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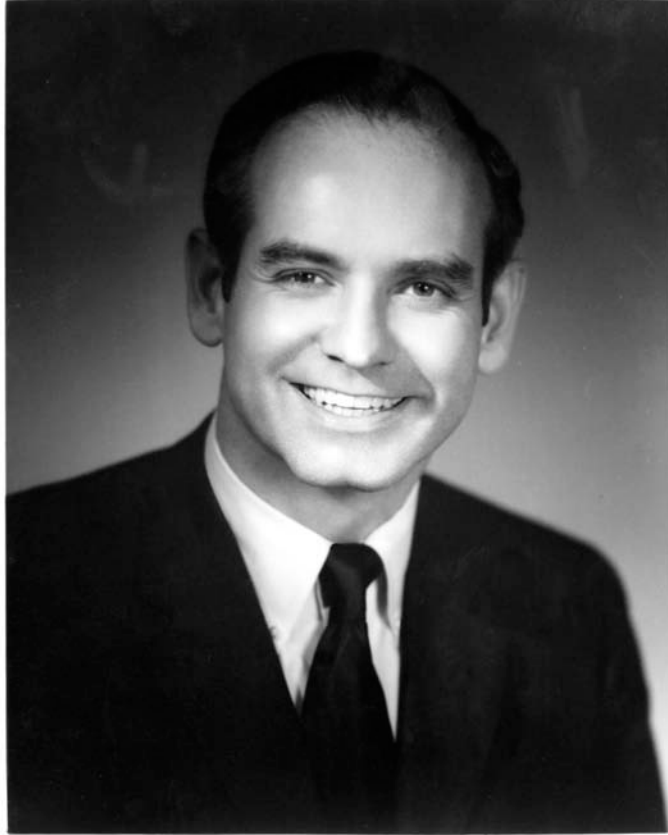
**February 23, 2011**

**THIS WEEK: Sixty-fourth Iowa General Assembly**

**BACKGROUND:** The Sixty-fourth Iowa General Assembly was the second to meet annually after ratification of the 1857 Iowa Constitution. The first session of the Sixty-fourth General Assembly convened on January 11, and adjourned on June 19, 1971—a 160-day session. There were 150 members in the legislature. The Senate had 12 Democrats and 38 Republicans, and the House of Representatives had 36 Democrats and 63 Republicans. One member of the House, Richard Martin Radl, had no party affiliation. Roger W. Jepsen was Lieutenant Governor and presiding officer in the Senate. William H. Harbor was the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Governor Robert D. Ray was serving his second term.

The first inauguration of Governor Ray was on January 16, 1969, when he was 40 years old. Governor Ray was born and raised in Des Moines. The Ray family was the first to live in the present-day governor's mansion, Terrace Hill.

The 1970 United States census listed Iowa's population at 2,825,368.



**Governor Robert D. Ray**  
(b. September 26, 1928)



***Terrace Hill***

**(From the Senate and House Journals)**

**The Journal of the Senate**

The Sixty-fourth Iowa General Assembly designated April 22, 1971, as Earth Day. A resolution was offered amending the constitution granting the Governor power to appoint the Secretary of State, Treasurer of State, and Attorney General and calling for the Auditor to be appointed by the General Assembly.

A Senate Concurrent Resolution honored Dr. Norman Borlaug as having been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and invited him to speak at a joint convention of the Sixty-fourth Iowa General Assembly.

On March 1, 1971, the journal includes the address of President Richard M. Nixon to a joint convention of the Iowa General Assembly.

*Note: President Nixon had come to Des Moines to attend the Rural Development Meeting at the Hotel Fort Des Moines. The President's daily diary lists him traveling to Des Moines with Mrs. Nixon, John Ehrlichman, H.R. Haldeman, and 30 others. The diary relates that the President was back at the White House at 8:25 p.m., hosting a dinner honoring the Apollo 14 astronauts.*

**The Journal of the House of Representatives**

Included is House Concurrent Resolution 12, which is a request of the United States Congress and the President of the United States to remove all military personnel from Southeast Asia by July 1, 1971.

On page 1873 of the House Journal, a letter from Dr. Norman Borlaug is featured. Borlaug expressed his regrets that he would be unable to address the Sixty-fourth Iowa General Assembly because he would not be "in that part of the world at the appropriate time."

Tort claims approved by the Appeal Board in 1970 are listed, including a reference to \$175.00 paid to Talbot Spivak for the loss of a tooth.

In the record of House bills is House File 404: "A bill for an act to prohibit the manufacture, distribution, possession, and the use of devices designed for the interception of wire or oral communications, and prescribing criminal penalties and the right to civil actions for violations of such prohibitions."



**Dr. Norman Borlaug**



**President Richard M. Nixon**



**Iowa Governor Robert D. Ray and President Richard M. Nixon**



**War in Vietnam**