

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Francis James Smith Senator \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Represented Taylor County, Iowa \_\_\_\_\_

1. Birthday and place 27 Sept 1873 near Kent, Union County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

\_\_\_\_\_ Mary E. Coan \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Aug 1906 \_\_\_\_\_ Gravity, Iowa \_\_\_\_\_

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business \_\_\_\_\_

B. Civic responsibilities Mason, Modern Woodmen; Yeoman

C. Profession Editor; published of The Gravity Independent newspaper, Gravity, Iowa

4. Church membership Presbyterian, later Methodist

5. Sessions served 38<sup>th</sup>, 39<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1919, 1921

6. Public Offices

A. Local Gravity school board member and president for 21 years; Washington Township clerk; Gravity town constable

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

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

7. Death 8 Aug 1949 Gravity, Iowa; buried Gravity Cemetery, Gravity, Iowa

8. Children Georgiana (Mrs. Scott E. Cramer)

9. Names of parents Alfred Crittendon and Georgiana Jane (Davidson) Francis

Francis, James Smith

10. Education Educated in rural schools of Taylor County

11. Degrees Attended Afton Normal College, Afton, Iowa  
Highland Park College, Des Moines, Iowa 3 1/2 years -  
1897-1900

12. Other applicable information Republican

- For 7 years he taught and was superintendent in Union and Adams county schools
- He purchased The Gravity Independent newspaper in 1907. They moved to Gravity in June 1907 and that remained their home until his death.



### Bedford Bruins Win From Oilers

The Bedford Bruins won their fifth straight victory last Sunday defeating the Omaha Oilers 7-3. Sickels opened the fourth frame with a single and was promptly sacrificed to second by Marshall. Lowry doubled, Jeter smashed a towering triple to left center and Jamison followed with another two-bagger and three runs were in. Radke was safe on Carter's error and Jamison scored for a total of four runs enough to win.

The Oilers defense fell apart in the sixth when the Bruins scored twice on four errors. The final tally came in the eighth on doubles by Lowry and Radke.

The visitors scored single runs in the last three innings all of which were unearned.

Walters collected half of the Omaha hits getting three singles in four attempts. Lowry paced the locals with two doubles.

Jeter struck out fifteen and five of the Bruins went down swinging.

The Benson Blues, one of the fastest semipro teams from Kansas City, Missouri will furnish plenty of opposition on the local diamond next Sunday afternoon.

Score by innings:

Omaha	000	000	111	—	3	6	5
Bedford	000	402	01x	—	7	4	3

Batteries: A. Dunbar, J. Dunbar (6) and Walters; Jeter and Radke.

Reported by Sid Morris.

### Aged Conway Merchant Dies

Henry Burge, 90, a merchant in Conway for many years, died at his home there Sunday, August 7. He had been in failing health for several years.

The funeral services were held at the Conway Methodist Church Tuesday afternoon and burial was in the Gravity cemetery.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Orda Hess; two sons, Floyd Burge and his wife, and Dick Burge, all of Conway. There are also several grandchildren.

### TRIPLE A NEWS

The maturity date of sealed corn is September 1st. With nearly a million bushels of corn under seal and purchase agreement, the storage necessary to reseal this corn must be considered seriously by every producer.

In every part of the county many farmers have come to the office declaring themselves willing to reseal because of the correct and State Legislators' Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa library, Des Moines, Iowa.

### Editor Francis Dies - Serves Public 42 Yrs.

J. S. Francis, editor of the Gravity Independent, died at his home in Gravity Monday forenoon, August 8. He had been in failing health for several months but had continued to help with the publishing of his newspaper until two weeks ago, when he was taken to the hospital for a few days for observation and treatment.

Mr. Francis was active in civic, community and political affairs and was a friend to all, both young and old. He served on the Gravity School board for twenty years, had been a member of the Gravity town council, and served two terms in the State Legislature as a representative from Taylor county. He had been a member of the Gravity Masonic Lodge since 1916.

Mr. Francis joined the Prairie Star Presbyterian church, a rural church his mother and sister Mary organized, in his youth, and on moving to Gravity became a member of the Methodist church there. He taught a Sunday school class for fifty years.

James Smith Francis, one of a family of ten children, five girls and five boys, was born to Alfred and Georgaina Jane Davidson Francis, September 27, 1873, on the old home farm south of Kent, Iowa. He attended country school and also Highland Park College, Des Moines, and later was engaged in the teaching profession for several years.

On August 1, 1906 he was married to Miss Mary Coan of Creston. To them was born one daughter, Georgaina, now Mrs. Scott Cramer of Chicago.

Mr. Francis purchased the Gravity Independent in 1907, he and his wife moving there in June of that year to take over their new work of publishing the paper. Gravity had been their home since that time.

He is survived by his wife, the daughter and her husband; one granddaughter, Jeanette Ann Cramer; one sister, Mrs. Anna Smith of Okmulgee, Oklahoma; three brothers, Chas. J. Francis and Alfred R. Francis of Creston, and George G. Francis of Kent.

The last rites were held at the Gravity Methodist church at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, Rev. D. C. Callison officiating. Burial was in the Gravity cemetery. Masonic brothers attended in a group.



### Births

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Churchill of Gravity, Friday, August 5.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Pace of Bedford, Monday, August 8. She has been named Barbara Kay. Mrs. Pace is the former Coryl Hatfield of Bedford.

### Rev. E. S. Menoher Dies In Colorado

Rev. E. S. Menoher, 81, a former resident of this community, died in a hospital at Pueblo, Colorado, Sunday, August 7, according to word received by his sister-in-law, Mrs. Alta Nevius of Bedford. The funeral services and burial were in Pueblo Wednesday.

Rev. Menoher was born and reared at Gravity. He attended Simpson College and served as pastor in the Iowa - Des Moines Methodist Conference for many years. He held pastorates at Corn ing, Villisca and Mount Ayr in this area.

He is survived by his wife; two daughters, Mrs. Corwin Pyle of Pueblo and Mrs. Everett Pratt of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and one son, Paul Menoher of Riverside, California.

### Vesper Services Sunday At Lake

Vesper Services are being held at 4:30 o'clock each Sunday afternoon at the Lake of Three Fires, sponsored by the Bedford Inter-Church Council.

Rev. Ben W. Sinderson spoke at the service last Sunday, which was well attended. Visitors were present from most of the towns in the county and from Shenandoah.

Rev. C. W. Richardson, the Methodist minister at Lenox, will speak Sunday, August 14. A large attendance of Bedford folks is urged and visitors will be made welcome.

The services are held just west of the shelter house in a natural amphitheatre setting.

### Marjorie Parker Receives Degree

Marjorie M. Parker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Parker of Bedford, received her Bachelor of Science in Commerce degree at the State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Wednesday. Miss Parker was one of the record-breaking summer class, there being 872 graduates to receive degrees, receiving advanced degrees.

Another of the graduates is

### V.F.W.'s S Work On New Build

### Select Butler 60x120 In Size

Work on the new building, which is being erected by the Bedford Veterans of Foreign Affairs, will start this week-end, as plans made by the post at their meeting Monday. They have selected a building, 60x120, with rooms and one story location for the building on East Main Street, the beer purchased last year by V.F.W.'s.

### Mrs. W. A. Fuchs Died At St.

Mrs. W. A. Fuchs, a resident of the East Mission community, died Saturday, August 7, at the Missouri Hospital in St. Joseph. She had been taken there before for observation and treatment.

The funeral service was held at the Wetmore Funeral home Tuesday afternoon, conducted by Rev. Fred H. Cowles, in the Fairview cemetery.

Iris Blane, daughter of Mrs. Fuchs, died in Illinois, January 26, aged 73 years, 6 months at the time of her death.

She was married to Fred Fuchs on July 3, 1896 and became the parents of three children.

She is survived by one son, Albert Fort Wayne, Ind.; two daughters, Paul Blane of Clear Lake, Calif.; Frank Blane of Shenandoah; Mrs. Edith Ann Blane of Iowa; and one grandchild. Her parents, three of whom preceded her in death.

Mrs. Fuchs was a member of the East Mission Baptist church and was a faithful worker for many years.

### Softball Tournament At A

The SW Iowa District is sponsoring a softball tournament to be held in Atlantic during the week ending August 21. Only those teams that have or still are playing in a church league will be invited to enter the tournament. Each team must submit