

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Evans,
William Thomas - Represented Bremer and Butler Counties,
Iowa

1. Birthday and place 8 Nov 1869 near Waterloo, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place
Lela Phelps 25 June 1902

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Member of the Black Hawk County and Iowa State
Bar Associations

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Elk; Knights of Pythias,
Modern Shodmen of America

C. Profession Attorney

4. Church membership Presbyterian

5. Sessions served 37th and 38th General Assemblies 1917 and 1919

6. Public Offices

A. Local Butler County attorney; district judge

B. State _____

C. National Delegated at-large at the Republican National Convention in
1928 at Kansas City; endorsed the nomination of Herbert Hoover

7. Death 5 June 1961 Cedar Falls, Iowa

8. Children William Phelps; an infant daughter preceded her father in
death

9. Names of parents John O. and Rebecca (McClintock) Evans

EVANS, William Thomas

10. Education Education in schools of Black Hawk
County, Iowa and graduated from East
Waterloo High School in 1889

11. Degrees State University of Iowa - Bachelor of Philosophy
degree in 1896 and in 1897 - Bachelor of Laws
degree

12. Other applicable information Republican

- In college, he published the "Vidette Reporter", the
tri-weekly college newspaper of the State University
of Iowa.

- He began his law practice in Parkersburg, Iowa where he
remained until Nov 1928 when he went to Waterloo
to practice law.

Presbyterian Church, which he attends at Waukon.

In 1916, at Decorah, Mr. Griebel was united in marriage with Miss Alice E. Daniels, a daughter of Bert and Emma (Peacock) Daniels. For many years Mr. Daniels was a business man of Decorah, where he and his wife still make their home. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Griebel: Shirley E., born July 21, 1917, at Decorah; Genevieve A., born May 10, 1919, also at Decorah; and Kathleen B., born March 10, 1921, at Minneapolis. All of the children are attending public school at Waukon.

ELY V. LAUGHLIN, dean of Lenox College and superintendent of public schools at Hopkinton, has an interesting record of experience and service as a school man. Prior to locating at Hopkinton he was in school work in Illinois for many years, his principal activities in that state being in the famous old County of Pike.

Mr. Laughlin was born at San Antonio, Texas, January 16, 1875, but his father was a native of Illinois and soon after the birth of the son they returned to that state.

Charles H. Laughlin, his father, was born in Quincy, Illinois, and was also a teacher for many years, and the latter part of his life was devoted to farming. He married Miss Mary S. Waldo, of Rich Hill, Missouri. He died in 1904 and was survived in 1902. There were two sons, Ely V. and Charles H., the latter a resident of Seattle, Washington.

Ely V. Laughlin had the advantages of the common schools in Pike County, Illinois, until 1893. During all these early years, even after becoming a teacher, he spent his summer seasons on his father's farm. After getting a teacher's certificate he began his work in country school districts, and from 1900 to 1902 was principal of a school at Hull, Illinois. The following two years were given to study in the Illinois State Normal School, from which he received a diploma in June, 1904. For three years Mr. Laughlin was science teacher in the high school at Pittsfield in Pike County, leaving there in 1907 to enroll in the University of Illinois, where he pursued the work of the liberal arts department, spending one year and two summers, and was granted his Bachelor's degree in 1909. During 1908-09 he was principal of school at Monticello, Illinois, was teacher of science in the high school at Champaign in 1909-10, and then for about two years he gave up school work to live on a farm.

Mr. Laughlin in 1911 came to Hopkinton, Iowa, as teacher of science in Lenox College. He has been dean of the college since September, 1915, and since that date has also given part of his time to his teaching duties in the public schools. He has been superintendent of schools at Hopkinton since 1923. During the summers 1914-1920 Mr. Laughlin pursued graduate work at Columbia University, New York City, receiving a Ph. D. A. M. degree in 1921.

While living in Pike County, Illinois, he served as township clerk. He is a member of the Iowa State Teachers Association, the Masonic Fraternity, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen, is a Republican in his voting affiliations, and an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Laughlin married, June 6, 1905, Miss Anna Hawker, of Perry, Illinois. They have two children, Charles V., born May 30, 1907, and Frances A., born October 23, 1909.

HON. WILLIAM THOMAS EVANS. Prominent among the learned, astute and able attorneys of Blackhawk County, few have attained greater prestige through the exercise of native talent and great industry than Hon. William Thomas Evans, of Waterloo. His has been a career of great energy, marked by personal and professional success, and by public service of a high character, he having been formerly a member of the State Senate.

William Thomas Evans is a product of the agricultural community of Blackhawk County, having been born November 8, 1869, on a farm two and one-half miles east of Waterloo, in East Waterloo Township. His father, John O. Evans, was born September 12, 1826, in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. David Evans, the grandfather of William Thomas Evans, was born in Wales and was brought to the United States at the age of nine years. His parents and two or three brothers settled in what were then the wilds of Westmoreland County, and as he grew to manhood David Evans engaged in the preparation of salt, pumping the salt water from the earth and then boiling it until the water evaporated, leaving only the salt, which met with a ready and prosperous market among the settlers of the community. For a time this business was protected by a tariff, but subsequently the tariff was removed, allowing the importation of cheap foreign competition, which ruined the business. Mr. Evans, however, continued to make his home in Westmoreland County until his death in 1850. He married Ellen Owens, whose parents were born in Wales, and she survived her husband for a long period, dying at the age of eighty-six years.

John O. Evans acquired a good education for his day and community, and at the age of eighteen years commenced teaching in the rural schools of Westmoreland County, boarding around among the families of his community and receiving a salary of sixteen dollars per month. It was not unusual for him to share the bed of one of the younger boys, or even two, and the quality and quantity of food served depended not so much upon the financial status of the head of the family as upon his thriftiness or hospitality. Such was a hard life for an ambitious young man, and by 1853 Mr. Evans accumulated sufficient means to visit Iowa, coming by railroad to the western terminal and then by stage coach to Blackhawk County. At that time the greater portion of all this section of the state was owned by the Government and was on

sale at the nominal price of \$1.25 per acre. Mr. Evans evidently perceived that this land would be of great value in the future and accordingly preempted 160 acres and entered his claim at the land office at Dubuque. He then returned to the East to complete his preparations for residence in the new country, and in 1856 came back to Iowa and taught school in Cedar County for two years. In 1858 he took up his residence in East Waterloo Township, where he lived for four years in a log house built on the land adjacent to the land he had purchased from the Government. He settled down permanently to the work of breaking the soil, raising crops and growing live stock, and through hard work and good management prospered and thrived and added fifty acres to his original purchase. There this godly and industrious man rounded out his useful life, passing away in 1896, at the age of seventy years. In 1851 Mr. Evans married Rebecca McClintock, who was born April 16, 1830, near Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, daughter of Andrew and Jane Eckels McClintock. Joseph McClintock, the great-grandfather of William Thomas Evans, was born in County Donegal, Ireland, of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and came to America during Colonial times, settling in Western Pennsylvania. At that time there were no white settlements west of the Ohio River, and the Indians, although being constantly driven back by the pale faces, contested this country hotly as their hunting ground. It was necessary for such sturdy settlers as Mr. McClintock to go constantly armed and to keep a sharp outlook for possible Indian raids. In 1852 Andrew McClintock moved on westward to Iowa, and for a time lived at Cascade, but later bought a farm near Shell Rock and spent his last years thereon. Mrs. Rebecca Evans died in 1899, aged sixty-nine years, having reared six children: Josephine, married D. H. Upcraft, and they live at Waterloo; Mary Catherine, married W. E. Clossen, and they live at Independence, Iowa; Ellen Eldora, married A. W. Partridge, and lives at Omaha; Dr. John Grant, of New Hartford, Iowa, married Nettie Cousins; William Thomas, of this sketch; and Elmer L., deceased, who is survived by his widow, Isabel MacDonald Evans, who resides at Chicago, where she is editor writer for the *Electric Traction* magazine. Another son, David Evans, died in infancy. No finer tribute can be paid the parents of Mr. Evans than that in a time when it meant much sacrifice they gave all their children a good education, which is a finer heritage than material wealth.

William Thomas Evans attended the rural school and East Waterloo High School, graduating therefrom in 1889, and then entered the College of Liberal Arts of the State University of Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1896 with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy and in 1897 from the law department with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. The last two years of his Liberal Arts course he owned and published the *Vidette Reporter*, the tri-weekly college news-

paper of the State University of Iowa. He commenced the practice of his profession at Parkersburg, Iowa, where he remained until November, 1928, since which time he has followed his profession at Waterloo, with offices in the Marsh-Place Building. Senator Evans is accounted one of the able members of the state bar, and carries on a general practice, being fully informed in all departments of his profession. He is a member of the Blackhawk County Bar Association and the Iowa State Bar Association, and has a high position in the confidence of his associates because of his recognition and support of the highest ethics of his calling. He served in 1905 and 1906 as county attorney of Butler County, Iowa. He cast his first presidential vote for a Republican, Benjamin Harrison, and has been a staunch supporter of the principles of that party ever since. He served as a member of the Iowa State Senate in the Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth General Assemblies, and was a member of numerous committees, including that of dairy and food, of which he was chairman. At present he is a member from the Third Iowa District of the state central committee. Mr. Evans was delegate-at-large to the Republican national convention at Kansas City in 1928 and with his family attended the inauguration of President Hoover. He is a member of the Optimist Club, a Mason, Elk, and Modern Woodman.

On June 25, 1902, Senator Evans was united in marriage with Miss Lela Phelps, who was born at Independence, Iowa, a daughter of William Burton and Hattie (Smith) Phelps, both of which families are of early English ancestry. Mrs. Evans has always taken an intense personal interest in the boys and girls of the community. No child in the neighborhood can be sick or in trouble without Mrs. Evans giving her personal attention to them. Senator and Mrs. Evans are the parents of one son: William Phelps, born November 4, 1918, now attending school at Cedar Heights.

JOHN W. DWYER. The City of Oelwein, metropolis of Fayette County, is one of the progressive industrial and commercial centers of this part of the state, and the community is at all times alert in supporting measures and enterprises tending further to advance the civic and material prosperity of the city. One of the agencies that has been notably influential in such movements in the Oelwein Chamber of Commerce, of which well ordered organization John W. Dwyer is the popular and efficient secretary.

Mr. Dwyer was born at Silver Plume, Colorado, August 26, 1871, and was a lad of about six years at the time of the family removal to Iowa. His father, the late Michael Dwyer, was born at Troy, New York, in 1842, and was reared and educated in the old Empire State. As a young man he became concerned with mining enterprise in Colorado, and from that state he came with his family to Iowa in the year 1877.