

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Mercer, Leroy Samuel Senator Mercer, Leroy Samuel - Represented Johnson and Iowa Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 30 Nov 1889 Newcomertown, Ohio

2. Marriage (s) date place

Asabelle Brant 6 Sept 1913 Iowa City, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Associated with Economy Advertising which was founded by his father in 1895. He was vice-president in 1920, president in 1956 and chairman in 1962

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Grand; Elks; Moose; Boy Scouts; YMCA; Iowa City Board of Commerce

C. Profession Advertising; printer; manufacturer; owner and operator of Mercer Transfer Company, 1918-1920

4. Church membership Episcopal

5. Sessions served 45<sup>th</sup>, 46<sup>th</sup>, 47<sup>th</sup> Iowa General Assemblies 1933, 1935, 1937 - House of Representatives; 49<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 51<sup>st</sup>, 52<sup>nd</sup>, 53<sup>rd</sup>, 54<sup>th</sup> 1941, 1943, 1945, 1947, 1949, 1951 - Senate

6. Public Offices

A. Local Mayor of Iowa City 2 terms; town councilman 1929-1932, later 1953 as wife; president of Iowa City Building Trades

B. State

C. National

7. Death 6 April 1965 Iowa City, Iowa; buried Oakwood Cemetery, Iowa City, Iowa

8. Children Keddy Joant; Mary Elizabeth (Mrs. John Dawson)

9. Names of parents Samuel Hobfield and Harriet (Keat) Mercer

Mercer, LeRoy Samuel

10. Education Educated in schools of Iowa City, Iowa  
graduating in 1908

11. Degrees University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa - attended  
1908-1910

12. Other applicable information Award  
- Named the outstanding community leader of Iowa City by the  
Chamber of Commerce in 1962

Mercer, LeRoy Samuel

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- Obituary -			The <u>Spaulding Press Citizen</u> , <u>Spaulding, Iowa</u> June, Apr. 6, 1965
- Iowa Press Association of News			<u>News in Iowa 1940</u> , p. 654
- Iowa Official Register			1951-1952, p. 49
- Familysearch.org			(accessed 20 Aug 2011)
- ancestry.com			(accessed 20 Aug 2011)
- Senate Journal			1965, p. 2816-2817

# Leroy S. Mercer, City Leader, Dies



LEROY S. MERCER

Leroy S. Mercer, who served Iowa City as mayor and councilman and Iowa as a legislator, died early today at Mercy hospital after a long illness. He was 75.

Mr. Mercer, of 709 South Summit street, was twice mayor and councilman, was a state representative for six years and a state senator for 12. He left public office in 1962 when he felt his health no longer permitted him to carry out his responsibilities as he wished.

He was chairman of the board of Economy Advertising Co., one of Iowa City's largest businesses. He also was president of the Hills Bank and Trust Co.

**FUNERAL SERVICES** will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Trinity Episcopal church with the Rev. Robert E. Holzhammer, rector, officiating. Burial will be in Oakland cemetery. Friends may call at Beckman's after 9 a.m. Wednesday.

Contributions may be made to a memorial fund for the Old Gold Development fund of the University of Iowa.

**MR. MERCER'S** career of public service began in 1929 when he was elected to the city council. He was a councilman until his election to the state house of representatives in 1932. He served three terms as Johnson county's representative.

After two years absence from the Statehouse, he was elected state senator from the old Johnson-Towa county district and served in that post from 1941 to 1953.

Mr. Mercer was elected to the city council in November, 1953, and named mayor when he took his seat in January, 1954. He continued as mayor all through his four-year council term.

**A DIVIDED** Iowa City council, turned to him again in April, 1962, after the death of Mayor Dorr Hudson. Chosen from a list of 53 suggested, Mr. Mercer was selected unanimously by the four remaining members of the council and again named mayor.

He continued to serve as mayor and a member of the council until November, although illness handicapped him in performing his duties.

Mr. Mercer was an acknowledged leader of the Democratic party in the legislature during his service in Des Moines and more than once was suggested as a candidate for higher office.

**MR. MERCER** was associated with Economy Advertising, and its sales subsidiary, Bankers Advertising, Iowa City's oldest major firm for more than a half-century. The firm had been founded by his father, S. W. Mercer in 1895 and incorporated in 1904 six years before Leroy Mercer joined it.

He became a vice president in 1920, president in 1956 and chairman in 1962.

He also was a charter member and a past director of the Specialty Association of America, the trade association. In 1962, this association honored

him at its national convention.

Mr. Mercer was named the outstanding community leader of Iowa City by the Chamber of Commerce in 1962.

**A MEMBER** and past senior warden of Trinity Episcopal church, he was a former president of the university Young Men's Christian Association. He also was president of the Iowa City Rotary club and the last surviving charter member of the local club.

Other memberships include Masonic bodies, the Kaaba Shrine temple of Davenport, Elks and Moose lodges and Jesters. He also was active in Boy Scouts and Y.M.C.A. for many years.

**BORN IN** Newcomerstown, Ohio, November 30, 1889, he was a son of S. W. and Harriet Keast Mercer. He was graduated from Iowa City high school in 1908 and attended the University of Iowa where he became a member of Phi-Kappa Psi.

He was married to Isabelle Brant, September 6, 1913, in Iowa City. She survives as do the couple's two daughters, Dorothy, at home, and Mrs. John (Mary Elizabeth) Dawson of Downey, Calif.

Also surviving are four grandchildren, a brother, H. V. Mercer of Ottumwa, and two sisters, Mrs. L. R. Carbee of Washington, Iowa, and Mrs. Al Sverrud of Davenport. One brother, Willis W. Mercer, died earlier.

**MAYOR RICHARD W. Burger** directed that city flags be flown at half-staff in tribute to Mr. Mercer. He issued the following statement on behalf of the city government:

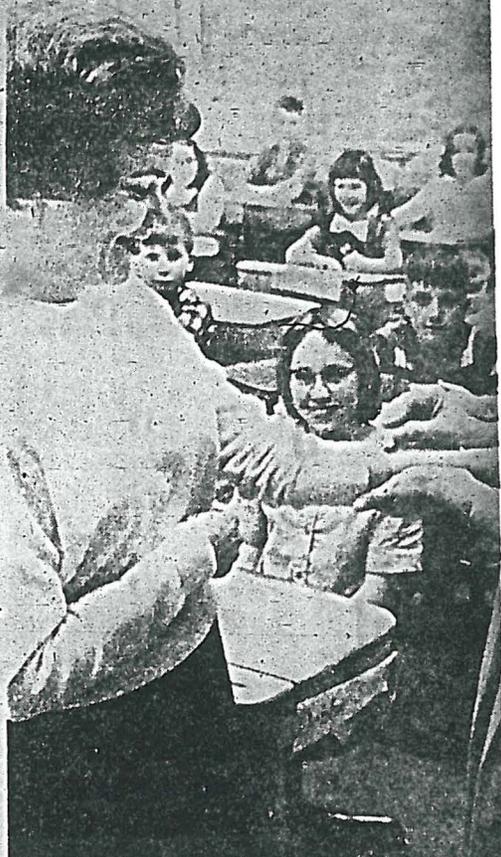
"It is with deep sorrow that we have learned of the death of Leroy S. Mercer.

"Mr. Mercer served Iowa City as a councilman and mayor and Iowa as a state representative and state senator. He was a loyal and dedicated public servant and we who live here are deeply indebted to him.

"On behalf of the entire city, I express my sympathy to his family."

Active pallbearers will be James H. Nesmith, Joseph G. Wayner, Earl Snyder, Keith H. Wilson, Dale W. Welt and William F. Wleck, Clark Houghton will be an alternate active pallbearer.

Honorary pallbearers will be Horace W. Stuck, Dr. George D. Callahan, Edward R. Rate, Glenn Hope, Bruce E. Mahan, J. J. Swaner, Albert Droll, William Maresch, Allin W. Dakin, J. Wayne Deegan, Carl Menzer, Orson S. Morse.



Members of the Hoover school fifth grade class their teacher, Mrs. Shirley Martin, receives her Tine day. Giving the test is Nurse Isabelle Welk. The test local schools in the annual program of the Johnson Health association. More than 3,000 county children receive the test this year. (Press-Citizen Photo)

## City Sells \$850,000 in Sewer Bonds

The city today sold \$850,000 in revenue bonds to finance major sewer improvements here.

The bonds were sold to Stern Bros. and Carleton D. Beh Co., Des Moines, who submitted the low interest rate of 3.3858 per cent. Net interest rate for the bonds, which are to mature in 1995, is \$56.035.

Other companies whose bids were submitted to the city council at noon today were:

Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, Chicago, 3.5352 per cent; Francis I. du Pont and Co., Chicago, 3.5087; William Blair and Co., Chicago, 3.42833; John Nuveen and Co., Chicago, 3.4057 per cent; Salomon Bros. and Hutzler, New York, 3.562, and Smith, Barney and Co., 3.5536.

The bonds were sold to finance sewage treatment plant renovations and a southwest interceptor sewer.

## Fast Time Bill Sent To Hughes

**DES MOINES (AP)**—The Iowa senate today accepted a house bill for statewide daylight saving time from Memorial day to Labor day.

The senate earlier set the date from the last Sunday in April to Labor day, but the house shortened the period to three months.

After brief debate, the senate voted, 35-17, to go along with the house version and send the bill to Gov. Harold Hughes.

## Liddy 'Fed Up,' Probe in a Huff,

Stout City has job for Denner; Page 7.

**DES MOINES (P)**—Former Secretary of Agriculture L. B. Liddy stalked out of a legislative heading into the firing of a state milk inspector today and said, "I am not going to waste any more of my time."

Liddy, a Republican, testified for 70 minutes Monday and had been questioned for about 70 minutes today when he broke up the hearing by walking out.

"I AM fed up," Liddy said. "I am through. This is terminated. Unless you subpoena me I am through."

"This is all the badgering I am going to take. I apologize to the committee, but I have nothing to hide."

"I have to make a living. I have a noon appointment and I am going to keep it."

The former secretary returned voluntarily to the committee room in a few minutes and said

he did so because he did not want to leave the impression he had anything to hide.

**LIDDY WAS** asked by John Greer, counsel for the joint legislative committee conducting the investigation about evening meals charged to the state by Richard Denner, 52, who the former secretary blew up.

**UPON HIS** return to the committee room, Liddy testified he discharged one inspector "because I was satisfied he had been falsifying his meal expenses."

Liddy gave the name of the former inspector to the committee but it was not introduced in record. Liddy said the man is now employed in eastern Iowa.

Greer produced the man's expense accounts for a 155-day period. They showed he had charged for 150 breakfasts and 148 evening meals which totaled \$352.

He said that Denner in a 247-day working period from December 1, 1963 to November 30, 1964, charged for 214 evening meals at a cost of \$406.

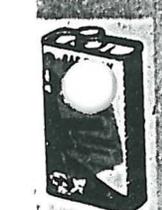
**LIDDY WAS** asked by Greer if Denner's expenses were in man's hand.

## ANGRY TEACHER TAKES A FULL PAGE AD TO AIR OPINIONS ON STUDENTS WHO LEAD 'EMPTY LIVES'

WEEK  
Y-  
RU 101



OFF ON A  
MI-GLOSS  
ERS ALL  
FAMOUS



State of Iowa

1965

# JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

of the

## SIXTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Convened January 11, 1965

Adjourned June 4, 1965

HAROLD E. HUGHES, Governor

ROBERT D. FULTON, President of the Senate

VINCENT B. STEFFEN, Speaker of the House

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Superintendent of Printing

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STATE OF IOWA  
Des Moines

administered the first New Deal farm program in Iowa in 1933-35. He also served on the AAA state committee. Mr. McArthur became chief of the grain division of the Commodity Credit Corporation in Washington, D. C., in 1940. He remained active in positions of importance in that agency until his retirement in 1954. Mr. McArthur's work in the allocation of grain for export during the post World War II period won him a Legion of Honor award from the French government. He also served on the U. S. delegation to the international wheat council.

Mr. McArthur served Cerro Gordo and Hancock Counties in the Iowa Senate from 1933 to 1936. He served in the Iowa House as Cerro Gordo County State Representative in 1959.

*Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-first General Assembly:* That in the passing of the Honorable William McArthur the state has lost a valuable, loyal, and honored citizen, and by this resolution tenders its sincere sympathy to the members of the family.

*Be It Further Resolved:* That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the Senate and the Secretary be directed to send an enrolled copy to each member of his family.

DELBERT FLOY, *Chairman,*  
ROBERT R. RIGLER,  
LEO ELTHON,

*Committee.*

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

#### LEROY S. MERCER

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee, appointed to prepare a suitable resolution commemorating the life, character and public service of the late Leroy S. Mercer, begs leave to submit the following:

Leroy S. Mercer was born in Newcomerstown, Ohio, on November 30, 1889, son of S. W. and Harriet Keast Mercer. He was graduated from Iowa City high school in 1908 and attended the University of Iowa where he became a member of Phi Kappa Psi.

He was married to Isabelle Brant on September 6, 1913.

Mr. Mercer's career of public service began in 1929 when he was elected to the city council. He was a Councilman until his election to the State House of Representatives in 1932. He served three terms as Johnson County's Representative.

After two years absence from the Statehouse, he was elected State Senator from the old Johnson-Iowa county district and served in that post from 1941 to 1953.

Mr. Mercer was elected to the city council of Iowa City in November, 1953, and named Mayor when he took his seat in January, 1954. He continued as mayor all through his four-year council term.

A divided Iowa City council turned to him again in April, 1962. Chosen from a list of 53 suggested, Mr. Mercer was selected unanimously by the four remaining members of the council and again named Mayor.

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He also was charter member and a past director of the Specialty Association of America, the trade association. In 1962 this association honored him at its national convention.

A member and past senior warden of Trinity Episcopal Church, he was a former president of the University Young Men's Christian Association. He also was president of the Iowa City Rotary Club and the last surviving charter member of the local club.

Other memberships include Masonic bodies, the Kaaba Shrine temple of Davenport, Elks and Moose lodges and Jesters. He also was active in Boy Scouts and Y.M.C.A. for many years.

Leroy S. Mercer died after a long illness on April 6, 1965, in Iowa City, Iowa, and is survived by his wife Isabelle, and two daughters, Dorothy and Mary Elizabeth (Mrs. John Dawson).

*Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-first General Assembly of Iowa:* That in the passing of Leroy S. Mercer, the state has lost a valuable, loyal and honored citizen, and by this resolution tenders its sincere sympathy to the members of the family.

*Be It Further Resolved:* That a copy of this resolution be spread on the Journal of the Senate and that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to forward an enrolled copy to each member of his family.

ROBERT J. BURNS, *Chairman,*  
GEORGE E. O'MALLEY,  
LEO ELTHON,

*Committee.*

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

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GLEN E. WHITEHEAD

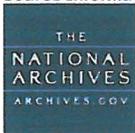
MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee, appointed to prepare a suitable resolution commemorating the life, character and public service of the late Glen E. Whitehead, begs leave to submit the following:

Glen E. Whitehead was born on a farm in Marshall County, Iowa, on August 11, 1892. He passed away on October 21, 1964, at the age of 72.

His early education was received in rural schools in Marshall County and Marshalltown High School. After a two year commerce course, he entered the newspaper field in 1914. He was associated with the Nevada



You searched for **Leroy S. Mercer** in **Iowa**

1910 United States Federal Census		
Name:	<b>Leroy S Mercer</b>	
Age in 1910:	20	
Estimated Birth Year:	1890	
Birthplace:	Ohio	
Relation to Head of House:	Son	
Father's name:	Samuel W Mercer	
Father's Birth Place:	Ohio	
Mother's name:	Harriet H Mercer	
Mother's Birth Place:	Ohio	
Home in 1910:	Iowa Ward 5, Johnson, Iowa	
Marital Status:	Single	
Race:	White	
Gender:	Male	
Neighbors:	<a href="#">View others on page</a>	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Samuel W Mercer</a>	51
	<a href="#">Harriet H Mercer</a>	51
	<a href="#">Carrie M Mercer</a>	25
	<a href="#">Willis H Mercer</a>	23
	<a href="#">Leroy S Mercer</a>	20
	<a href="#">Ruth Mercer</a>	74
		[14]
	<a href="#">Edmond M Bywater</a>	33
	<a href="#">Bertha M Bywater</a>	28
		[29]
	<a href="#">Willis E Bywater</a>	2
<b>Source Citation:</b> Year: 1910; Census Place: Iowa Ward 5, Johnson, Iowa; Roll: T624_408; Page: 12A; Enumeration District: 0091; Image: 1020; FHL Number: 1374421.		
<b>Source Information:</b>		
 Ancestry.com. 1910 United States Federal Census [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006.		
Original data: Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C. For details on the contents of the film numbers, visit the following NARA web page: <a href="#">NARA</a>		
<b>Description:</b>		
This database is an index to the head of households enumerated in the 1910 United States Federal Census, the Thirteenth Census of the United States. In addition, each indexed name is linked to actual images of the 1910 Federal Census. The information recorded in the census includes: name, relationship to head of family, age at last birthday, sex, color or race, whether single, married, widowed, or divorced, birthplace, birthplace of father and mother, and more. <a href="#">Learn more...</a>		

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You searched for **Leroy S. Mercer** in **Iowa**

1920 United States Federal Census		
Name:	<b>Leroy S Mercer</b> <b>[Le Roy S Mercer]</b>	
Home in 1920:	Iowa City Ward 4, Johnson, Iowa	
Age:	30	
Estimated Birth Year:	abt 1890	
Birthplace:	Ohio	
Relation to Head of House:	Self (Head) [Head]	
Spouse's Name:	Laura I Mercer	
Father's Birth Place:	Ohio	
Mother's Birth Place:	Ohio	
Marital Status:	Married	
Race:	White	
Sex:	Male	
Home owned:	Own	
Able to read:	Yes	
Able to Write:	Yes	
Neighbors:	<a href="#">View others on page</a>	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Leroy S Mercer</a>	30
	<a href="#">Laura I Mercer</a>	28
<b>Source Citation:</b> Year: 1920; Census Place: Iowa City Ward 4, Johnson, Iowa; Roll: T625_496; Page: 12A; Enumeration District: 98; Image: 930.		
<b>Source Information:</b>		
	Ancestry.com. 1920 United States Federal Census [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.	
Original data: Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C. For details on the contents of the film numbers, visit the following NARA web page: <a href="#">NARA</a> . Note: Enumeration Districts 819-839 are on roll 323 (Chicago City).		
<b>Description:</b>		
This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1920 United States Federal Census, the Fourteenth Census of the United States. It includes all states and territories, as well as Military and Naval Forces, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, and the Panama Canal Zone. The census provides many details about individuals and families including: name, gender, age, birthplace, year of immigration, mother tongue, and parents' birthplaces. In addition, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1920 Federal Census. <a href="#">Learn more...</a>		

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# Individual Record

FamilySearch™ U.S. Social Security Death Index

[Search Results](#)

Select record to download - Maximum: 50

 **Leroy MERCER**

<b>Birth Date:</b>	30 Nov 1889
<b>Death Date:</b>	Apr 1965
<b>Social Security Number:</b>	481-01-9134
<b>State or Territory Where Number Was Issued:</b>	Iowa
<b>Actual Death Residence:</b>	Iowa

[Return to search results](#)[Prepare selected records for download](#)

This data is only accurate as of 1 Aug 2011.

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Saints

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