

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Frank Evans — Represented Des Moines County, Iowa **Senator** Thompson,

1. Birthday and place 13 Dec 1873 Grandview, Louisiana County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Lillian M. Russell 22 Aug 1894 Columbus Junction, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Legal practicing law at Burlington, Iowa 1 July 1896

B. Civic responsibilities Elks; Eagles; Modern Woodmen of America; Mason

C. Profession Lawyer

4. Church membership Protestant

5. Sessions served 36<sup>th</sup> 37<sup>th</sup> 38<sup>th</sup> 39<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1915, 1917, 1919, 1921

6. Public Offices

A. Local County prosecuting attorney 1904-1906 county Republican party chairman

B. State

C. National

7. Death 19 Sept 1937 Burlington, Iowa

8. Children No children

9. Names of parents John H. and Mary (Sec) Thompson

10. Education Educated in the district schools of  
Louisiana County, then high school in Columbus City,  
Iowa and later in Muscatine, Iowa  
Business College in Muscatine, Iowa

11. Degrees Iowa State University graduating from law  
school in June 1896

12. Other applicable information Republican

- After getting his law degree he moved to Burlington  
Iowa where he set up a law office continuing until 3 years  
before his death.

- His work especially prominent in criminal cases  
Member - Iowa National Guard. 1893





# FORMER STATE SENATOR DIES

Frank E. Thompson Was Also Co. Prosecutor and Well Known Attorney.

Frank E. Thompson, 58, of 203 Polk street, former state senator and Des Moines county prosecuting attorney, and at one time one of the best known criminal lawyers in Burlington, died at 1:20 o'clock this morning in Mercy hospital, after a lingering illness with an incurable malady, which blighted the closing years of his active career. He had been a patient in the hospital for the past two months, but had withdrawn from actual practice as an attorney almost three years ago. Even though it was known that he could not recover he never gave up hope, and as late as last Saturday expressed the belief that he would recover.

### In State Senate.

Mr. Thompson was county prosecuting attorney for a two-year term from 1904 to 1906, and was a member of the state senate for two four-year terms, from 1914 to 1922, representing Des Moines county in the 36th, 37th, 38th and 39th general assemblies. In his active practice he was noted for his eloquence and accompanying elaborate gestures, which earned him considerable reputation as an orator and pleader before juries on the side of the defense in criminal cases, and on the side of the state when he was county attorney. During the war he was chosen by the government to speak in behalf of the Liberty loan drives.

### 28 First Degree Murder Cases.

During his career he prosecuted and defended 28 first degree murder cases, including some of the most sensational ever tried in the county. Among them were such cases as the John Hendershot case in 1902, in which Hendershot cut the throat of a Negro, Dr. William Trent in the county jail here, later being found guilty; the George Cox case, in which Cox, a Negro, shot a Negress to death in Fate Martin's gambling house, and was acquitted; and the Shurtz murder case, in which Mrs. Shurtz and a man named Speas killed Mrs. Shurtz' husband. Attorney Thompson defended Mrs. Shurtz, but both she and Speas were convicted. Mr. Thompson's record of other cases included scores of in-

## Passes Away



FRANK E. THOMPSON

Browning of Emporia, Kan., and several nephews and nieces including a niece Mrs. Audrene Barnes, now of Alabama, whom he and his wife raised from the time she was five years old.

The body was taken to Prugh's chapel pending arrangements for the funeral.

## STANDARD OIL CO. OFFICE BROKEN INTO, RANSACKED

The Standard Oil company office in the north bottoms was broken into over the week-end. Desk drawers were rifled but nothing is reported as missing. According to police information, entrance was gained via a rear window on the east side of the building.

## Girl Steps in Front of Car; Leg Fractured

Miss Mary Louise Beyer 17, of New London is in Burlington hospital with her left ankle fractured the injury resulting when she was struck by a car Sunday. She and her mother were on the highway road and a car came up behind them

# MAJOR FLEMING VISITOR HERE

Athletic Director at Military Academy Forsees Successful Grid Season

Maj. Philip Fleming, director of athletics at the United States military academy at West Point, has been in Burlington for two days, visiting at the home of his mother, Mrs. J. J. Fleming, here to attend to some business, and planned to leave this evening.

Major Fleming, who has been known as one of the leading athletic executives in the country during his term in charge of the military academy, will be transferred from West Point to another army post after this season, which is just getting started. The move will be made in accordance with the army custom of transferring officers at stated intervals.

Original plans called for leaving the academy post in the fall, but special arrangements were made for him to remain through the season. Maj. L. D. Wornall, formerly stationed at Memphis, has been named as his successor and is now at West Point. Fleming's assistant, Theodor, has not yet been officially notified where he will be stationed.

## Preachers Name Committee

Local ministers at a meeting this morning named a committee composed of Rev. R. B. Blythe, Buescher and Rev. C. H. to investigate a proposal by the Parent-Teachers Association and confer further with them and the school board, at which they will report back to the board. The nature of the proposal is not yet announced.

## Daughter of Former Local Couple

Word has been received from Mrs. C. O. Larson of Peoria, Ill., of Jeanie Kellstedt, formerly of Burlington, who was the daughter of Arthur Kellstedt, former

HISTORY  
OF  
DES MOINES COUNTY  
IOWA  
AND ITS PEOPLE

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ILLUSTRATED

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VOLUME II

CHICAGO  
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1915

at different times in Chicago, Indianapolis, Columbus, Ohio, and St. Louis, and that his services were most capable and satisfactory is indicated in the fact that he was retained in the service of the company through almost two decades. In July, 1906, he arrived in Burlington and began business in merchandise brokerage, organizing the Hume Brokerage Company, in which connection he works Burlington and the surrounding territory. He has now secured a liberal patronage and in the conduct of the business has ever recognized the fact that satisfied patrons are the best advertisement. He has, therefore, ever studied to please and in all of his dealings has been thoroughly reliable, as well as energetic and progressive.

On the 3d of October, 1895, Mr. Hume was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Blanche Thomas, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Charles A. and Zilpha Thomas, who are residents of Middleport, Ohio. Mr. Hume exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the democratic party. His fraternal relations cover a wide scope. In Masonry he has attained the Knight Templar degree in the commandery and is also a member of the Mystic Shrine. He likewise holds membership with the Odd Fellows, the Elks, the Moose and Eagles, and is a member of the Crystal Lake Club and of the Golf Club, being interested in the lines of recreation fostered by the two organizations. He is likewise a member of the Commercial Exchange and cooperates heartily in its well-defined plans and projects for the upbuilding of the city. Throughout his career he has never been afraid to follow the lead of his opportunities and as the years have advanced has steadily progressed, winning a fair measure of that success which is the goal of all business endeavor.

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#### FRANK E. THOMPSON.

Frank E. Thompson, engaged in the general practice of law in Burlington, has since the outset of his professional career applied himself with such diligence and determination to the mastery of the principles of jurisprudence and to the conduct of his cases that he is now recognized as an able, skilled and successful advocate and counsellor.

Mr. Thompson was born in Grandview, Louisa county, Iowa, December 13, 1873, a son of John W. and Mary (See) Thompson. The family was established in New England at an early period in the colonization of America. The great-grandparents in the

Thompson line settled in Ohio about the beginning of the nineteenth century and there John Thompson, the grandfather, was born in Ross county in 1810. In 1839 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Iowa, the family home being established near Grandview, in Louisa county, at a period when the work of development and progress was then in its primitive stages. The territory had been organized only the year previously and there were no railroads connecting Iowa with other sections of the country. The Thompson family, however, did not have to endure some of the hardships of the early settlers, for they had wealth with which to secure comforts and purchased large tracts of land. John Thompson began raising stock in this state and also did contract work. He married a Miss Nichols and to them were born four children. Following the death of his first wife he wedded Sarah Nichols, also a native of Ross county, Ohio, and their children were five in number. John Thompson continued an honored resident of this state for forty-seven years, passing away in 1886, while his wife died in 1880, when about fifty-five years of age.

Their son, John W. Thompson, made farming and stockraising his life work. He was born and reared in Iowa and became familiar with every phase of the state's development and progress. He continued his residence in Louisa county until the early '70s and then for almost thirty years lived in Henry county. In 1900 he took up his abode near Sedalia, Missouri, where he became the owner of large landed holdings and thereon engaged extensively in dealing in horses, mules and cattle. He was united in marriage to Miss Mary See, a daughter of Rev. Michael See, and a representative of one of the old colonial families of Virginia. Her father came to the west in 1836, settling in Burlington with his parents, who entered land from the government in what is known as the Miller settlement of Des Moines county. Of the ancestry of Frank E. Thompson in the maternal line the following has been written by a contemporary biographer: "Michael See was a man of powerful and vigorous constitution. He became a circuit rider of the Methodist church, and from the age of twenty-one years devoted his life entirely to the work of the ministry. He was a very successful preacher, being gifted with eloquence and with that quality which for want of a better term we have called personal magnetism. He was logical in argument, persuasive and earnest, and his labors led to the substantial upbuilding of the church. He was an intimate friend of H. Clay Dean and Rev. Frank Evans, and was one of the notable figures in the early history of Iowa. He was twice married, his first

wife being a Miss Miller, whose mother belonged to the Hanks family and was a cousin of Abraham Lincoln. He departed this life in 1899, full of years and honors, having passed the eighty-second milestone on life's journey. He had never been ill until just prior to his death, and he continued in the active work of the ministry almost to the last."

At the usual age Frank E. Thompson began his education in the district schools and when thirteen had mastered the preliminary branches to a sufficient degree to enable him to take up high-school work in Columbus City, Iowa. He was afterward a student in the high school at Muscatine and pursued a course in a business college there. He next entered the Iowa State University for a classical training and eventually entered upon the study of law in that institution, completing his law course with the class of 1896.

Mr. Thompson began practice in Burlington, where he has since remained. As the years have gone on his practice has become extensive and of an important character. He is constantly inspired by an innate love of justice and a delicate sense of personal honor. His fidelity to the interests of his clients is proverbial, yet he never forgets that he owes a still higher allegiance to the majesty of the law. His diligence and energy in the preparation of his cases as well as the earnestness, tenacity and courage with which he defends the right challenges the highest admiration of his associates and he invariably seeks to present his argument in the strong, clear light of common reason and sound logical principles. He had practiced at the bar of Burlington for about eight years, when, in 1904, the republican party made him its nominee for the office of county attorney and such was his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him that he led the county ticket, receiving a majority of nine hundred notwithstanding his opponent was regarded as one of the strongest members of the county bar. He filled the position most acceptably for two years and in 1906 resumed the private practice of law, in which he has since engaged.

When age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Thompson strongly indorsed republican principles, believing in the value of the party platform as an element in good government. He was the republican nominee for representative in the state legislature in 1901 and though he ran ahead of his ticket met defeat with the other republican candidates. He has always kept abreast of the political situation of the country and his knowledge of the questions and issues of the day is by no means superficial but delves to the root of the matter. In 1902 he was made chairman of the republican

county central committee and in different campaigns has delivered many public addresses in Des Moines and adjoining counties in support of party principles. In 1914 he was elected state senator from the ninth senatorial district of Iowa.

Mr. Thompson was married in 1894 to Miss Lillian Russell, a daughter of John J. Russell, a retired merchant of Columbus Junction, Iowa. Their friends in Burlington and throughout this section of the state are many and Mr. Thompson is recognized as a valued member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the state and is of the fourth generation here residing. The work instituted by his great-grandfather for the upbuilding and development of the territory was continued by his grandfather and father, and the same spirit finds expression in the public activities of Frank E. Thompson, who while meeting the strenuous demands of a growing law practice has always found time to perform every public duty in relation to his citizenship in his native state.

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#### CHARLES ROESCH.

Charles Roesch, living in West Burlington, is the assistant chief clerk in the offices of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, to which position of responsibility he has attained through his own unaided efforts. He was born in Burlington, January 5, 1863, and at the usual age became a public-school pupil, attending the old North Oak school until he reached the age of twelve years, when necessity forced him to go to work. He was first employed in a cigar factory, where he remained for three years and at the end of that time he entered railway circles by becoming an office boy for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, at which time the head office was then under the old Sixth street bridge of Burlington. He resolutely set himself to the task of mastering the duties which were intrusted to him and his industry and determination won him advancement from time to time until he gradually worked his way upward to his present position as assistant chief clerk in the railway office of this city—a position that carries with it large responsibilities and a goodly salary.

On the 20th of October, 1885, Mr. Roesch was married to Miss Magdaline Schick, of Burlington, who was educated in the paro-

THE  
ANNALS OF IOWA

A HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

VOLUME EIGHTEEN—THIRD SERIES

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PUBLISHED BY THE  
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DES MOINES  
1921-1933

FRANK E. THOMPSON was born in Grandview, Louisa County, Iowa, December 13, 1873, and died in Burlington September 19, 1932. His parents were John W. and Mary (See) Thompson. He attended public school, high school at Winfield and at Muscatine, and was graduated from the Law Department of the State University of Iowa in 1896. The same year he began the practice of law in Burlington, continuing it until failing health caused his retirement from active work some three years before his death. He was prominent in his profession, especially in the trial of criminal cases. He gave his allegiance to the Republican party and was the chairman of his county committee for some time. In 1904 he was elected county attorney for Des Moines County and served two years. In 1914 he was elected senator, and was re-elected in 1918, and served inclusively from the Thirty-sixth to the Thirty-ninth general assemblies.

ALBERT M. FELLOWS was born in Lansing, Iowa, March 1, 1864, and died in a hospital in La Crosse, Wisconsin, February 17, 1932. Burial was in Oakhill Cemetery, Lansing. His parents were Judge Liberty E. and Mary S. (Reed) Fellows. He completed the courses in the public schools of Lansing and was graduated from Upper Iowa University at Fayette. Soon thereafter he entered the employ of John Robinson, saw mill operator and lumberman, and a few years later associated himself with the Lansing Lumber Company as its secretary, becoming its owner in 1900. He aided in organizing the Peoples Savings Bank of Lansing in 1911 and was its president from that time until his death. He was a member and president of the local school board for fifteen years, was a member of the town council, and was mayor for sixteen years. He was elected senator in 1912, was re-elected in 1916, and served inclusively from the Thirty-fifth to the Thirty-eighth general assemblies. He was held in very high regard by his community.

GEORGE W. CHRISTOPHEL was born in Kankakee County, Illinois, December 7, 1881, and died near Waverly, Iowa, November 13, 1932. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Christophel. He attended public school and Northwestern College at Naperville, Illinois, and taught school from 1902 to 1905. In 1906 he removed to a farm near Bremer, Bremer County, Iowa, but in 1913 removed to a farm two miles northwest of Waverly. He was a successful farmer and was selected in 1929 by Wallace's Farmer as one of the master farmers of the state. He was active in various farm organizations, one of them being the Bremer County Farm Bureau, of which he was president at two different times, being president at the time of his death. In 1924 he was elected representative, was re-elected in 1926, and was elected senator in 1928 and served inclusively from the Forty-first to the Forty-fourth general assemblies. He was a Republican in politics.

STATE OF IOWA  
1937

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# Journal of the Senate

OF THE

## Forty-seventh General Assembly

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CONVENED JANUARY 11, 1937

ADJOURNED APRIL 20, 1937

NELSON G. KRASCHEL, Governor  
JOHN K. VALENTINE, President of the Senate  
LAMAR FOSTER, Speaker of the House

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41467

Published by  
THE STATE OF IOWA  
Des Moines

*Be It Further Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be printed in the Journal and copies sent to the members of the family.

WM S. BEARDSLEY,  
H. W. EDWARDS,  
ORA E. HUSTED,

*Committee.*

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

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E. W. ROMKEY

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee, appointed to prepare suitable resolutions commemorating the life, character and public services of the late E. W. Romkey, begs leave to submit the following:

E. W. Romkey was born July 3, 1869, on a farm near Burlington, Iowa, and died May 1, 1936, at Burlington.

Mr. Romkey's early life was spent on a farm, during which time he attended rural school; later he graduated from business college. His character and ability are reflected by the fact that his life was spent in public service from 1900 on. In 1908 he was married to Nellie Lloyd and to them were born two children, Helen and Donald.

He was elected to the General Assembly in 1922 and served during the Fortieth, Fortieth Extra, and Forty-first Sessions. His service as a member of the Senate was such as to mark him as one of the outstanding members of this body; therefore,

*Be It Resolved*, That in the passing of the Honorable E. W. Romkey the state of Iowa has lost a faithful servant and a man of quality and worth.

*Be It Further Resolved*, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the Senate, and that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to forward an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

JAMES M. BELL,  
A. CLAIRE DEWEY,  
SANFORD ZEIGLER, JR.,

*Committee.*

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

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FRANK E. THOMPSON

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee, appointed to prepare suitable resolutions commemorating the life, character and public services of the late Frank E. Thompson, begs leave to submit the following:

Frank E. Thompson was born in Grandview, Louisa county, Iowa, December 13, 1873, and died in Burlington, September 19, 1932. His parents were John W. and Mary (See) Thompson. He attended public school, high school at Winfield and at Muscatine, and was graduated from the law department of the State University of Iowa in 1896. The same year he began the practice of law in Burlington, continuing it until failing health caused his retirement from active work some three years before

his death. He was prominent in his profession, especially in the trial of criminal cases.

He gave his allegiance to the Republican party and was the chairman of his county committee for some time. In 1904 he was elected county attorney for Des Moines county and served two years. In 1914 he was elected senator, and was re-elected in 1918, and served inclusively from the Thirty-sixth to the Thirty-ninth General Assemblies; therefore,

*Be It Resolved by the Senate:* That in the passing of the Honorable Frank E. Thompson the state has lost a faithful servant and an honorable citizen.

*Be It Further Resolved,* That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the Senate, and that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to forward an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

JAMES M. BELL,  
A. CLAIRE DEWEY,  
SANFORD ZEIGLER, JR.,  
*Committee.*

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

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THOMAS H. SMITH

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee appointed to prepare resolutions commemorating the life, character and public service of Honorable Thomas H. Smith of Harlan, Iowa, begs leave to submit the following report:

Thomas H. Smith, son of Paris S. and Nancy Jane Smith, was born September 30, 1854, in Appanoose county, Iowa, on the banks of a rather famous stream known as "Soap Creek". Mr. Smith's father was a native of Ohio, his mother a native of West Virginia. His great grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Mr. Smith was raised on a farm in Davis county and his elementary education was received in the country schools, supplemented by a course in the Southern Iowa Normal School in Bloomfield, one of Mr. Smith's instructors being Hon. George W. Cullison, later his partner in the practice of law at Harlan. Mr. Smith at the age of 18 years began teaching country school, putting in his spare time reading law with Attorney M. H. Jones of Bloomfield. At the age of 23 Mr. Smith was admitted to the bar. He moved to Harlan where he began practicing law.

On the afternoon of May 31, 1878, he rode into Harlan on horseback, having borrowed a horse from an uncle of his residing in Davis county. In after years, Mr. Smith made no secret of the fact that at the time of coming to Shelby county he was exceedingly short of money. He first rented one small room which served as his bedroom as well as his office, his furniture consisting of one rude cot, two rickety chairs, a table, a hand-made bench and a hand-made bookcase of two shelves. His law library consisted of four books, and his office equipment a bottle of ink and one pen. His total means, so his biography recites, consisted of \$15.00.



You searched for **Frank E. Thompson** in **Iowa**

### Iowa Marriages, 1851-1900

Name: **Frank E. Thompson**  
Spouse: **Lillie May Russell**  
Marriage Date: **22 Aug 1894**  
County: **Louisa**  
State: **IA**

**Source Information:**

Dodd, Jordan, Liahona Research, comp., *Iowa Marriages, 1851-1900* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2000. Original data: See extended description for original data sources listed by county.

**Description:**

This database contains marriage information from various counties in the U.S. state of Iowa from 1851-1900. Information that may be found in this database for each individual includes their name, spouse's name, marriage date, and marriage county. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **Frank E. Thompson** in **Iowa**

## 1930 United States Federal Census

Name:	<b>Frank E Thompson</b>	
Home in 1930:	<b>Burlington, Des Moines, Iowa</b>	
	<a href="#">View Map</a>	
Age:	<b>55</b>	
Estimated birth year:	<b>abt 1875</b>	
Birthplace:	<b>Iowa</b>	
Relation to Head of House:	<b>Head</b>	
Spouse's name:	<b>Lillian</b>	
Race:	<b>White</b>	
Occupation:		
Education:		
Military service:	<a href="#">View image</a>	
Rent/home value:		
Age at first marriage:		
Parents' birthplace:		
Neighbors:	<a href="#">View others on page</a>	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Frank E Thompson	<b>55</b>
	Lillian Thompson	<b>53</b>
	Andrune Thompson	<b>23</b>

**Source Citation:** Year: 1930; Census Place: Burlington, Des Moines, Iowa; Roll: 653; Page: 13B; Enumeration District: 16; Image: 482-0.

**Source Information:**  
Ancestry.com. 1930 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2002. Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls.

**Description:**  
Containing records for approximately 123 million Americans, the 1930 United States Federal Census is the largest census released to date and is the most recent census available for public access. The census gives us a glimpse into the lives of Americans in 1930, and contains information about a household's family members and occupants including: birthplaces, occupations, immigration, citizenship, and military service. The names of those listed in the census are linked to actual images of the 1930 Census. [Learn more...](#)

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