

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Rankin, John Merced Senator _____
Represented Lee County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 9 June 1873 Fulton County, Missouri

2. Marriage (s) date place

Alice Marie Mathers 23 Dec 1908 Ideska, Missouri

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was admitted to the bar in 1904; he was a member of the Lee County, Iowa State and American Bar Associations

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Odd Fellows; Modern Woodmen of America; Elks Lodge; Strained

C. Profession Attorney; Iowa Attorney General; farmer; teacher

4. Church membership Christian Science

5. Sessions served 39th, 40th, 41st General Assemblies 1921, 1923, 1925

6. Public Offices

A. Local District Judge at Keokuk 13 Apr 1925 - 31 Dec 1933

B. State Attorney General 17 June 1940 - 1946

C. National President of the National Attorney General's Association 1945-1946

7. Death 20 June 1947 Des Moines, Iowa; buried National Cemetery, Keokuk, Iowa

8. Children Mary Ann

9. Names of parents John and Ann (Johnson) Rankin

10. Education He was educated in the rural schools of Fulton Co. Illinois

11. Degrees Western Normal College, Bushnell, Illinois; Chicago
Kent School of Law, graduating from both institutions

12. Other applicable information Republican

- Military service - Special American War Company D, 6th Illinois
Volunteer Infantry
- He practiced law in Chicago, Illinois from 1904 until he moved to Keokuk,
Iowa in 1917
- He taught school for 3 years while studying in Western Normal College in
Bushnell Illinois 1895-1897.
- He was a deputy county clerk in Fulton County, Illinois in 1899-1900.
- He studied law with Colonel W. B. Taylor at Canton, In 1901 he was made assistant
state attorney of Fulton County, Illinois for a year
- On Sept 1917 he became associated with Philip E. Hughes of Keokuk, they
practiced together for a year, but then practiced individually



Atty. Gen. Rankin, 74, Dies Here

Long Illness Fatal to High State Official.

John M. Rankin, 74, Iowa attorney general since 1940, died at Veterans hospital here at 11:48 a. m. Friday.

The office of the chief medical officer at the hospital simply said that death was due to "a malignancy."

However, it has been known among his statehouse associates that Rankin had suffered with cancer of the lung.

In December.

Rankin had been in the hospital since Dec. 2. He was released temporarily in March to spend two weeks at his home, 4215 Grand ave.

He re-entered the hospital at the end of the two weeks and had been there since.

Rankin first entered the hospital after returning from Los Angeles, Cal., where he came down with a severe cold while attending the annual convention of the National Association of Attorneys General last November.

BLOODY BRAW



the National Association of Attorneys General last November.

Named in '40.

Rankin, a veteran of the Spanish-American war, is the second successive Iowa attorney general to die in office.

He was appointed attorney general June 17, 1940, by former Gov. George Wilson, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Fred D. Everett. Rankin had served as Everett's first assistant after his appointment to the staff in 1939.

After his appointment Rankin was elected in 1940 and re-elected in 1942, 1944 and 1946.

Born in Illinois.

Rankin, who maintained his official residence at Keokuk, was born on a farm in Fulton county, Illinois.

He was educated in the rural schools, and was graduated from Western Normal college at Bushnell, Ill., and from Kent College of Law in Chicago, Ill.

He practiced law in Chicago from his admission to the bar in 1904 until he moved to Keokuk in 1917.

In Legislature.

He was a Lee county state representative in the legislative sessions of 1921, 1923 and 1925. He was appointed judge of the Lee county district court in 1925 at the close of the legislature, and was on the bench from April, 1925, until Dec. 31, 1938.

Everett then named him his first assistant, and a year later he was appointed to succeed Everett until the next election.

Up to Blue.

Rankin is survived by his widow, the former Marie Short of Keokuk, and a daughter, Mary

Chairs were used as weapons during and members of the Freedom party in Sz nearly 150 Communists, armed with weapons

Four Million For Deere

Set by WAA; Firm Will Accept.

An agreement by which Deere & Co., Moline, Ill., will buy the industrial area and buildings of the Des Moines Ordnance plant for four million dollars was reported virtually complete Friday.

Deere & Co. directors have authorized the company to accept a government offer to sell at that price, E. V. Turney, deputy zone administrator at the war assets administration's office of real property disposal at Kansas City, Mo., said.

The farm implement company made a preliminary offer earlier this month which the WAA real property board of review at Washington refused, Turney said. The government agencies involved were authorized, however, to continue negotiating and made the

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representative in the legislative sessions of 1921, 1923 and 1925. He was appointed judge of the Lee county district court in 1925 at the close of the legislature, and was on the bench from April, 1925, until Dec. 31, 1938.

Everett then made him his first assistant, and a year later he was appointed to succeed Everett until the next election.

Up to Blue.

Rankin is survived by his widow, the former Marie Short of Keokuk, and a daughter, Mary Ann, a high school senior.

Rankin's successor will be appointed by Gov. Robert D. Blue. The appointee will serve until a successor has been elected in the November, 1948, election.

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SUCCUMBS



JOHN M. RANKIN,

Victim of Long Illness

cept a government offer to sell at that price, E. V. Turney, deputy zone administrator at the war assets administration's office of real property disposal at Kansas City, Mo., said.

The farm implement company made a preliminary offer earlier this month which the WAA real property board of review at Washington refused, Turney said. The government agencies involved were authorized, however, to continue negotiating and made the offer to sell at \$4,000,000 which the company board of directors later accepted, Turney explained.

Deal.

"As far as war assets is concerned that makes the deal," Turney said Friday.

As soon as the Kansas City office receives disposal directions from Washington the drafting of the formal contract for signing will be carried out, Turney expected. He said that the company probably will be given immediate

Chained to Post On Wedding Day

(The Tribune's Iowa News Service.)

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA.—John F. Callender, Cedar Rapids, was chained to a lamp post in downtown Cedar Rapids Friday. Wired to the post was the sign, "I'll wear these 24 hours a day. I'm getting married tonight."

The boss gave Callender the day off to make wedding arrangements. Callender made the mistake of dropping in at the office for a moment and his sel-

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Overflow waters from Four Mile creek, which Monday was out of its
for the third time in three weeks, found a favorite resting place on Avenue
erick M. Hubbell, just west of its junction with Euclid ave. Avenue Freder

John Rankin Service Here

Services for John M. Rankin, 74, state attorney general since 1940, were attended by a large number of judges, attorneys and public officials Monday at White's funeral home at 2505 Grand ave.

Mr. Rankin died Friday at Veterans hospital after an illness of more than six months.

At Services.

Those in attendance included Federal Judge Charles A. Dewey, Gov. Robert D. Blue, State Auditor C. B. Akers, Secretary of Agriculture Harry D. Linn and District Judges Floyd Philbrick of Cedar Rapids, R. G. Yoder of Sigourney and Loy Ladd of Des Moines. A number of Spanish-American war veterans attended.

Also present were Atty. Gen. Walter Johnson of Nebraska and a number of Iowa attorneys and appointive state officials.

Services were conducted by the Rev. Rob Roy Hardin, rector of St. Luke's Episcopal church.

State offices were closed Monday until 1 p. m. in respect to the late attorney general; Services at Keokuk, his home, will be at 10 a. m. Tuesday at the Schmidt

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funeral home and will be conducted by Dr. Warren J. Conrad, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian church.

Burial will follow at the national cemetery at Keokuk.

Dies in Iowa Boat Upset

(The Tribune's Iowa News-Service.)

GLADBROOK, IA.—Wilbur (Mike) Conrad, 31, of Gladbrook, Great Western railroad station agent at Lincoln, was drowned about 7:15 p. m. Sunday when the rowboat in which he was riding capsized on Union Grove lake four miles south of here.

Conrad was in the boat with Hilton Gloe of Gladbrook when a strong wind whipped across the water and upset the boat.

Conrad disappeared in the water, but Gloe was able to swim to shore. The accident happened about 150 feet from shore. The body was found at 1:30 a. m. Monday about 15 feet from the shore.

Besides his mother, Mrs. Mary Fahrenkrug, Conrad, World War II veteran, is survived by a twin brother, Wendell, known as "Ike," station agent for the Great Western here, a half sister, Caroline, and two half-brothers, Ernest and Robert, all of Gladbrook.

AFTER RITES

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type crash helmet to protect his balding head from the desert sun, took 21 minutes to make the four passes over the three kilometer (1.863 miles) course laid out on the desert.

"I was busy as hell," he said. "There are so many things to do, so many instruments to watch."

The sleek, super-streamlined plane barely skimmed the ground as the 40-year-old Asheville, N. C., pilot guided the craft down the short course to reach a top speed of 623.5 miles per hour on one run.

Bursting pink smoke bombs at each end of the run served as guideposts to help him keep on the black-oiled course laid out on the parched adobe desert.

He streaked across the course on his first run at 617.1 miles per hour then dropped down to 614.7 mph on the return run. On the third trial he boosted the tiny plane's speed to 623.5 mph and made 630.5 mph on the last run. His record of 623.8 was an average of his four runs.

The plane was powered with an Allison jet engine which developed approximately 7,500 horsepower at 600 mph.

John M. Rankin Of Keokuk Dies In Des Moines



John M. Rankin.

DES MOINES, Ia., June 20—(UP)—Iowa Attorney General John Rankin, of Keokuk, Ia., died today at the veterans hospital in Des Moines.

Rankin, 74-years-old, had been ill of a heart ailment since November and had been confined to the hospital for most of that time.

He served as president of the National Attorney Generals' Association in 1945-46.

Forger Gov. George Wilson appointed Rankin as attorney general June 17th, 1940, to fill the unexpired term of the late Fred D. Everett of Albia. He was Everett's first assistant before the latter died of a heart ailment.

Rankin was elected to the office in 1940 and was re-elected in 1942, 1944 and 1946.

Born on a farm in Fulton county, Illinois, June 3, 1873, Rankin was educated at Western Normal College, Bushnell, Ill., and the Chicago Kent School of Law. He served in the Spanish American war with the Sixth Illinois Infantry and moved to Keokuk in 1917.

Rankin served as district judge at Keokuk from April 13, 1925, to Dec. 31, 1928. He was a member of the Iowa house of representatives in the 39th, 40th, 40th extra and 41st sessions.

He is survived by his widow and a daughter. Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.

Rankin's first assistant is James Lucas, Bedford attorney, who was appointed last fall.

FORMER MAYOR OF DAVENPORT DEAD.

DAVENPORT, Iowa, June 20.—(UP)—Louis E. Roddewig, 67, former mayor of Davenport, died today following a long illness.

fewer," and put the country a long step on the dangerous road toward "a totally managed economy."

The president's long veto message was read to a tense and silent house. The floor and galleries were packed. One gallery was filled with AFL and CIO members who had come to Washington to make an eleven-hour fight against the bill.

The house action gave Republicans a large measure of consolation for their failure on Tuesday to muster enough votes to override the president's veto on the GOP bill to cut personal income taxes by \$4,000,000,000.

They lost the tax battle by only two votes. They won the labor vote because they got the support of more Democrats today.

Mr. Truman fired the Taft-Hartley bill back at congress with a denunciation of the measure as an unworkable package of discrimination against employees. He said it would substitute "government dictation" for free collective bargaining.

With the senate still to act, the president did not let the house rebuff stop him. He will address the nation on the labor bill at 8 p. m. CST over all networks.

Sen. Robert A. Taft, R., O., co-author of the measure, will answer him at 8:45 p. m. CST, over the Mutual Broadcasting system.

In his veto message sent to congress on the last day left to him, Mr. Truman said the labor bill would accomplish practically none of its aims. He said it would be "a dangerous stride in the direction of a totally managed economy."

In an effort to mobilize senate support for his veto, President Truman invited 13 senators to lunch with him at the White House.

Only one of those invited, Senate Democratic Leader Alben W. Barkley, had voted against the bill. Only one, Sen. Milton R. Young, N. D., was a Republican. Most of the others were Southern Democrats.

If Mr. Truman could persuade seven of the 12 to switch, so close is the senate vote expected to be, his veto could be sustained. But this possibility was discounted by Republican leaders.

Besides Young and Barkley, those invited were Sens. Carl A. Hatch, N. M.; Herbert R. O'Connor, Md.; J. W. Fulbright, Ark.; Walter F. George, Ga.; Richard B. Russell, Ga.; John L. McClellan, Ark.; John J. Sparkman, Ala.; William B. Umstead, N. C.; Tom Connally, Tex.; John H. Oberton, La., and Burnet R. Maybank, S. C.

The president fired the bill back to congress on the last day he was permitted to act.

He said it would "contribute neither to industrial peace nor to economic stability or progress." It would "reverse the basic direction of our national labor policy." It would "cause more strikes, not fewer."

Mr. Truman said the measure would discriminate against labor and moreover would harass management by opening up "immense possibilities" for employe elections which would disrupt plant production and administrative operations. And administratively, the president

"Wallace and his radical followers will be in the saddle cracking the whip and calling the turn," Halleck said in a statement. "Mr. Truman will be following along."

Republican National Chairman Carroll Reece called the veto "bid for a fifth term for the Deal."

"Mr. Truman's action in vetoing the labor relations bill," Reece said in a statement, "is an obvious attempt to preserve the administration's alliance with the Political Action Committee and its assorted subversive allies."

"It is a plain defiance of

fundamental considerations weighed against each the probable effects of the bill.

"In each case, I find that the bill violates principles essential to our public welfare," he said.

The nine basic objections to the bill raised by the chief executive

1. "The bill would substantially increase strikes."
2. "The bill arbitrarily decides, against the workers, certain issues which are normally the subject of collective bargaining, and thus restricts the area of voluntary agreement."
3. "The bill would expose employers to numerous hazards by which they could be annoyed and hampered."
4. "The bill would deprive workers of vital protection which they now have under the law."
5. "The bill abounds in provisions which would be unduly burdensome or actually unworkable."
6. "The bill would establish an ineffective and discriminatory emergency procedure for dealing with major strikes—affecting the public health and safety."
7. "The bill would discriminate against employes."
8. "The bill would disregard in important respects the unanimous convictions of employer and labor representatives at the national labor-management conference in November, 1945."
9. "The bill raises serious issues of public policy which transcend labor-management difficulties."

Mr. Truman said he applied the bill what he considered four major tests:

First, whether it would result in more, or less, government intervention in our economic life.

Second, whether it would improve employer-employee relations.

Third, whether it was workable and.

Fourth, whether it was fair.

On all four counts Mr. Truman indicted the measure as a failure. He found the bill "completely contrary" to the national policy of "economic freedom." He said it would require the government to

Here are Highlights Of Taft-Hartley Bill

WASHINGTON, June 20—(UP)—Here are some principal points of the Taft-Hartley labor control bill.

1. Forbids closed shop and puts tight restrictions against mild union shop.
2. Allows government to get into threatening the national health and safety.

f. Boost Pig Crop

Jun. (UP)—Department estimating pig crop approximately 10 per cent greater than the spring pig crop was 1936-45 average

estimate, this will exceed the per cent. But it per cent below 28 per cent cord spring crop

if 32,500,000 head it would be six than last year. falls somewhat by the agri- Farmers were around 55,000,000

a production of will come into all and winter, hat the general products. But it to be sufficient l drops in retail

and Livestock today estimated is spring at 12-

as Rome

et at home. covit. Bulgaria. cotton dresses. igny, France, or- corsets." demand, "any size," ph, radios, writ-

Observed

By D. E. C.

One of the new cars has a rear-drive. That sounds like appensing the backseat drivers.

Sun-kissed fruit may be alright but a little sun-kissed atmosphere would be more to our liking.

Back in April, 1924, the auditor of Grant county in the state of Washington, received a deed conveying title of some land to a W. S. Forthun, of Doniphan, Mo. Attached was a note, reading: "Please hold this deed until Forthun calls for it. He is on his way by auto." The auditor's office has just returned the deed to Missouri, as Mr. Forthun never showed up. Must have had car trouble.

The first patent of a shaving mug was granted on May 1, 1860, to Thomas E. Hughes, of Birmingham, Ala. Between that time and 1940, a total of 94 patents were granted for shaving mugs. Yeh, there used to be a shaving mug for every "mug" but those days are really gone forever.

Washington is quite a state for roses, as well as apples. We read that a home in Seattle boasts a Cecil Bruner climbing rose plant that is 25 years old. It is 14 feet high and extends 45 feet across the front porch and thousands of blossoms are in bloom. You could really make "Junetime and Roses" the theme song of that home.

Congress agrees that the most exasperating word in the dictionary is "veto."

Scientists, they say, are working on a scheme to abolish sleep. The people who have been abolishing a lot of sleep for years

Outline of Personal History of

John M Rankin
RESIDENCE *Keokuk Iowa*

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

EDGAR R. HARLAN, CURATOR
The Historical Department of Iowa
DES MOINES, IOWA

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

1. What is your name in full? *John Mercer Rankin*
2. What is your present profession or occupation? *Lawyer*
3. Where and when did you begin? *Chicago Illinois in 1904*
4. What other occupation have you followed; where and when? *Farmed in earlier years, taught school 1894 to 1897, Deputy County Clerk Fulton County Ill 1899-1901*
5. What is your residence address? *912 Bloudeau Street*
6. What is your business address? *700 Main Street*
7. What is the date and the place of your birth? *Fulton County Illinois June 9th 1873*
8. If born abroad, when and where did you first settle in America?
9. If you removed again before settling in your present home, where and when was such removal?
10. What schools have you attended; if a graduate, when and with what degree? *Country schools, Western Normal College and Kent College of Law*
11. What was your father's full name? *John Rankin*
12. What was your father's occupation? *Farmer*
13. What was your mother's full maiden name? *Anna Dobson*

14. Where did your parents reside at the time of their marriage? Fulton County
Iowa
15. What military service had your father; give as complete as you can? None
16. What military service have you had? Private Co D 6th Ill Infantry
Spanish American War
17. What political offices have you held; do not omit even the smallest, and give date and place of service, if you can?
Deputy County Clerk Fulton County Ill
1899 to 1901
18. Of what financial, religious, or educational institutions are you a trustee or director; give dates if you can?
19. With what political parties have you been affiliated; give dates?
Republican
20. In what religious denominations have you a membership?
21. If you have no church membership, to what sectarian faith do you incline? Christian
Science
22. In what societies of learning have you a membership?
23. Of what secular orders or secret societies are you a member? A.F. & A.M., B.P.O.E.,
and Modern Woodmen
24. What honors or offices have you held in your society or lodge; give dates?
25. Of what social clubs are you a member?
26. Of what business firms have you been a member? Davis & Rankin -
Rankin & Moran, and Hughes Rankin & Dolan
27. Please enclose both a business card and your photograph for permanent record in the Historical Department of Iowa
28. For which of your works (as writer, sculptor, artist, architect, politician or other constructive influence) have you the highest esteem?

29. Please supply for permanent preservation in the Historical Department of Iowa a list of all your works _____
30. Will you attach your autograph to one or more of your works and present the same to the Historical Department of Iowa for permanent preservation? _____
31. _____

DOMESTIC HISTORY OUTLINE

FIRST MARRIAGE.

32. With whom was your first marriage? *Alice M Flathers*
33. Where and what date was this marriage? *Kateika Illinois*
December 23 1908
34. When and where was your wife (or husband) born? *December 7 1876 at*
Maquoketa Iowa
35. In what religious denomination did your wife (or husband) hold membership?
Christian Science
36. Where did your wife (or husband) die, if not surviving, and where and when was the interment? *Living*
37. What was the full name of the father of your wife (or husband) and where was he born?
Jacob M Flathers Maquoketa Iowa
38. What was the full maiden name of the mother of your wife (or husband)?
Nellie J Sloan
39. Where and when was she born? *New York, April 13 1852*

CHILDREN OF FIRST MARRIAGE

Full Name	Date of Birth	Place of Birth
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____

SECOND MARRIAGE

40. With whom was your second marriage? WIFE

- 41. Where and what date was this marriage? _____
- 42. When and where was your wife (or husband) born? _____
- 43. In what religious denomination did your wife (or husband) hold membership? _____
- 44. Where did your wife (or husband) die, if not surviving, and where and when was the interment? _____
- 45. What was the full name of the father of your wife (or husband) and where was he born? _____
- 46. What was the full maiden name of the mother of your wife (or husband)? _____
- 47. Where and when was she born? _____

CHILDREN OF SECOND MARRIAGE

Full Name	Date of Birth	Place of Birth
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
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4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____

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A Narrative History
of
The People of Iowa

with
SPECIAL TREATMENT OF THEIR CHIEF ENTERPRISES IN
EDUCATION, RELIGION, VALOR, INDUSTRY,
BUSINESS, ETC.

by
EDGAR RUBEY HARLAN, LL. B., A. M.
*Curator of the
Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa*

IOWA BIOGRAPHY
(Gratuitously Published)
*Selected and Prepared by Special Staff of Writers
of The American Historical Society, Inc.*

Volume III

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ILLUSTRATED

THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.
CHICAGO AND NEW YORK
1931

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY



John M Rankin

sonic affiliations include his membership in Kaaba Temple of the Mystic Shrine, in the City of Davenport, he was exalted ruler of Iowa City Lodge, B. P. O. E., in 1913, and he is affiliated also with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America.

August 19, 1914, marked the marriage of Mr. Bates to Miss Alice Wilkinson, whose home was in Chicago but who was serving at the time as director of physical training for women at the University of Iowa. The three children of this union are daughters, Alice Jean, Marian Virginia, and Katherine Vallentine, and all are popular students in the University of Iowa schools at the time of this writing, in 1929. The family is one of prominence in social and cultural circles in Iowa City.

WILBUR W. MARSH is a name distinguished by many diverse activities in Iowa. He has been a prominent cattle breeder, manufacturer, and long an influential figure in Democratic politics in Iowa.

He was born in Oneida County, New York, son of Charles A. and Jennie (Blair) Marsh. He was an infant when his father died, and was one of three children, Sarah, Charles and Wilbur W. His mother was left liberally provided for, she showed unusual business ability and judgment. In 1872 she came out to Iowa, bought a large tract of unbroken prairie land, and employed competent help in developing it into a farm equipped with buildings and fences and devoted to grain and live stock. She spent a part of each year on this farm. The old homestead is now owned and occupied by her son Charles.

Wilbur W. Marsh acquired most of his schooling in New York City, in the Thirty-fifth Street School and the College of the City of New York. In spite of his city associations and business activities he has never lost his keen interest in farming.

Mr. Marsh owns a fine farm in Iowa, known especially for its great herd of Guernsey cattle. He has been breeding the Guernseys since 1905 and is easily one of the foremost members of the Guernsey Breeders Association in America. In 1910 the National Dairy Association conferred upon him the title of Master Breeder. He is also an honorary member of the Philadelphia Agricultural Society.

Many years ago Mr. Marsh engaged in the manufacture of cream separators. He is president of the Associated Manufacturers Company and the Iowa Dairy Separator Company, manufacturing the Iowa Cream Separator. He is a director or in other official capacities related with a number of other business organizations.

Mr. Marsh cast his first presidential vote for Grover Cleveland and has been a leader in the Democratic party for many years, going as a delegate to state and national conventions, and he served as treasurer of the national Democratic committee from 1915 to 1924. He married Miss

Lottie Kimball, who was born at Independence, Iowa, daughter of Charles T. and Lottie (Laramore) Kimball. They have one daughter, named Marion.

JUDGE JOHN M. RANKIN, Judge of the First Judicial District of Iowa, is a native of Illinois, and practiced law in that state, at Chicago, until coming to Keokuk, where he earned the unqualified confidence of the people and the bar as a lawyer before he went on the bench.

Judge Rankin was born in Fulton County, Illinois, on a farm, June 9, 1873, son of John and Ann (Dobson) Rankin. His father was born in Ohio and his mother in Illinois, and his father spent all his life as a farmer. John Rankin died in 1921 and his wife in 1911. Of their five sons and one daughter four are now living: John M.; Mrs. Clara Amrine, of Vermont, Illinois; Rodney Curtiss, of Ellensburg, Washington; and Dr. William Rankin, of Keokuk.

John M. Rankin was an Illinois farm boy, attending country schools in Fulton County until 1890, and in 1892 became a student in the Western Normal School at Bushnell, where he remained three years. The summer vacations were given to farm work. Judge Rankin had the experience of teaching in country schools in Illinois from 1895 to 1897. The great event of the year 1898 was the Spanish-American war and he enlisted in the Sixth Illinois Infantry, serving as a private about a year and took part in the expedition in Porto Rico, in the command of Gen. Nelson A. Miles. Judge Rankin during 1899-1900 was deputy county clerk of Fulton County, and while in that office studied law in the office of Col. B. H. Taylor at Canton. In 1901 he was made assistant state's attorney of Fulton County for a year, resigning in 1902 to go to Chicago, where he became a law clerk for a prominent law firm in that city and at the same time carried on his studies in the Chicago Kent College of Law. Judge Rankin was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1904 and for thirteen years was engaged in private practice in the City of Chicago.

On September 1, 1917, he became associated with Felix T. Hughes, of Keokuk, in the firm of Hughes & Rankin but after a year he practiced individually. Judge Rankin in 1920 was elected a member of the Iowa Legislature, serving in the Thirty-ninth, Fortieth and Forty-first General Assemblies. In April, 1925, Governor Hammill appointed him Judge of the First Judicial District and in 1926 he was given a popular election to the bench, having no opposition as a candidate. He brings to his work on the bench a deep knowledge of the law, and a wide and diversified experience in its practice. Judge Rankin is a member of the Lee County, Iowa State and American Bar Associations. He is a Thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, a member of Kaaba Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Davenport, belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the B. P. O. Elks, Keokuk Club

and Keokuk Country Club. Judge Rankin is a Republican.

He married, July 2, 1928, Mrs. Marie Green Short, of Keokuk. They have one daughter, Mary Ann, born March 27, 1929.

GEORGE F. DILGER, superintendent of schools at Garnavillo in Clayton County, is a native of this state, born at Bradgate, October 29, 1901. He began teaching during his college and university career, and is one of the thoroughly well equipped school men of the state.

His father, William I. Dilger, came to Iowa from Pennsylvania in 1885, first locating at Finchford. Throughout his active life he has been a creamery expert and has established and conducted creameries in several sections of Iowa. He and his wife now live at Edgewood, and he was a member of the City Council there. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity. William I. Dilger married Edith Windus, of Wilton Junction, Iowa.

George F. Dilger was the only child of his parents to grow up. He graduated from the Manchester High School in 1919 and was awarded letters of recognition for his participation in the sports of football and basketball and was business manager of the high school annual. During summer vacations he worked in his father's creamery business. Mr. Dilger spent two years at the University of Iowa, one year studied at Grinnell College, and then taught at White Oak Consolidated School. In 1924 he resumed his work at the University of Iowa and was graduated with the A. B. degree. For two years he taught in the high school at Elkader and since 1926 has been in charge of the schools at Garnavillo. Mr. Dilger is a member of the Iowa State Teachers Association, is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and Knights of Pythias, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He married, June 3, 1926, Miss Velma L. Borne-meier, of Elmwood, Nebraska.

LLOYD L. DEFANCE is a doctor of dental surgery who has built up a good practice and earned for himself a popular place in the community of West Liberty, where he practices with offices in the People's State Bank Building.

Doctor DeFrance is a native of Iowa, born in Iowa City April 3, 1897, son of Leonard and Nettie (Gardner) DeFrance. His parents were also born in this state and are now residents of Rogers, Nebraska, where his father is local agent for the Union Pacific Railway.

Dr. Lloyd L. DeFrance is a graduate of the Iowa City High School, and during the World war was in Company A of the One Hundred and Ninth Engineers, Thirty-fourth Division. He was in France eleven months, but was never detailed for front line duty. After the war Doctor DeFrance entered the dental department of the University of Iowa, was graduated June 7, 1926, and immediately located in West Liberty. He is a member of the American Legion, the Psi

Omega fraternity, is a Republican and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He married, July 27, 1928, Marguerite Drews, whose parents, Rudolph A. and Ogle Drews, were born in Iowa. Her father is a general contractor at Iowa City.

OTTO ROCKROHR, merchant and banker at Lyons, Clinton County, is a native of Iowa, and has been in business in his present community for forty years. His family did a pioneer part in the development of this state, and has produced three worthy generations of citizens.

His father and the founder of the family in Iowa was Frederick Rockrohr, who was born in the City of Gotha, Saxony, Germany, July 8, 1827. He came to America on a sailing vessel, and after reaching Chicago walked overland to Milwaukee. There he met and in 1854 married Anna Sabina Reyman. They were Wisconsin farmers until about 1857, when they started west for Iowa, traveling in a wagon drawn by horses and oxen. It was a difficult journey and eventually they reached the land which they took up as a homestead, in Deep Creek Township, being among the first settlers. On this land they built a small log cabin, and by subsequent additions and improvements they developed it into a country tavern and store, known as the "Ten Mile House." It was a prosperous business until railroads were constructed, and with the development of new towns travel along the old highway fell off and the tavern was discontinued. Frederick Rockrohr then devoted his attention to his farm until 1881, when he moved his family to a new home on a small farm just north of Lyons, now a part of the City of Clinton in Clinton County. The three children still at home when they removed to Clinton were Frances, Emil and Otto.

Frederick Rockrohr died November 29, 1886. His wife, who passed away April 3, 1922, was born March 27, 1837, in Weimar, Saxony, Germany, and was fifteen years of age when she came to America with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Rockrohr lived several years in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, later moving to Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where Charles Rockrohr was born. They had a family of three sons and three daughters. The four now living are: Charles, Frances Dalchow, Emil and Otto. The daughter Caroline died July 13, 1874, at the age of thirteen, and Mrs. Emma Schwartz passed away January 12, 1915. At the present time the descendants of these sterling pioneer parents comprise eighteen grandchildren, forty-nine great grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Anna Rockrohr married C. W. Thiessen.

The son Otto Rockrohr, who is the only member of the children now in business, was born on the homestead, near Bryant, Iowa, December 7, 1869, and was about eleven years of age when the family moved to Lyons in the spring of 1881. He grew up there, attended public schools and