

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Zeck, Joseph A. Senator _____
Represented Van Buren County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 9 Dec 1827 Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania

2. Marriage (s) date place
Ingaba Ebert 1853 Van Buren County, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:
A. Business President of the Van Buren County Agricultural Society for 2
years;
B. Civic responsibilities _____
C. Profession Farmer; raised and shipped livestock; part owner of
a flour mill and a creamery

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 28th General Assembly 1900

6. Public Offices
A. Local Township trustee; Justice of the Peace;
B. State _____
C. National _____

7. Death 6 Feb 1913 Seattle, Washington; buried

8. Children _____

9. Names of parents _____

10. Education _____

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information _____ *Republican*

- *He came to Van Buren County, Iowa with his parents in 1846.*
- *In 1852 he went to California where he engaged in mining successfully.*
- *He returned in 1853 to get married.*
- *They lived in Cedar Township, east of Utica.*
- *About 1909 or 1910 he sold his farm and moved to Seattle, Washington where two daughters lived.*

HON. J. A. KECK DEAD

**Former Prominent Citizen Passed
Away at Seattle.**

MEMBER OF LEGISLATURE

**President of Old Agricultural Society
and Candidate for Supervisor—A Good Man.**

News comes of the death last week of Hon. Joseph A. Keck, which occurred Feb. 6, at his home at Seattle, Wash. Mr. Keck was for many years one of the most prominent men in this county, but for the past three or four years had been living at Seattle.

Mr. Keck was born in Westmoreland county, Pa. in 1827, and came to this county with his parents in 1846. In 1852 he went to California and engaged in mining at which he was successful. Returning to Iowa the next year he was united in marriage to Miss Ingaba Ebert, who survives him. Twelve children were born to them, 10 of whom are living, one dying in infancy and one Mrs. Mary Daugherty of Seattle, dying less than a year ago. He also has a brother living, Henry Keck of Harrisburg township.

Mr. Keck resided in Cedar township, east of Utica, and had one of the best farms in the county. He was a stock raiser and feeder and shipper. He also owned an interest

**CHEQUEST QUARRY TESTS
BETTER THAN EXPECTED**

The report of the drillers, who have been making tests of the Chequest quarry, is nine feet of earth followed by six feet of common limestone, then 27 feet of white rock then 18 feet of a darker shade of white rock and below this eight feet of shale.

The drilling test is an absolute demonstration of the inestimable value of the quarry. The extent of the white rock which is in such demand for building and finishing purposes, was the principal subject of inquiry. It alone would insure the success of the quarry.

The darker shade of rock is also valuable for building purposes. The eight feet stratum of shale, from which cement is made, is immensely valuable. It is about certain that in addition to the quarrying industry there will be established a cement factory. At present the cement for this section comes from Hannibal, Mo.

The drilling tests show up even better than expected, and insure the speedy development of the quarry and the establishment of a great industry here. We understand the quarry at Bedford, Ind., has made a city of 6,000. There is no apparent reason why the Chequest quarry should not do as much for Keosauqua.

**GOOD FARM HOUSE
BURNED IN HENRY TWP**

Wednesday noon of this week the house on the James Batchelor farm, two and a half miles southwest of Vernon, took fire and burned to

BONAPARTE

Miss Bertha Lackey died this evening after a long illness. She is the only daughter of William Lackey, and was nearly 60 years of age. Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at the residence of her father, J. H. Lackey, of Keosauqua. The interment was in the cemetery. Miss George, formerly of Bonaparte, was born Feb. 29, at Bala, Kan., to Dr. J. H. Lackey and Mrs. Mary

visitors at the home of Mrs. ... Misses Mary and ... entertained Miss ... of Parsons over ... The social at the home Blackburn last Friday proved an enjoyable event ... The services at the M. E. church ... continued this week ... number of the lecture course the Southland Sextette next ... Rev. ... friends here ... Chas. Sage of Omaha town Friday. Mr. Sage ... in his younger days, but ... here for many years. W. S. Moore has returned several weeks visit in Calif. Miss Virgil Huff and Mr. Benjamin of Lee county ... died Feb. 4 at the Houghton church ... Harold Johnson Moines is spending a few ... Miss Dorothy Day Keosauqua is a guest of M. Percival ... Mr. and Mrs. Smart have moved from the town and are living in the house on Texas street.

Home Endorsement

Hundreds of Keosauqua Citizens
Tell You All About

Home endorsement, the expression of Keosauqua people, is evidence beyond dispute to every Keosauqua reader. Such experience of friends and neighbors cheerfully given by them, carries more weight than the utterances of strangers residing in faraway places. Read the following:

Mrs. George Long, Macon, Iowa, says: "I hesitate to recommend Doan's Kidney Pills and confirm the good given in their praise by a letter from my family in May, 1910. I have Doan's Kidney Pills on my shelves, obtaining them from ..."

Mr. Keck possessed far more than average ability as a man of affairs, being perhaps the wealthiest man of his township. His talents were in demand in the public service. He served as township trustee and justice of the peace. In 1872, he was the republican candidate for county supervisor. However, there was a river bridge issue and county seat issue in the campaign that year, and he was defeated by about 15 votes by Thomas Christy of Bonaparte, the democratic candidate. Mr. Christy, who was afterwards, like Mr. Keck, a member of the legislature, died in 1887.

Along in the '80's, Mr. Keck was president for two years of the Van Buren county agricultural society, which was one of the most conspicuous and honorable positions in the county, having been held by such men as ex-Senator Geo. G. Wright, Geo. W. Games, Dr. Guernsey, J. B. Steakmore, Geo. C. Duffield, A. W. Stevens, B. S. Ream, Capt. Hinkle, Col. Blackledge and least of all the writer, and others. It is needless to say the fairs under his administration were a success.

In 1899 Mr. Keck was elected and served as member of the 28th general assembly. He would have been re-nominated had not advantage been taken of his absence from the state, when the nominating convention was held.

About three or four years ago Mr. Keck sold his farm and removed to Seattle where two daughters and their husbands resided. He and Mrs. Keck returned last year, however, and attended the reunion of the old settlers' association at this place. He was a pleasant gentleman socially, and was a strong, capable, useful citizen. Hundreds of people of this county were saddened by the news of his demise.

moving in. One or two loads of household goods of the latter had been carried into the house and Mr. Cresap had built a fire. As once the building was discovered to be on fire and was soon in flames. Neighbors gathered in and succeeded in getting the household goods of the burning building, but could not save the building itself. The fire doubtless started from a light in the flue. The building was one which was erected by George Batchelor a number of years ago, and probably cost \$1,500 to \$2,000. We understand there was some insurance on it. James Batchelor, the owner, resided at Bonaparte.

RUTHEANS ENTERTAIN DR. RUSSELL HO

On Wednesday, the regular meeting day of the Ruthean Society, the Methodist Episcopal church, society met at the home of Mrs. R. Russell. The entertaining committee was composed of Messrs. Russell, Stong, Octavia Strickland and Miss Alice Wright. Too much cannot be said of the delightful evening in which this committee entertained the large company of assembled guests. The rooms were beautifully decorated in honor of Lincoln, and the business session Misses M. and Russell sang a beautiful duet and Mrs. W. H. Saunderson rendered an instrumental solo. There were present 60 ladies and 10 children. Delicious refreshments were served.

The society has made wonderful progress in the last eighteen months or during the presidency of Mrs. H. DeHart, having more than doubled its membership. It is due in no small degree to the untiring efforts of the president.

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

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 Rev. Aulson of Keosauqua
 ing. The interment was in
 cemetery. Miss George
 Perry of Bonaparte, was
 Jan. 29, at Bala, Kan., to
 James. They are visiting
 James' mother, Mrs. Katharine
 Mr. Chas. Epperley and
 Beniah Conway were recent
 died at Floris, Ia. They
 visitors at the home of Mrs.
 Misses Mary and
 Meek entertained Miss C.
 Richardson of Parsons over
 The social at the home
 Blackburn last Friday proved
 an enjoyable event. The
 services at the M. E. church
 ing continued this week.
 number of the lecture course
 the Southland Sextette next
 day evening. Rev. Clark
 Nelson visited friends here
 Chas. Sage of Omaha
 town Friday. Mr. Sage is
 in his younger days, but
 been here for many years.
 W. S. Moore has returned
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 Miss Virgil Huff and Mr.
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