so-called “bingo” amendment—for submission to the people at the November 7 election, along with two other proposed amendments passed in 1971.

HJR 8 got its “bingo” label from groups pushing for legalized bingo. Actually, however, it would not legalize bingo; it would repeal the anti-lottery section in the state constitution opening the way for state laws legalizing not only bingo but other types of gambling, such as pari-mutuel betting on horse and dog races.

The other two amendments were:

SJR 1002—authorizing the Supreme Court to remove judges from office with just cause.

HJR 6—extending the length of terms of elected state officials (except Secretary of Agriculture, a statutory rather than a constitutional office) to four years. The terms presently are for two years.

The legislature waited until the fading hours of the final day to pass another resolution—SJR 1008—of historic significance. It was to ratify the women’s rights amendment to the United States Constitution, passed a few days earlier by Congress. With eight of the nine female legislators voting for it, SJR 1008 went sailing through the Senate late in the afternoon of closing day and through the House just before adjournment that night, making Iowa one of the first states to ratify.

Not all measures passed by the legislature made

it into law. Two bills, and seven sections of a third bill, that had been approved met sudden death by way of the Governor's veto pen. The two bills that suffered this fate, and Governor Ray's reasons for disapproving them, were:

Senate File 1190—a bill relating to the inspection of county homes. In vetoing it the Governor said that "dignity of life belongs to all people, not only to those who can afford a choice."

"This bill," he continued, "assumes that county homes need different kinds of health care facilities (than privately-operated homes) and that lesser standards are acceptable for patients of county homes which are not adequate for any of our other citizens. . .

"All citizens of Iowa, including those 5,980 human beings in county homes, deserve the protection of uniform regulation in health care facilities, regardless of their financial status, mental or physical condition. To allow different and special considerations for certain custodial homes in Iowa is to ignore the common human needs of all people living in them."

House File 48—a bill relating to the movement of oversized mobile homes and vehicles on highways. The bill called for allowing mobile homes up to 14 feet, 5 inches in width (present limit: 12 feet 5 inches) to use most highways. Also, to permit larger loads, from 19 to 40 feet wide, up to 10 miles by closing highways temporarily.

In his veto, Governor Ray said the bill had more disadvantages than advantages for a majority of Iowans. A major objection was the safety factor involved in permitting oversized loads to use two-lane highways only 18 to 24 feet wide.

"I am aware the argument exists for allowing increased traffic of these oversized units for the sake of providing additional jobs to build them," he said. "As strongly as I have encouraged economic development in Iowa, there are other factors that must be considered. Safety and convenience of our people are obvious considerations. But, in addition, increased production of big mobile homes could adversely affect jobs of Iowans in the more conventional home building industries."

The third bill, Senate File 1182, was signed into law minus Sections 5 through 11. It was a bill appropriating matching funds to the Iowa Crime Commission and creating a legislative advisory committee to counsel with the commission. Governor Ray used his item veto on the seven objectionable sections, which set up the advisory committee and outlined its responsibilities, on grounds that "they violate the constitutional separation of the legislative and executive branches of government."

Total appropriations by the 1972 legislature, including the \$100,000 in the crime commission bill, were \$3,613,350.

For easy reading, this box score shows the rec-

ord of the 64th General Assembly, including both the 1971 and 1972 sessions:

	<i>House Bills</i>	<i>Senate Bills</i>	<i>House Joint Resolutions</i>	<i>Senate Resolutions</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Introduced	1,044	811	24	18	1,897
Withdrawn	73	101	2	4	180
Indefinitely postponed	3	0	0	0	3
Failed to pass	9	5	0	0	14
Passed one house, no vote in the other	81	70	2	1	154
Substitution made for	26	41	0	2	69
Tabled	1	0	0	0	1
Passed both houses but in different form	3	0	0	0	3
Sent to Sec. of State	0	0	6	0	6
Signed by Governor	221	205	2	2	430
Became law without Governor's signature	0	0	0	0	0
Recalled from Governor	1	0	0	0	1
Vetoed by Governor	1	1	0	0	2
Items vetoed by Governor	2	16	0	0	18
Passed over veto	0	0	0	0	0
New Laws	221	205	2	2	430

True to their word to keep the session short, Republican leaders moved to close it on March 24—75 days after it started. Reversing the 1971 adjournment scene, when the House walked out and left the Senate with a last-minute “take it or leave it” situation on a controversial bill, the Senate quit first this time, at 8:01 p.m. That is when the clocks in both House and Senate were stopped, even though the House did not adjourn until 10:07 p.m.—and then on a dramatic note. Speaker Harbor, still in pain, appeared in the chamber and took a seat beside Speaker Pro Tempore Floyd Millen, who was presiding. Harbor had been in his office most of the day, refusing to leave for the hospital until the House adjourned. He wanted to deliver a

farewell speech before adjournment but now his pain was so intense it was impossible. So it was read for him by Millen, whose voice cracked with emotion in the beginning as Harbor wept while sitting at his side. Harbor was the first speaker to preside over annual sessions and over four consecutive sessions. In the speech he said it had been a gratifying experience and that: "Iowa had prospered and will continue to do so because we have all put Iowa first and our own desires and designs second. This transcends partisan politics, for which I commend you all and thank you . . ."

As Millen finished, Harbor arose with difficulty and banged the gavel to end the session, then beat a hasty retreat to his office.

Two weeks later, on April 7, with legislative clocks still showing 8:01 p.m., March 24, a small group of legislators gathered to formally close the session. Bills passed in the final week had been processed and were ready for signatures of presiding officers before being sent to Governor Ray.

It was 11:42 a.m., April 7, when the clocks were started. All formalities were completed in the next 23 minutes, including the reading in each chamber of a letter from Governor Ray, praising the legislature in part, but expressing disappointment that it failed to pass some priority bills.

Then, with clocks pretending it was 8:24 p.m., March 24, the session came to an end at exactly 12:05 p.m., April 7.

Significance of Work

Not since 1882 had the Iowa legislature discharged its responsibilities in so little time as in 1972. Exactly 90 years ago, when it met every even-numbered year in biennial sessions, the 19th General Assembly had conducted its business in 68 days. The 1972 legislature needed 75 days. But even that was something of a miracle in the Twentieth Century.

Republican majority leaders had promised in the beginning that the 1972 session would be a short one—and for good reason:

For one thing, it was an election year and they were well aware that, once the balmy breezes of spring began to waft their way over a fresh-blooming countryside, it would be difficult for those members planning reelection campaigns to keep their minds on legislative business. For another, they wanted to prove to annual-session skeptics that short sessions were possible.

Help toward their goal, help they had not counted on, came from another quarter—the Iowa Supreme Court. In one sense it may have been help they did not want or appreciate. But they got it all the same. For, on January 14, four days after the session opened, the court held, in a 9 to 0 decision,

that the apportionment plan adopted by the 1971 legislature was unconstitutional. The court said it did not comply with state and federal guidelines calling for creation of compact districts on a one-man, one-vote basis; that it placed greater emphasis on saving the seats of incumbent legislators, to guarantee that it was adopted, than in making certain that every citizen's vote carried equal weight.

Then, acting on the authority granted in the apportionment amendment ratified by the people in 1968, the court literally shocked the legislature by announcing it would take over the job of drawing a constitutional plan, rather than give that body a second go at it. The amendment makes it mandatory for the court, whenever it holds a legislative apportionment plan unconstitutional, to "adopt or cause to be adopted," within 90 days, a plan that does comply with the constitution.

In its decision the court also held that all 50 senate seats would be up for election in 1972, thereby cutting short the last two years of the terms of 27 senators, which originally were not to expire until 1975. This authority, too, was granted in the 1968 apportionment amendment.

What this meant was that, for the first time since the election of the 1st General Assembly in 1846, all of the legislature's seats would be up for election at the same time. It also meant that the court's plan had to be completed by April 13—90 days after its decision of January 14.

With all of this looming ahead, legislative leaders redoubled their efforts to keep the session short—even in the face of this cautionary counsel from Governor Ray, promptly amplified by Democratic minority leaders: Do not push so hard to keep the session short that important items crying out for attention do not get it.

That was the picture, then, with the legislature less than a week old. In only 10 more weeks it was over. So what kind of a session was it? Did it really accomplish much in 75 days? One way to judge public reaction is through editorial comment carried by the various media, which seldom see eye-to-eye on everything. A sampling indicated this to be true in appraising the legislature's performance. Some called the session highly productive, or credible. Some thought it was unnecessary. The *Waterloo Daily Courier* even called for a return to biennial sessions:

"Without overlooking the accomplishments of the 1972 session," said the *Courier*, "one can still wonder if annual sessions are really necessary. It would make more sense to reinstate biennial sessions and allow the legislature to call itself back into session if important business needs to be conducted."

But the *Ottumwa Daily Courier* put in a plug for annual sessions, saying:

The much-maligned Iowa legislature has adjourned its 1972 session with a pretty good score card. There is reason to be disappointed in some of the actions it failed to

take—but that much is par for the course. . . All in all, it was a good session. Adjournment in 75 days supports the contention that annual sessions can be more efficient.

The WMT Stations in Cedar Rapids thought the 1972 session could become a model for the future, commenting:

. . . (it) . . . was a short and reasonably productive session . . . (but) . . . to our way of thinking the biggest shortcoming of the 1972 Assembly was its complete failure to meet the issue of tax exemptions . . . The Assembly proved it can pass some important legislation in a short, business-like session. In that respect, we see no reason why 1972 should not become a model for future sessions as the legislature tackles some of the knottier remaining problems such as property tax exemptions.

The *Iowa City Press-Citizen*, apparently satisfied with annual sessions, suggested ways to improve them:

A concentration upon fiscal matters in the first session of a General Assembly and upon non-fiscal matters in the second could develop into a sound pattern of operations. . . Election-year sessions, if productive, can be effective arguments during the forthcoming campaign. That "it's good politics to provide good government" is an adage even more telling in this age of better educated, more perceptive voters.

Other comments:

The 1972 session . . . was short, as promised, and productive, as hoped. . . On the whole, legislation was constructive and spending kept within bounds obviously wanted by the Iowa taxpayers.—*Mason City Globe-Gazette*.

... considering the partisan tensions and weight of crucial decision, the second half of the 64th General Assembly scored good points in a number of important areas. Left hanging, unfortunately, were bills to allow wine sales in grocery stores, collective bargaining for public employees, and formation of health maintenance organizations... With the governor and lieutenant governor sparring politically for primary election advantages, and with a record number of legislators seeking other offices, the concluded session deserves kudos for progress under intense pressure and many distractions.—*The Sioux City Journal*.

... for once, we believe the members of both houses should be commended for tending to business and grinding out most of the priority legislation. They did it in less than three months, in spite of predictions from legislative pessimists that they would be in Des Moines until summer.—KWWL Stations, Waterloo.

The second session of the 64th Iowa General Assembly will go down as the shortest legislative session since the 1882 legislature called it quits on St. Patrick's day... though some urgent matters were shunted aside for lack of time, the legislature chalked up a creditable list of accomplishments.—*The Des Moines Register*.

Considering all the obstacles it had to clear... the 1972 legislature came out with an above average grade... it was held to 75 days... and a majority of the goals set by the governor and the legislative leaders came into reality. When it is taken into account that some of the most important legislation in the decade was among those goals, the record glows even brighter... All things considered, it was a highly productive session.—*The Cedar Rapids Gazette*.

In retrospect, we think most Iowans will have to agree that the second session of the 64th General Assembly, de-

spite some bitter in-fighting, produced more pluses than minuses. . . Perhaps one of the reasons the legislature hung up a good record . . . was that it was one of the shortest on record.—Davenport *Times-Democrat*.

The *Marshalltown Times-Republican* said that despite the "often expressed fear" that sparring between Governor Ray and Lieutenant Governor Jepsen would disrupt the session, "there was no more political bickering than usual."

"Ray and Jepsen did tangle on the drinking rights issue," the *Times-Republican* said, "and while Jepsen won that skirmish, it is doubtful that either gained any appreciable political advantage. On the whole, Ray may have fared better than Jepsen, for it was he, not the presiding officer of the Senate, who exerted the leadership that got things done."

"We've thrust our share of brickbats at the just-ended session of the Iowa legislature," said the KCRG Stations in Cedar Rapids. "Now that the session is over, and we can assess its accomplishments, we feel some bouquets are also in order. Three bills passed by the General Assembly stand out as laws that will have a lasting impact on the state and its people. We refer to the court reform bill . . . the home rule bill . . . and the bill giving majority rights to 19-year-olds."

The *Kossuth County Advance* in Algona said the session was kept short by anxiety among legislators over the effect of the Supreme Court's reap-

portionment plan and the desire to begin campaigns.

"Many observers felt it (the session) would have continued for some time if the court threat had not existed . . . With the excessive work on appropriations eliminated from the session work could be done and on the whole the session was considered a success."

In the final analysis, there seemed to be the normal wide range of views among the people themselves about the performance of the 1972 legislature. But, and perhaps more importantly, there seemed to be general agreement that this legislature proved it is possible to have a short session and that it will deserve the credit for having cut the cloth if this becomes the pattern followed in the future.

TOTAL COST, 64th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

<i>Item</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Senate</i>	<i>Joint</i>	<i>Total</i>
Salaries	\$1,703,406.75	\$ 945,968.94	\$126,684.55	\$2,776,060.24
Chaplains			6,274.90	6,274.90
Printing			498,399.73	498,399.73
*Travel, Exp. ..	306,414.80	156,805.50		463,220.30
Misc.	50,862.50	46,116.91	43,395.46	140,374.87
Totals	\$2,060,684.05	\$1,148,891.35	\$674,754.64	\$3,884,330.04

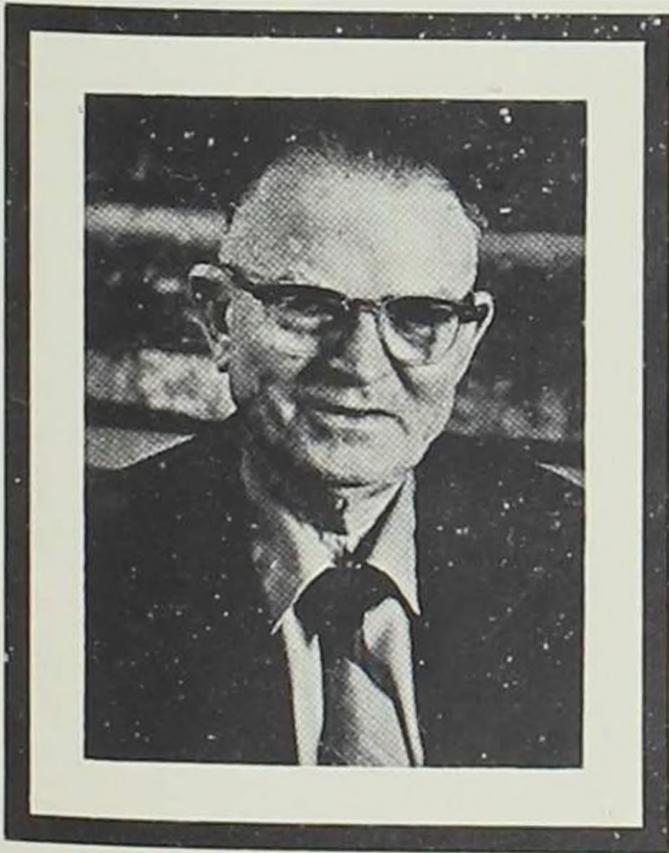
*TOTAL COST OF LAST FOUR BIENNIAL SESSIONS
and of FIRST ANNUAL SESSION (63rd G.A.)*

<i>63rd G.A.</i>	<i>62nd G.A.</i>	<i>61st G.A.</i>	<i>60th G.A.</i>	<i>59th G.A.</i>
\$3,260,824.59	\$2,311,097.28	\$1,608,894.56	\$1,190,485.30	\$1,153,226.66

* This item represents mileage for one round trip weekly for each legislator between home and Statehouse, plus daily expenses while in session. These were authorized for the first time beginning January 1, 1971. Previously, nothing was authorized for expenses and each legislator was paid for one round trip per session.



Senate Steering Committee headed by Republican Leader Clifton Lamborn.

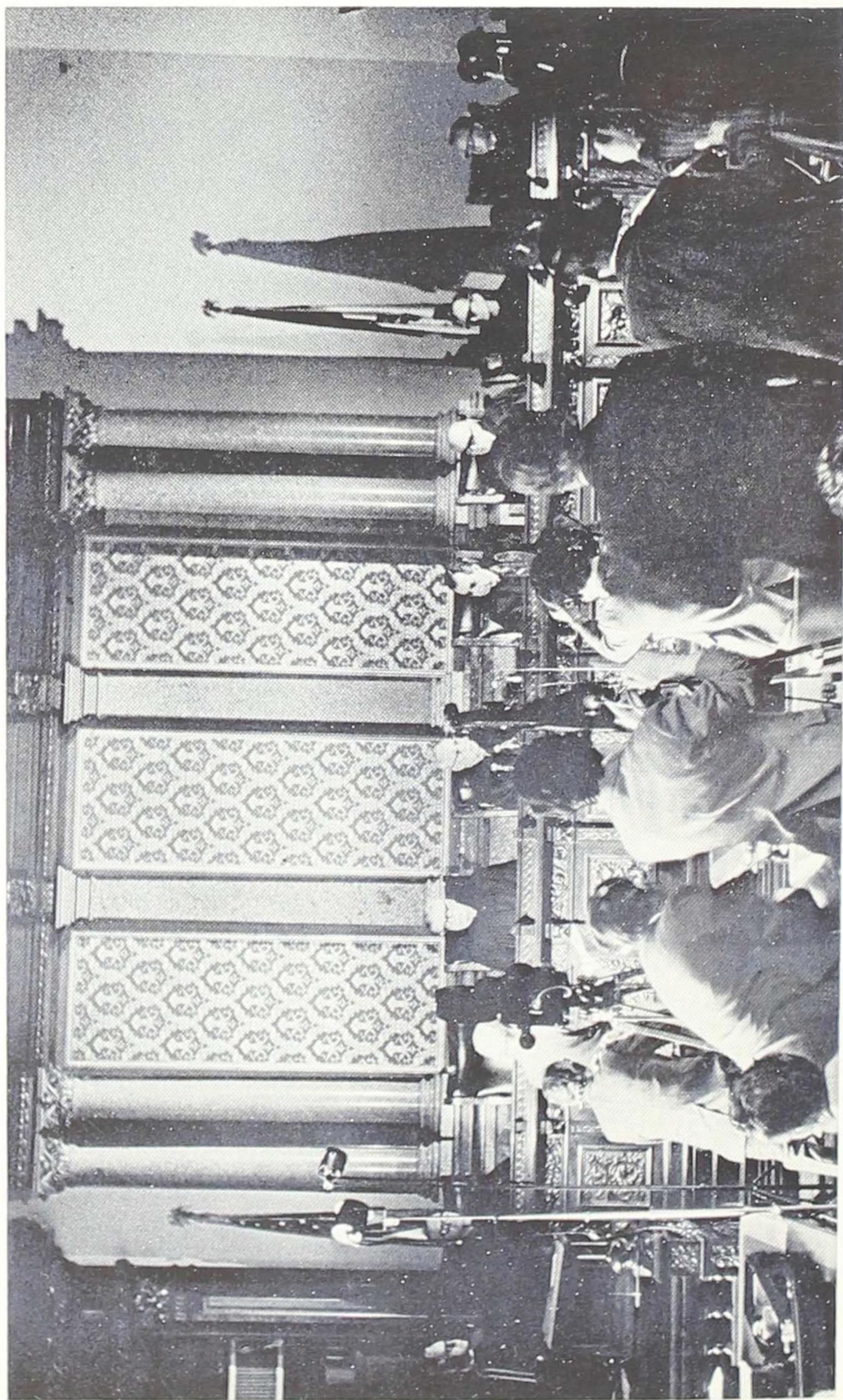


In Memoriam

Representative Dewey Goode died March 26, 1972, after serving 30 years in the Iowa legislature, including 26 in the House and four in the Senate. He was considered the Dean of the legislature.



House Sifting Committee headed by Republican Leader Andrew Varley.



Iowa Supreme Court announces reappointment plan March 31, 1972. From left—Justices W. W. Reynolds, Warren Rees, M. L. Mason, Chief Justice C. Edwin Moore, Justices Maurice E. Rawlings, Clay LeGrand, Harvey Uhlenhopp, David Harris. Not in picture: Justice Francis Becker.