

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Smith James Albert Senator Smith, James
Albert - Represented Mitchell, Monroe and North Counties Iowa

1. Birthday and place 4 Jul 1851 Castile, Hyning Co., New York

2. Marriage (s) date place

Mary Alice Clegg 12 Aug 1874 Osage, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was an incorporator of the Osage Electric Light, Heat and Power
Company in 1890. Trustee of Iowa College (now Grinnell College) Grinnell Iowa

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Grained; Knights of Pythias

C. Profession Learned dealer, civil engineer; grocer

4. Church membership

Congregational

5. Sessions served 22nd 23rd General Assemblies 1886, 1898 - House of Representatives

6. Public Offices

32nd, 33rd, 34th General Assemblies 1907, 1909, 1911 - Senate

A. Local He served several terms on the school board and Osage city council

B. State

C. National

7. Death 12 Jan 1918 Pasadena, California. Buried Osage Cemetery, Osage, Iowa

8. Children Wm Clegg; Leland A.; Stanley Rufus; Jessie (Mrs. A. R. Leach);
Lloyd Bates; Richard James; Merrill Dershow

9. Names of parents Daniel White and Emily Skinner (Hall) Smith

Smith, James Albert

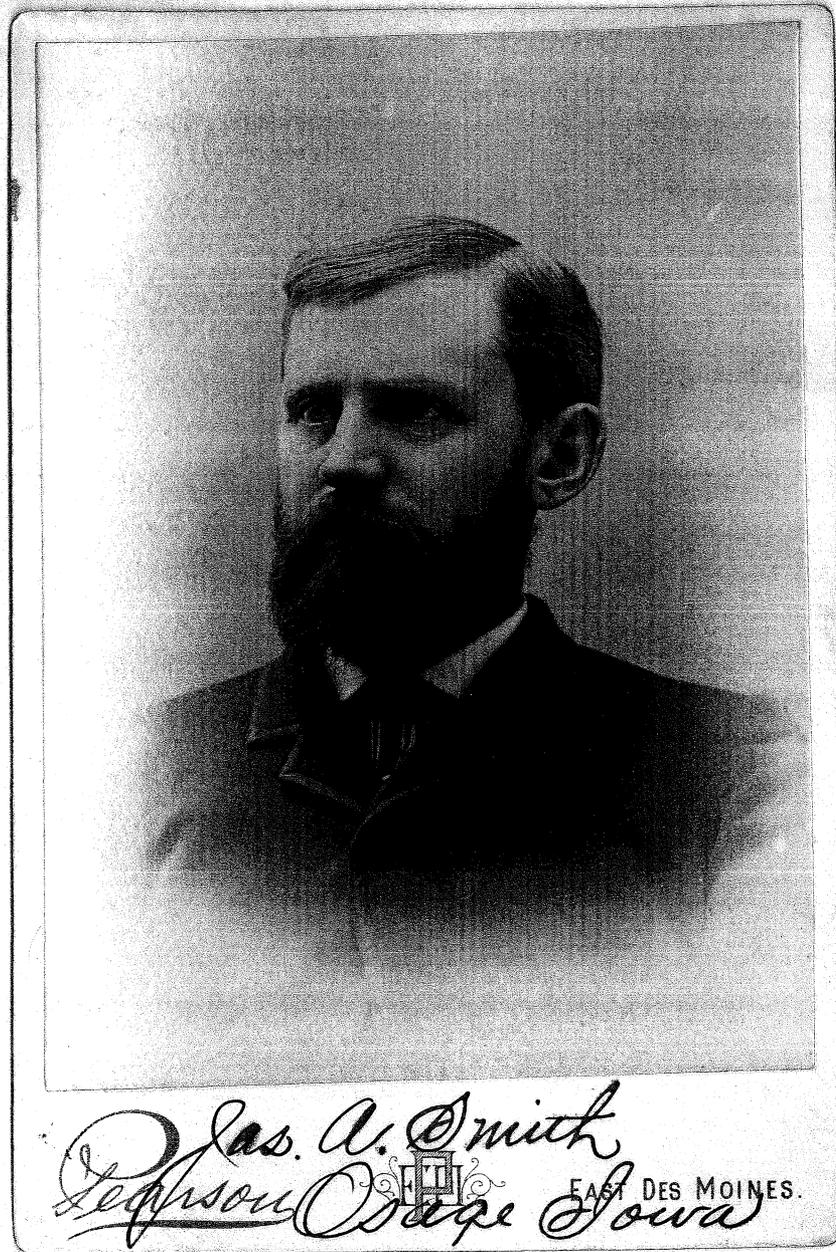
10. Education He was educated in the district school of Ostida, Spring County,
New York

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information _____

Republican

- At age 18 he moved westward locating at Orange, Iowa which was 1869.
- Here he was actively engaged in civil engineering for 3 years after having studied it in New York state.
- Later he engaged in merchandising with his brother, J. H. Smith, under the firm name of Smith Brothers when they opened a grocery store from 1874-1882.
- And in 1877 they also embarked in the retail lumber business also under the name of J. H. and J. A. Smith Lumberyard in Orange.
- In 1881 they established a branch lumber yard in Kendall, South Dakota and Chamberlain, South Dakota.
- In 1882 they sold the grocery store and brother J. H. moved to Harlan, Missouri to better supply their lumberyard. However his death occurred and the business was closed.
- James Albert Smith continued his business alone and established lumberyards elsewhere so by 1909 he had 40 lumberyards. He incorporated to become James A. Smith Lumber Company and joined by 2 sons, Fred C. and Edward A.



JAMES A. SMITH DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN, DEAD

PASSED AWAY AT PASADENA,
CALIF., LAST SATURDAY
MORNING

PROMINENT THROUGHOUT STATE

Most Forceful Figure in Legislative
Halls of State for Many Years—
Came to Osage a Young Man and
Amassed Fortune Through Indus-
try and Honesty

With the passing of Jas. A. Smith at Pasadena, Calif., last Saturday not only did Osage lose her wealthiest and most prominent citizen, but Iowa gave up one of its most influential men. Only a few days previous Senator and Mrs. Smith had departed from their home town for their elegant country home at Pasadena, expecting to spend the remainder of the winter in enjoying the beauties of that country and climate. Before their arrival there, however, Mr. Smith was taken sick. His ailment was pronounced pneumonia and his condition soon became critical. In fact his case was beyond the reach of mortal skill and he passed away about 7 o'clock last Saturday evening.

The daily reports as to his condition were looked forward to with eagerness and hope for the best and when the word telling of his death reached the folks back home a gloom of sadness spread over the city as the word passed rapidly from lip to lip.

When Mr. Smith came to Osage as a young man to make a name and fortune for himself he had before him certain ideals which played an important part in the realization of his ambitions. That he was a man of keen business judgment is evidenced by the fortune he amassed. In his business relations with his fellowmen he was at all times just and lenient with those who were his debtors. Instances are not a few in Mitchell county where men who are now wealthy got their start on the road to ease and comfort through the leniency of our distinguished deceased townsman.

In politics he was a leader and in all the years of his career stood out for the things he deemed as right. When he spoke in the legislative halls of the state he was accorded the attention justly due a man of good judgment and honesty of purpose. He was a convincing speaker and won distinctions which few men in the state have attained. His place as a leader in politics is spoken of by men of prominence in the state and some of their tributes will be printed next week.

DEATH OF GUSTAV ANDERSON

Young Man Born in Rock Creek
Neighborhood Died at His Home
Near Plymouth

One of the young men of the Rock Creek neighborhood ~~was~~ Gustav Anderson was born in Cedar township March 18, 1886. He was baptized and confirmed in the Rock Creek Lutheran church, of which he has always been a member. Until the fatal disease attacked him about one and a half years previous to his death he was strong and robust, the very picture of health.

He was quiet and unassuming in disposition and an energetic and willing worker.

March 19, 1911, he was united in marriage with Anna Oline Framstad. To this union were born two children, John, age 6, and Dorothy, age 3. The wife and children survive to mourn the loss of a good husband and a loving father. His mother, one sister and two brothers also survive him. His father died in the fall of 1916. His sister, Gena Louise, passed away a few years ago. Many other relatives survive and live in the same neighborhood. His uncle, J. Leker, came from Minneapolis at Christmas and remained at the side of his nephew to help in caring for him and stayed until after the funeral.

The funeral was held Wednesday noon at the home two and one-half miles east of Plymouth, where the family has lived for three years, and the service in the Norwegian language was held in the Rock Creek Lutheran church. His uncle and cousin of Buffalo Center were present. He was laid to rest in the Lutheran cemetery.

OPERETTA "DRESS REHEARSAL"

To Be Given by C. V. S. Girls Glee
Club Tuesday, Jan. 22, C. V.
S. Gymnasium

The comic operetta, "Dress Rehearsal," by the talented young composer, Louis Diehl, will be given at the C. V. S. gym Tuesday, Jan. 22, by the girls glee club under the direction of the dean of the conservatory, Mr. Schutz.

The operetta is in three acts and bubbles over with comical situations and laughable incidents. The music is catchy and tuneful and is sure to make a hit. This operetta has lately been given with rousing success in some of the leading eastern colleges.

The curtain will rise promptly at 8:15 and Mr. Schutz requests the public kindly to be in their seats a few minutes before this time so as to not cause unnecessary disturbance.

Admission will be only 25c, reserved seats 35c. Tickets will be on sale Saturday morning, Jan. 19, at the conservatory office.

of his home town, he was elected to the Iowa house of representatives in 1887. He was elected to the senate in 1899, 1903 and again in 1907. In his last year as a member of the senate he was

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As a man in the home he bestowed great love and attention on his devoted wife and children; which in turn was returned in full measure by the members of his family. As a husband and father he showed evidences of the highest ideals.

As a resident of Osage he was regarded as our most prominent citizen and his counsel was sought by many and freely given whenever it was asked. He was the highest type of citizen and Osage is glad to claim him as her own. Showing the deep respect in which he was held the business houses in the city were closed from 12 to 1 o'clock Tuesday, this time corresponding with the hour at which the funeral services were held in Pasadena.

James Albert Smith was born in the village of Castile, Wyoming county, New York, Feb. 4, 1851, of New England parentage. He received his education in the district school and at the age of 18 came west, locating at Osage. He was actively engaged in civil engineering for several years, later engaging in the mercantile business with a brother. Subsequently he entered the lumber business, in which he was engaged at the time of his death. He was president of the Jas. A. Smith Lumber Co., The Royal Lumber Co., Smith-Hovelson Lumber Co., Smith Thielen Lumber Co., Superior Lumber & Coal Co., with headquarters in Osage and with branches in various other Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota and Nebraska points. Mr. Smith was also vice president of the Farmers National bank of Osage and was connected with other county and outside banks. He was a leading member of the Congregational church of this city and the most liberal contributor to its support. He was a York rite Mason and a member of the Shrine, a member of the Knights of Pythias.

After serving for several terms on the school board and the city council

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of his home town, he was elected to the Iowa house of representatives in 1887 and served until 1891. He was elected to the senate in 1899, 1903 and again in 1907. In his last year as a member of the senate he was president pro-tem, at the same time acting as chairman of the appropriations committee. He was generally regarded to be, without exception, the ablest man in the Iowa senate, being held in the deepest respect alike by republican and democratic members. Senator Smith was a republican in politics.

In 1887 Senator Smith was elected a trustee of Iowa College, now Grinnell college, and served in this capacity to the time of his death.

In 1874 Mr. Smith was married to Mary Alice Crego and they are the parents of seven children, as follows: Fred Crego Smith of Osage; Leland A. Smith of Spirit Lake; Stanley R. of Tripoli, who at the present time is a member of the Iowa house of representatives from Bremer county; Mrs. Jessie S. Leach of Adel; Lloyd G. Smith of Minneapolis; Richard J. and Merrill G. Smith of Charles City.

Fred Crego Smith was summoned to Pasadena soon after the arrival of his father and mother in that city and reached the bedside of his father a few hours before he passed away. The daughter, Mrs. Leach, also went to Pasadena and was there to attend the funeral services, which were held Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock. The same afternoon the son left that city with the remains of his father on the sad mission of accompanying them home for burial. It is expected the remains will arrive in Osage so funeral services can be held at the Congregational church Sunday morning at 10:30; the same to be conducted by the pastor, Rev. Bertram Willoughby.

All Osage is in deep mourning because of the passing of this greatly beloved citizen and many personages prominent throughout the state and nation share the grief in the loss of this leader of men, a man who not only had time and ability to amass a fortune honestly, but at the same time had the welfare of his fellow-men at heart and worked for their best interests.

of the membership it will include automobiles in articles which might be the association.

Another important item of raising the limit of the membership from \$100 to \$150.

When the election of up M. F. McGhan, who efficient secretary for did not have any oppos chosen for another term Swensy was elected to ceeding Avery Brush, that position of trust years. Brede Wamstad ed a member of the e mittee, A. T. Tollefson and Robert Clark was a director from his sec county.

The financial statement of the association is printed on page of the News today interesting reading to a terested in insurance. strong showing for the

BATTERY SERVICE

Young Man From Esthe Place of Business ing Rink Build

This is the last week inking in Osage. If y enjoying that exhilarati have only a few days to indulge in it. The plied as a rink by Messr Connell has been lease man from Estherville by Karr and he will be he or two to open a batter tion in the front part of The rear of the buildi engaged by the Bureau storage purposes.

It was the plan of the ized Mitchell County Fau meet in this city last choose a county agent, bu of the unusually storm day there were not enou ficers here to transact a meeting will be held care of the matter. A been made to secure A who was so instrumenta up the organization of th take the position of ce but it is not known if he the position. A young name of Harwood, who several months has been ant county agent in B county, was here Saturd didate for the Mitchell

BIOGRAPHICAL ¹⁹¹⁸

JAMES ALBERT SMITH.

No history of Mitchell county, nor indeed of Iowa, would be complete without extended reference to James A. Smith, who for many years has been prominently connected with the lumber trade in this state and in Minnesota and who, moreover, has had a marked influence in shaping the political history of the commonwealth as a member of the general assembly.

He was born in Castile, Wyoming county, New York, February 4, 1851, a son of Davis W. and Emily S. (Wells) Smith, who were natives of New England, the former born in Vermont and the latter in Connecticut. They always remained residents of the east and in the Empire state James A. Smith was reared and educated. He obtained his education in the common schools of Castile, New York, remaining a resident of the Empire state until 1869, when, at the age of eighteen years, he made his way westward and established his home in Osage, Iowa. He had already studied civil engineering and followed the profession for three years. He afterward engaged in merchandising in company with his brother, G. W. Smith, under the firm style of Smith Brothers, opening a grocery store which they conducted from 1874 until 1882. In 1877, however, they had also embarked in the retail lumber business under the firm name of G. W. & J. A. Smith. They established a yard on West Main street in Osage, at the same location where the business is still carried on. In 1881 they established two branch yards in South Dakota, one at Kimball and the other at Chamberlain. In 1882, when they sold out their grocery store, G. W. Smith removed to Wausau, Wisconsin, in order to better supply the yards with lumber and to superintend their manufacturing interest at that place. His death, however, occurred in the fall of that year and the firm then disposed of the Wisconsin end of the business. In 1883 James A. Smith became owner of the retail yards and since that date he has continued to establish yards elsewhere. Something of the immense volume of the business is indicated by the fact that in 1909 he was operating forty yards. At that time the business was incorporated under the name of the James A. Smith Lumber Company, with head offices in Osage, the incorporators being James A. Smith, his two sons, Fred C. and Leland A. Smith, F. W. Annis and E. J. Scofield. At the present time James A. Smith has largely retired from the active management of the business. Since 1900 he has been instrumental in organizing the Royal Lumber Company, the Superior Lumber & Coal Company, the Smith-Hovelson Lumber Company and the Smith-Thielen Lumber Company, all with headquarters in Osage. The yards of the Smith Lumber Company are located throughout Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota, and by



James A. Smith



Mrs Jas A. Smith

reason of the continued growth and development of his business interests. Mr. Smith has become one of the foremost lumber merchants of this section of the country. In 1890 he was also one of the incorporators of the Osage Electric Light, Heat & Power Company, in which undertaking he was associated with W. L. Eaton. They first built a steam plant near the depot in Osage, but this was burned to the ground in 1894. They then rebuilt at the river, using water power, and Mr. Smith remained an active factor in the ownership and conduct of the business until 1904, when it was sold to the present owners. Whatever he has undertaken he has carried forward to successful completion, for in his vocabulary there is no such word as fail, and obstacles and difficulties in his path seem but to serve as an impetus for renewed effort on his part.

Mr. Smith now occupies a magnificent home in Osage. He was married on the 12th of August, 1874, to Miss Mary Alice Crego, a native of Constantine, Michigan, born June 12, 1856, a daughter of Rulof and Charlotte A. (Hutchins) Crego. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Smith was celebrated in Osage and to them have been born seven children: Fred Crego, living in Osage; Leland A., who is located at Spirit Lake, Iowa; Stanley R., living at Tripoli, Iowa; Jessie S., the wife of R. L. Leach, of Adel, Iowa; Lloyd G., whose home is in Emmetsburg, this state; and Richard J. and Merrill G., both of whom are in Charles City, Iowa.

Mr. Smith has been a prominent factor in political circles since 1887, when he was elected to represent Mitchell county in the general assembly, in which he made so creditable and commendable a record that in 1889 he was reelected to that position. In 1899 he was chosen state senator from the district comprised of Mitchell, Worth and Winnebago counties. He was reelected until his service in the upper house had covered thirteen years and in both houses seventeen years. For five consecutive sessions he was elected president pro tem of the senate. He was also chairman of the ways and means committee for three sessions and was on many other important committees. He was likewise chairman of the committee on retrenchment and reform for three sessions and his public work has been of an important, farreaching and beneficial character. Other political honors of a still higher nature would have been accorded him had he been ambitious in that direction, but he declined to become a candidate. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons, holding membership in lodge, chapter and commandery in Osage and in Za-ga-zig Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Des Moines. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, while his religious faith is that of the Congregational church. High and honorable principles have guided him in his career and by the exercise of his native talents, which are of a superior order, he has long maintained a foremost position among the prominent citizens of his state.

While going to press news comes that Mr. Smith passed away January 12, 1918.

FREDERICK C. BUSH.

Frederick C. Bush, attorney at law and former court reporter in Mitchell county, Iowa, makes his home in Osage, where he holds a high position in the regard of his fellow townsmen as well as in professional circles. He was born in Garner, Hancock county, Iowa, September 21, 1873, a son of Captain H. H.

Outline of Personal History of

James A Smith
RESIDENCE *Osage Iowa*

Kindly furnish on this sheet the necessary data for a personal sketch and return at your early convenience. Every question is important.

The Historical Department of Iowa

DES MOINES, IOWA

EDGAR R. HARLAN, CURATOR

(This form is for use in collecting data on deceased as well as living persons. Appropriate alterations may be made in matter below.)

- 1. Name in full (all names) *James Albert Smith*
- 2. Chief occupation or profession *Retail lumber merchant.*
- 3. Former occupation or profession *Civil Engr - few years of early life some years in Grocery trade*
- 4. Date and place of beginning each *1870-71 & 22 - Civil Engr - 1874 Grocer - 1877 & since lumberman*
- 5. Present residence address *Osage Iowa*
- 6. Present business address *" "*
- 7. Date of birth *Feb 4 - 1857 -*
- 8. Place of birth *Castile Maryland to New York.*
- 9. If born abroad, where *_____*
- 10. Emigrated to America, when *_____*
- 11. First migrated to what state and county, whether born abroad or in America *Came to Osage Iowa in Oct - 1869 - Residence ever since*
- 12. Emigrated the second time to what state or county *_____*
- 13. Further emigration, if any *_____*
- 14. Education. Give name and location of rural, high, business or technical school, college or university *In common village school Castile Md.*
- 15. Date of graduation and degree if any *_____*

16. Place of death _____

17. Date of death _____

18. Place of burial _____

19. Name of father in full (all names) Davis White Smith

20. Occupation of father Teacher

21. Full Maiden name of mother (all names) Emily Steamer Welles -

22. Residence when married Cattlet New York

23. Military service, if any (exact dates) _____

24. Political offices, (from the smallest to the largest, with dates)

Member of City Council Osage in late 70^s also in 80^s -
" " Osage School Board in 90^s
" of 72nd 73rd G.A.'s as a representative
Sundor 28th 29th 30th 31st 32nd 32nd G. - 33rd G.A.'s & still a member

25. Director or trustee of financial, religious and educational institutions

Director & M.P. of Farmers Natl Bk Osage for many years.
Pres Gas. Adolph Lumber Co & other Lumber Co's
Trustee of Iowa College Grinnell since 1887

26. Politics Republican

27. Religious denomination if any Member of Congregational Church

28. Religious preference if non-affiliated with a denomination _____

29. Member of what societies or associations of learning _____

30. Member of what secret organizations, with honors or offices held, with dates

Masonic bodies - Knights of Pythias No offices

31. Member of what clubs if any _____

32. Belonged to what firms (give names in full and dates if possible) _____

33. Officer or director in any corporation _____

34. Enclose business card if possible _____

35. Enclose photograph and autograph _____

36. Author of books or pamphlets, with titles and publishers in full and dates of publication

37. Miscellaneous



FAMILY HISTORY

1. To whom married *Mary Alice Cripp*
2. Date of marriage *Dec 12 - 1874*
3. Place of marriage *Asage Iowa*
4. Date of his or her birth *June 12 - 1856*
5. Place of his or her birth *Constantine Mich*
6. Religious denomination *Congregational*
7. Date of his or her death
8. Place of his or her death
9. Place of his or her burial
10. Father's full name
11. Born where and when
12. Occupation of his or her father
13. His or her mother's full name
14. Born when and where
15. Parents' residence at time of their marriage
16. Miscellaneous remarks on their family

1. **To whom married**
2. **Date of marriage**
3. **Place of marriage**
4. **Date of his or her death**
5. **Place of his or her death**
6. **Religious denomination**
7. **Date of his or her birth**
8. **Place of his or her birth**

CHILDREN OF

NAME

Fred C.
 Leland U.
 Stanley R.
 Jessie
 Lloyd Floyd
 Richard
 Merritt G.

CHILDREN OF

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Do you fancy your faith forever has flown,
Do you turn from your fellows and turn from each face,
Do you think you can shun even God's rich grace?

Has your soul been invaded, your heart cut in twain
By that terrible loss and terrible pain?

That anguish which comes when a dear one has died
And the place that is vacant is close by your side;
When life seems crushed by the force of the blow
Even then, in a way that you never may know,
The hope of reunion is casting its shine
Through the gloom and the shadows, one day at a time.

I am glad to pay this tribute to the memory of Senator McManus.

Senator Proudfoot spoke briefly as follows:

The tributes by the senators from Lee and Appanoose have taught me also to second the motion for the adoption of these resolutions.

My first legislative experience in this chamber was spent with Senator McManus through two sessions. I remember him as a jovial, witty Irishman. I remember him as I last saw him. I was driving through the city of Keokuk and, of course, I couldn't drive in and drive out without calling on my old friend and so I went to the postoffice where he was then serving as postmaster of the city of Keokuk and we visited awhile and he stood on the stone steps as I drove away in the splendid summer afternoon and bade me good-bye, never to meet again in this world.

I hope I may emulate some of the splendid characteristics, some of the splendid qualities of this man whose memory we now commemorate

JAMES A. SMITH.

Senator Kingland, from a special committee, submitted the following report and moved its adoption:

MR. PRESIDENT—Your committee appointed to prepare resolutions commemorating the life, character and public services of James A. Smith beg leave to submit the following report:

James Albert Smith was born in the village of Castile, Wyoming county, New York, February 4, 1851, of New England parentage. He received his education in the local district schools and at the age of eighteen came west and settled at Osage, Mitchell county, Iowa, which was his permanent residence at the time of his death. He was married in 1874 to Mary Alice Crego. He passed away at his winter home in Pasadena, Calif., January 12, 1918. He left surviving him his estimable wife and seven children, six sons and one daughter: Fred C. Smith, Lee A. Smith, Stanley R. Smith, Lloyd Smith, Richard J. Smith, Merrill G. Smith and Mrs. Robert Leach. His son, Stanley R. Smith, was an active member in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-seventh General Assembly, having been elected from Bremer county, Iowa.

