

= Albert Gould =

Sir Albert John Gould (12 February 1847 ? 27 July 1936) was an Australian politician and solicitor who served as the second President of the Australian Senate .

A solicitor , businessman and citizen soldier before his entry into politics , Gould was a member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly from 1882 to 1898 , during which time he served as Minister for Justice in two Free Trade governments . He later served two years in the New South Wales Legislative Council from 1899 to 1901 until his election to the Australian Senate . Gould 's interest in parliamentary procedure saw him become involved with the relevant standing committee and he was elected unopposed as the second President of the Senate in 1907 . His tenure is remembered as more traditionalist and Anglophilic than his predecessor 's .

Defeated by the Labor nominee in 1910 following the Liberal government 's defeat , Gould remained in parliament as a backbencher until 1917 , when he retired after he was not re @-@ endorsed by the Nationalist Party . He was active in community and religious affairs during his long retirement .

= = Early life and career = =

Gould was born in Sydney , the son of solicitor John Morton Gould and his wife Anne (née Livingstone) . He attended William Woolls ' school in Parramatta , and went on to study law at the University of Sydney , although he did not take a degree . He served his articles with his father and was admitted to the bar in December 1870 . He then worked in Singleton for a Sydney legal firm . Gould also developed significant business interests , being involved with the Great Cobar Copper Mining syndicate and serving as a director of the Electric Light and Power Supply Company , the City Bank of Sydney and the Oriental Timber Corporation . On 12 September 1872 , he married Jeanette Jessie Maitland at St Paul 's Church of England in West Maitland .

Gould was also a citizen soldier , enlisting as a volunteer in the West Maitland company of the New South Wales volunteer forces . He later took command of the Singleton Company , becoming a major in 1886 . He later received the Volunteer Officers ' Decoration for long service ; he would retire from the regiment in 1902 as a lieutenant @-@ colonel .

= = State politics = =

In 1882 , Gould was elected to the New South Wales Legislative Assembly as the member for Patrick 's Plains (renamed Singleton in 1894) . Initially an opponent of the coalition associated with Henry Parkes and John Robertson , he later supported Robertson 's government in 1885 . By 1887 he was supporting his career with his own legal practice in Singleton and Sydney , and when the party system came into being in New South Wales in that year he identified as a Free Trader . In 1889 he was appointed Minister for Justice under Parkes , serving until 1891 ; he held the position again under George Reid from 1894 to 1898 . During the first period of his ministry he became involved in a dispute with the Chief Justice , Sir Frederick Darley , over requests for improved court accommodation and a contested punishment for contempt of two witnesses . Despite embarrassing his premier , he remained close with Parkes throughout his state career and in later years frequently gave speeches in his memory .

Gould 's career as justice minister was marked by consolidation of the law , tightening of licensing laws and reforms relating to police courts . A supporter of Federation , he nevertheless opposed the 1898 bill , which he believed deprived New South Wales of adequate recognition . He was defeated in the election of that year , but in 1899 he was one of Premier Reid 's twelve appointments to the Legislative Council that enabled the passage of the legislation for a referendum on Federation .

= = Senate career = =

Following Federation , Gould contested the first federal election in March 1901 , standing for the

Senate as a Free Trader . He was elected in the third of six positions , entitling him to a six @-@ year term . His first speech was largely devoted to his impassioned support for free trade , and in his early years as a senator he also supported decentralisation and opposed proposals to establish a federal capital . A supporter of the White Australia policy , he expressed concern over Kanaka labour in Queensland , although his assumption that the arrangement was temporary enabled his pragmatism on this issue . Gould was also involved in defence matters , supporting the introduction of conscription and maintaining loyalty to the Empire , where " there are men much more experienced in the principles of government than we are " . At the 1906 election , Gould was easily re @-@ elected in the first position , winning the largest vote for any senator to that time .

From 1901 Gould maintained an interest in the procedure of the Senate , and was a member of the standing orders committee from its appointment in 1901 until 1907 . He had supported the opening of Senate proceedings with prayer and had made frequent reference to the standing orders of the British House of Commons . He contested the Presidency of the Senate in 1904 , but was defeated by the incumbent , Sir Richard Baker .

On Baker 's retirement , Gould was unanimously elected President on 20 February 1907 . He endeavoured to keep the Senate representative of the states ' interests and free from party politics , and his rulings focused on unparliamentary language and relevance . Gould , appointed Knight Bachelor in 1908 , differed from his predecessor in his adherence to British influence . With the election of the Fisher Labor Government in 1910 , Gould was defeated by Harry Turley for the presidency .

Despite his support for conscription , Gould was not endorsed by the new Nationalist Party to contest the 1917 election . Deeply offended , Gould nevertheless elected to retire rather than run as an independent and split the Nationalist vote .

= = Later life = =

In his retirement , Gould continued his community involvement . A director of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children , he also served as a member and chancellor of the Sydney and Newcastle synods of the Church of England . He died in July 1936 at Rose Bay aged 89 ; he was survived by two sons and three daughters (his wife died in 1928 ; one daughter had also predeceased him) . Gould was given a state funeral at St Andrew 's Cathedral and was buried at South Head Cemetery .