

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Volbert Aaron Benjamin Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Delaware County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 29 Sept 1853 Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

2. Marriage (s) date place

Elmer D. Baker 2 Jul 1881

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business President of German Coach Horse Breeders Association of America

B. Civic responsibilities \_\_\_\_\_

C. Profession Farmer; horse importer

4. Church membership Methodist Episcopal

5. Sessions served 36<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1915, 1917

6. Public Offices

A. Local \_\_\_\_\_

B. State \_\_\_\_\_

C. National \_\_\_\_\_

7. Death 6 Dec 1916 Chicago, Illinois; Buried Oakwood Cemetery

8. Children Fred; Thomas R.; Benjamin, Jr.; Charmion;  
Harriet Louise; Maggie

9. Names of parents \_\_\_\_\_

10. Education Education in several schools of Delaware County, Iowa

11. Degrees Attended Lenox College

12. Other applicable information Republican

- He came to Delaware County, Iowa with his parents soon after his birth
- They located near Calzburg and that is where he grew to manhood
- He was interested in thoroughbred stock and imported horses. He imported many thousand French and Belgian horses to this county. His stables had a nation wide reputation
- He was considered the wealthiest man in Delaware County at his death.



# DEATH SUMMONS HON. A. B. HOLBERT

STRICKEN WHILE ATTENDING  
LIVE STOCK EXPOSITION IN  
CHICAGO.

DIED LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Impressive Funeral Service Held at  
Greeley Last Sunday After-

Hon. A. B. Holbert of Greeley, one of the most prominent men of eastern Iowa and representative from this county in the General Assembly, died in Chicago Wednesday night, December 6th, 1916. He suffered a stroke of paralysis Wednesday afternoon while attending the live stock exposition and a few hours later passed quietly into everlasting sleep.

Mr. Holbert suffered a slight stroke of paralysis in April of this year. After a few weeks of careful treatment his condition was very much improved and he was able to give his time and attention to his affairs as usual. He did not however apply himself so closely to his business as formerly but gave much of his time in the interest of various organizations of which he was a member. Politics was his recreation and he was elect-

ed a member of the General Assembly from this county at the last general election. He was president of the German Coach Horse Breeders Association of America and was presiding at a meeting of the association in Chicago when he was stricken with his last illness. At first his condition did not appear to be serious. He beckoned to his son, Fred Holbert, who was near him and asked him to request the vice-president to take the chair. Mr. Holbert then left the room and was taken to Englewood hospital where his strength failed him rapidly and he passed away a few hours later. The body was brought to Greeley Thursday night.

Impressive funeral services were held at the family home Sunday afternoon at one o'clock. Rev. Alexander, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church of Greeley officiating. The large concourse of friends who came to pay their last respects taxed the spacious residence to the limit.

The remains were brought to Manchester and placed in the receiving vault in Oakland cemetery. It has

tenderly loved have the sincere sympathy of their many friends in the great loss they are now called upon to sustain.

## DEATH OF PROMINENT RYAN WOMAN.

Mrs. Ida Houston, wife of Fred C. Houston, cashier of the Ryan State bank, died of pneumonia Sunday, December 10, 1916. Her untimely death has shrouded the community of Ryan in sorrow. The unusual loveliness of her character endeared her to all who knew her. She was honored and respected by the community generally. The Democrat joins their friends in tendering sincere sympathy to the members of the family in the hour of their great bereavement.

Ida C. Woodard was born in June, 1870, on the home place in the Bay Community, and died December 10th, 1916, at her home in Ryan, at the age of 45 years, 5 months and 28 days. In 1897 Miss Woodard was joined in marriage to Fred Houston, then of Hazel Green.

They made their home in Hazel Green for two years, then moved to Ryan, where they have made their home ever since. To this union were born three sons, Raymond, age 15, Glen, age 14, and Howard, age 6.

Mrs. Houston has been a member of the Methodist church since childhood. She proved herself a woman of admir-

able qualities. A beautiful mother and wife in the home; a loyal worker in the church. She will be missed by all.

There remain to mourn the loss her husband, the three sons; a mother; two brothers, Luke Reed of Mankilla, Iowa; and Willard Woodard of Coggon; a sister, Mrs. Clara Haas of Los Angeles, California. Funeral services were held this morning at the Methodist church at Ryan, Rev. A. W. Suzer officiating.

## MRS. AMASA STONE.

Mary Retz came to Greece on the home of her parents, at Rappersville, Switzerland, on the 11th of March, 1868. There she resided with her parents until she was three years of age when they came to America and located at Elgin, Iowa, where she grew to womanhood. On the 15th of December, 1887, she gave her heart and hand in marriage to Mr. Amasa Stone, with whom she ever after lived happily until removed from his home by death on the 9th of December, 1916.

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The remains were brought to Manchester and placed in the receiving vault in Oakland cemetery. It has not yet been decided by the family whether interment will be made here or at Greeley.

Mr. Holbert lived in Delaware county practically all of his life. He was born in Luzerne county, Pa., on September 29th, 1853, and came here with his parents soon after. They located near Colesburg and it was in that vicinity that he grew to manhood. He received his education in the schools of this county and Lenox college. He early became interested in thoroughbred stock and his attention soon became directed to the handling of imported horses. He imported many thousand horses to this country from France and Belgium and his stables had a nation wide reputation. His animals have taken scores of prizes at the stock expositions of recent years. It will be remembered that because of his personal acquaintance with high German officials the horses which the German government sent to the World's fair at Chicago were intrusted to his supervision. His keen and discerning judgment and untiring energy brought him success and placed him at the head of the horse importers of America. Starting with little capital but with willing hands and a clear mind he accumulated a fortune far exceeding a million dollars. He was accounted the wealthiest man in Delaware county at the time of his death.

On February 2, 1881, he married Emma D. Baker. He often said his success was in a large measure due to her business judgment and active co-operation during all of the years of his very busy life.

He is survived by his wife and the following children: Thomas R., Fred B. Benjamin Jr., Charmion, Warren Louis, and Marjorie. Three sisters, Mrs. H. A. Dittmer of this city, Mrs. Adaline Carpenter of Arlington and Mrs. Charles Sawyer of Pomona, California, also survive Mr. Holbert.

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MRS. AMASA STONE.

Mary Retz came to Sweden the home of her parents, at Rappersville, Switzerland, on the 11th of March, 1868. There she resided with her parents until she was three years of age when they came to America and located at Elgin, Iowa, where she grew to womanhood. On the 15th of December, 1887, she gave her heart and hand in marriage to Mr. Amasa Stone, with whom she ever after lived happily until removed from his home by death, on the 9th of December, 1916. To them God gave three sons, Edgar Dean, Chester and Harold, all of whom survive her. Having been in ill health for some time past it was finally decided to take her to Dubuque for medical treatment and on last Wednesday she submitted to a surgical operation for internal cancer and for some time hopes were entertained for her recovery, but alas! the fond hopes of her loved ones were soon dashed to the ground for at ten minutes past four o'clock on Saturday afternoon the spirit of this kind wife and mother took its flight to meet her God. Her age was 48 years, 8 months and 28 days.

For some years past she with her husband and family had been building up for themselves a beautiful country home a few miles south of Lamont, and it was there by her unselfish and untiring devotion to her duty as a loved and will be greatly missed. By her neighborly love and kind deeds she had won for herself an enviable place in the hearts of her neighbors in the entire community. They had also lived at Dundee and Manchester where she was well and favorably known. It was while living in Manchester that she united with the First Baptist church of that place in 1892, and died in the faith.

Her funeral was conducted from the home of her brother, Fred Retz, in Lamont, Monday afternoon, at 2 o'clock by the Rev. R. Wesley Maack, of Dundee. Very appropriate music was rendered by a ladies quartette of Lamont. Interment being made in the Campton cemetery.

Besides her immediate family she leaves to mourn her loss three brothers and two sisters: Fred Retz and Mrs. Ada Ryan of Lamont, Albert Retz of Thorpe, Amiel Retz and Mrs. T. B. Ryan of Strawberry Point.

The sorrowing friends have the sympathy of the entire community in this time of sorrow.

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The death of Ben. Holbert, as he was familiarly known, marks the passing of a man whose restless energy would have brought success in any line he might have chosen. He was a genial companion and always had a cheering word for his friends. He was a frequent visitor in Manchester and enjoyed a very large circle of close friends here who deeply mourn his death. Mr. Holbert was a public spirited man. When some new project was launched or some worthy cause needed assistance he was always one of the first to generously respond. He was naturally a broad and liberal minded man; by nature hopeful and optimistic.

In his death this County and the state loses a leading citizen and this community a good friend. The members of his family, his nearest companions in life and the ones he so

cer and for some time hopes were entertained for her recovery, but alas! the fond hopes of her loved ones were soon dashed to the ground for at ten minutes past four o'clock on Saturday afternoon the spirit of this kind wife and mother took its flight to meet her God. Her age was 48 years, 8 months and 28 days.

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LECTURE COURSE NUMBER.

The fourth number of the Lecture Course will be given at the High school auditorium on Monday evening, December 18, beginning at 8:00 o'clock.

This number is to be given by Charles Howard Plattenburg, who will deliver his great lecture on "Community Building." Mr. Plattenburg is a preacher and popular lecturer. He has become a very popular chaquetaqua speaker and during the summer months more requests were received than could be filled. He comes on the course at an added expense and we are certain that he has a message of interest to all. XX

—Mrs. E. H Hoyt was a Chicago visitor, last week.

—The Et A Virp club will meet with Miss Florence Klaus this evening. Man

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