

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Bell, Andrew B.  
Represented Crawford, Harrison and Monona counties

1. Birthday and place 7 Dec 1886 Aspinwall, Iowa in  
Crawford County

2. Marriage (s) date place  
Clara Curry 12 Feb 1929

3. Significant events for example:

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

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

C. Profession Lawyer

4. Church membership Catholic

5. Sessions served 46<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1935 and 1937

6. Public Offices

A. Local Crawford County attorney 10 terms

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

C. National He was the delegate to the Democratic National Convention  
in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 1936

7. Death 24 Jan 1976 Des Moines, Iowa; buried St. Rose of Lima Cemetery, Des Moines, Iowa

8. Children Robert Andrew

9. Names of parents Andrew and Christina (Gluckstatt) Bell

10. Education

11. Degrees

Attended Denison Normal and Business College; graduate of Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa in 1912

12. Other applicable information

Des Moines

- He was appointed by Governor Kossuth to a committee to investigate the state liquor commission in Des Moines
- His wife, Clara, died in 1957
- He was raised on a farm in Crawford County
- He was in general practice in Denison, Iowa

# get raises

The trustees of Denison Municipal Utilities increased salaries of most employees by an average of 8 per cent at a recent meeting. The raises were based on a combination of the increased cost of living and individual merit.

The salary of Daymon Abbott, general manager, was increased from \$19,600 to \$22,000 a year and that of Jim Ahrenholtz, office manager, from \$11,500 to \$12,600.

A contract to demolish the concrete chimney at the old power plant on South 16th Street was awarded to Rock the Wrecker Associated Wrecking Company, of Omaha, for \$6,500.

Meeting with Roy Middough, of the Sioux City architectural firm of Beuttler Associates, the trustees selected a reddish brown brick for the new Utilities Building to be erected on the foundation of the old water filtration plant at 16th Street and Fifth Avenue South. Demolition on the site is expected to start within two weeks.

# Senior citizens to help prepare new county park

Two senior citizens will help prepare the site of the new Crawford County park east of Denison this year, County Conservation Executive Officer, said today.

The Iowa Conservation Commission will reimburse their pay, the \$2.20 minimum hourly wage under the CORESC--Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Employment for Senior Citizens--program.

Two employees, who must be 60 or older, will start work April 1 and are expected to continue until Oct. 31, he said. Their duties will include removing interior fences, erecting new line fences and boundary signs and removing dead trees.

Anyone interested in applying for the jobs was advised to visit the Denison office of the Iowa State Employment Service, 1410 Broadway.

Glover also announced that a \$14,330 reimbursement for the recent purchase of 80 acres for the new park has been approved. The U.S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation will pay that sum to the County, which paid \$32,000 for the land that had been part of the Midwestern College campus.

The final land acquisition is now being considered for the park, which has 280 acres. There will be a 40-acre lake.

# American Beef challenges fees

American Beef Packers will challenge the request for nearly \$1.5 million in legal fees submitted in its bankruptcy case.

ABP has until 4:30 p.m. Monday to file objections. Federal Bankruptcy Court Judge David Crawford has scheduled a hearing on the matter Wednesday.

Said Joseph Skram, president of ABP, "I'm upset any time we're talking about \$1.5 million in legal fees."

ABP's attorneys, Fitzgerald, Brown, Leahy, Strom, Schorr, and Barmettler,



Andrew B. Bell

# Andrew Bell, dies; lawyer and senator

Former Crawford County State Senator and County Attorney Andrew B. Bell died early Saturday at Crawford County Memorial Hospital. He was 90 and lived at Eventide Lutheran Home for the Aged.

by Ruth Burnside

Andrew Bell, born in Aspinwall, attended Denison Normal and Business College and graduated from Drake University, Des Moines in 1912.

Elected county attorney in 1912 Mr. Bell served as attorney for 10 terms. He was nominated for the office before he graduated from Drake. Each time returned to office with majors ranging from 1,100 to 3,300 votes.

Retiring from that office he ran for state senator and was elected in 1933 and served two terms. During his term as senator he opened an office in the Laub Block.

While serving as state senator he sponsored the homestead exemption bill, which became a law.

Governor Kraschel appointed Mr. Bell to a committee to investigate the state liquor commission in Des Moines.

Two major cases that he prosecuted as county attorney were the Voss forgery case and the Farm Holiday group. The latter case got national prominence and was carried in papers in England, France, and Germany.

The National Guard was called out by Governor Clyde Herring and guards came from Red Oak and Council Bluffs. The 300 guardsman were armed with bayonets and loaded guns and the county was under martial law for seven or eight weeks.

His wife, the former Clara Curry, died in 1957.

Surviving are his brother, Henry, of Denison, a son, Robert and two grandsons, Robert and James.

A rosary will be celebrated Sunday at 8 p.m. at the Huebner Funeral Home, followed by Mass at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Rose of Lima Church. Friends may call at the Huebner Funeral Home at 2 p.m. Sunday. Interment will be in St. Rose of Lima Cemetery.

# Testimony in slander

Two weeks of testimony were completed shortly before noon Friday in the trial of former Denison School Superintendent George Dobrovolny's slander and libel suit against three former members of the school board.

District Judge George F. Davis dismissed the jury until Thursday at 9:30 a.m., when they'll return to the court house in Denison to hear the attorneys' summations and the judge's instructions and consider a verdict.

Dobrovolny sued Francis Clark, Doris Bartels and Dr. Tyson Long as a result of remarks he said they made at a meeting with Denison clergymen Feb. 19, 1973, asking \$73,000 actual damages and \$25,000 in punitive damages from each. He filed an additional action against Mrs. Bartels for an article she wrote, as school board president, that was published in the Denison Bulletin Feb. 22.

A tape recording of the meeting was played a week later on Radio Station KDSN and an account of it published in the Bulletin Feb. 20, 1973.

Clark and Mrs. Bartels testified Thursday and Friday and Dobrovolny was recalled for rebuttal. On Wednesday testimony taken by deposition from Dr. Long a week before his death last May was read to the jury.

Dobrovolny is represented by Attorneys Michael R. Mundt and Raymond E. Franck. Thomas Eller and Allan F. Nash are the attorneys for Clark, Mrs. Bartels and Dr. Long's widow, Elizabeth, as executor of his estate.

Dobrovolny maintains that the three former school directors maliciously made false statements that caused him injury, knowing they were false or in reckless disregard of whether or not they were true.

The statements included charges that he lied, was incompetent and withheld financial information about the schools. 'Clark and Mrs. Bartels had testified last week when they were called by Mundt as adverse witnesses.

On Thursday Clark said he was received coolly when he first joined the school board and not taken into buildings or shown where things were.

His inquiries about finances, Clark said, would be referred to the business manager, who told him, "You wouldn't understand it anyway."

Discussing teaching material, Clark said the health text books were so old that the school nurse tore out the section on brushing teeth.

He described community feeling at the time Dobrovolny was superintendent as an uproar, with lines of attitude drawn.

Mrs. Bartels said she had originated the summer program for reading and math but did not get willing help from the school administration.

Referring to a previous discussion of the need for electrical outlets in the Central

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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*

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CHICAGO AND NEW YORK

1931

was a member of the Presbyterian Church who daily lived his faith.

Like her husband, Mrs. Crawford is very philanthropic. She is active in social life at Winterset, where she is a generous supporter and consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and is also a member of the Des Moines Woman's Club.

WALDO EMERSON KAHLER, able lawyer, has for a number of years been a leader of the bar at Denison, and that community entertained a very high appreciation of his work as a professional man, as a financial adviser and public official.

Mr. Kahler was born at Traer, Iowa, July 13, 1880. His father, Marcus Kahler, a native of Germany, came to America when twenty-five years of age, was for thirteen years assistant cashier of a bank in Traer and then was connected with the lumber business until his death. He died at the age of sixty-two. He married Lena Kuehnle, who was born at Dubuque, Iowa, and survives him. They had a family of six children: H. V. Kahler, a physician at Reinbeck, Iowa; Waldo Emerson; Mrs. K. D. Seeberger, of Portland, Oregon; Mrs. Harold Ingham, of Dallas, Texas; Herbert B., chief clerk in the post-office at Traer; and Mrs. Paul Thomas, of Colorado.

Waldo Emerson Kahler spent all his early years in his native town. He was graduated from the Traer High School in 1898 and in 1904 took his law degree at the University of Iowa. Since graduating he has lived at Denison. For a time he was in the employ of Shaw & Kuehnle, owners of the Bank of Denison, the senior member of this firm being Leslie M. Shaw, one time governor of Iowa and later secretary of the United States treasury. Mr. Kahler for one year had charge of the business of Shaw & Kuehnle at Charter Oak. In 1906 he returned to Denison and was in partnership with Mr. P. W. Harding in the practice of law until January 1, 1916. Since that date he has carried on an individual law practice. He served as county attorney in 1917-18, during the World war period, and at the same time was Federal appeal agent of his locality. Mr. Kahler for nearly ten years has been city attorney of Denison.

He is an active Republican, is a member of the Masonic Lodge and Improved Order of Red Men, and he and his family are Presbyterians. He married, in 1907, Miss Edna Stevenson, who was also born at Traer, Iowa. Her parents were Hugh W. and Elizabeth (Preston) Stevenson. Her father is still living and both families were early settlers in Tama County.

ANDREW BELL is a lawyer by profession, has demonstrated his ability in the line of general practice, but most of his time since his admission to the bar has been taken up with his duties as county attorney of Crawford County.

Mr. Bell, whose official tenure in the courthouse at Denison has probably been longer than

other present county officials, was born at Aspinwall, Crawford County, December 7, 1886. His parents were Andrew and Christine (Gluckstadt) Bell, his father a native of Scotland and his mother of Germany. His grandfather, Sandlandes Bell, came with his family from Scotland and settled at Dow City in Crawford County in 1855, when his son Andrew was five years of age. He spent the rest of his life as a farmer. Andrew Bell became a railroad man, and was in the service for a number of years and later farmed in Crawford County until 1913, when he moved to Denison and lived retired until his death, November 11, 1918. The widowed mother lives in Denison. There were two sons, Andrew Bell and Henry. Henry Bell is a graduate of several colleges and universities and has been a successful journalist and editorial writer.

Andrew Bell was educated in district schools and attended the old Denison Normal School. He attended the University of Iowa, taking the work of the College of Liberal Arts and Law and later attended Drake University at Des Moines, where he graduated from the law department in 1912. Before completing his law course he had announced himself as a candidate for the office of county attorney, and in the fall of 1912 was elected to that office on the Democratic ticket. He has served in that position continuously except for the two years of 1916-17. At the expiration of his present term, January 1, 1933, he will have served as county attorney of Crawford County for eighteen years.

Mr. Bell is very popular with all classes of people in Crawford County, his abilities have brought him a high rank in the legal profession, and his reputation for personal integrity and high ideals has gained him a legion of friends over the state. He is affiliated with numerous lodges and organizations. He married, February 12, 1929, Miss Clara Curry, who was born at Denison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Curry, and has one son, Robert Andrew Bell, born September 4, 1930.

ARCHIBALD A. PLAGMAN, Doctor of Dental Surgery, with offices in the American Commercial & Savings Bank Building at Davenport, brings to his work not only long and careful training but a professional attitude which is of itself one of the indispensable qualifications for a man who does good work and wins success in the face of modern competition.

Doctor Plagman is a native of Iowa, and was born on a farm near Peterson in Clay County, January 10, 1897. His parents, Henry and Anna (Mohror) Plagman, were born in Illinois, of German ancestry. His mother is still living at Peterson. His father always took a deep interest in school and church life in his home community and served for a number of years on the school board. Doctor Plagman has two brothers living in Des Moines, one, Herbert, owning a drug business and the Des Moines Agency of Stutz Motor Company, while the other brother,