Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Martin, Stephen Anthony Senator _____

Represented Appanoose County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 26 Nov 1871 Appanoose County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

(1) Mary Ann Brown

(2) Elizabeth Rippey 26 Dec 1942

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Shriner; Elk

C. Profession Manufacturer

4. Church membership Methodist

5. Sessions served 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st General Assemblies 1939, 1941, 1943, 1945

6. Public Offices

A. Local _____

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 16 Feb 1957 Centerville, Iowa; buried

8. Children Mrs H. A. Hinton (an adopted daughter of his first marriage)

9. Names of parents Anthony and Harriet E. (Ellis) Martin

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Martin, Stephen Anthony

10. Education First educated in country schools of Appanoose County and later came to Centerville to go to school

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information Republican

- His first work was as a delivery boy for a Centerville merchant.
- He later went to work in the coal mines in the winter and delivered ice in the summer.
- Later he worked in the ice business all the time and then he and a partner bought the whole ice business for themselves. He built a thriving ice business. Later he went into ice manufacturing by a steam engine and in 1902 he had an electric operated plant capable of 30 tons of ice a day and in 1925 they made 60 tons a day.
- He had also gone into the brick business. There was a brick plant making a dry pressed brick using a continuous kiln operation.
- The business became the Centerville Brick and Tile Company and later called Iowa Clay Products
- He was also in the locker business called the Pure Ice Plant
- His first wife, Mary Ann, died 19 Jul 1936.

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Martin, Stephen Anthony

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

| Source | Non Applicable | Applicable | Information obtained |
|---|---|---|---|
| Obituary - The Centerville Daily Iowegian, Centerville, Iowa, Sat. Feb. 16, 1957, p. 1, col 1 & 2 | | | |

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

# S. A. (Steve) Martin Taken Today

## Business Leader for Long Time

S. A. Martin, who recently retired as head of the Centerville Pure Ice Co. died at 3:30 a.m. Saturday at his home at 610 West Garfield street.

He was born Stephen Anthony Martin Nov. 26 1871 in this county and was the son of Anthony and Harriett E. Ellis Martin and was 85 years two months and 20 days of age.

As a young man Mr. Martin was an adept business man. He started with the ice business which he changed from pond ice to a manufactured product, he also was a partner in the early brick and tile business here and operated a considerable farm acreage at one time.

Martin was a booster always. He built his own business that way and lent his talents to his home city and county as a booster. At one time here during a depression he was known as the father of a scrip plan that was instrumental in getting Centerville thru a difficult time.

He is preceded in death by his first wife Mary Ann Brown Martin February 19 1936. He united in marriage with Elizabeth Rippey, who was then a teacher in the local schools, December 26 1942. She survives his death together with an adopted daughter of his first marriage Mrs. N. A. Winter, of Des Moines. He also leaves a brother Ray Martin, of Davenport.

Mr. Martin was a member of the Methodist Church, Masonic Lodge, Shrine, and Elks Lodge. He was at one time a state representative from this county.

Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced from the Johnson Funeral Home later.

History of Martin's notable business career here is as follows:

**EARLY SCHOOL**

Mr. Martin first went to school in the country, and then came to town to go to school. He used to say that the school he attended was on the second floor of a building about where the Hy-Vee grocery store is now located on the west side of the square. As a youngster, Mr. Martin started his business career, working as a delivery boy for Major Stanton, an early Centerville merchant.

After starting as a delivery boy, he went to work in the mines in the winter, and in the summer he worked delivering ice for Bill McKee. Then he went back into the mines for a couple of years after which he decided to work for McKee as a steady business. It was in 1897 that he ,together with the late Fowler Bryant, decided to go into business for themselves. The pair bought McKee out, and took over on their own. In 1905, Mr. Martin bought out Bryant's share.

**ICE FROM PONDS**

McKee had cut his ice off three ponds, two of which were close together west of the present ice plant. If there was plenty of water there was plenty of ice. If the summer was dry and the water was scarce, so was the ice, and it had to be shipped in.

Mr. Martin had built up a thriving business but the uncertainty of the weather as a means of having ice bothered him. The net result was that he did a little talking around and decided to get beyond the vagaries of water and freezing temperatures. The result was a new organization made up of Bryant, Fred Betcher, D. C. Bradley, and Martin. The company started the first effort ever made here to manufacture ice. The output was ten tons a day.

S. A. Martin, business leader here who died Saturday morning.

An old steam engine was used, and the whole affair didn't operate too well. The result was that in 1912, the old steam plant was torn up and replaced with a new electric operated plant capable of 30 tons of ice a day. In the meantime the company ownership had changed so that Mr. Martin, Frank Payne, and D. C. Bradley were the owners.

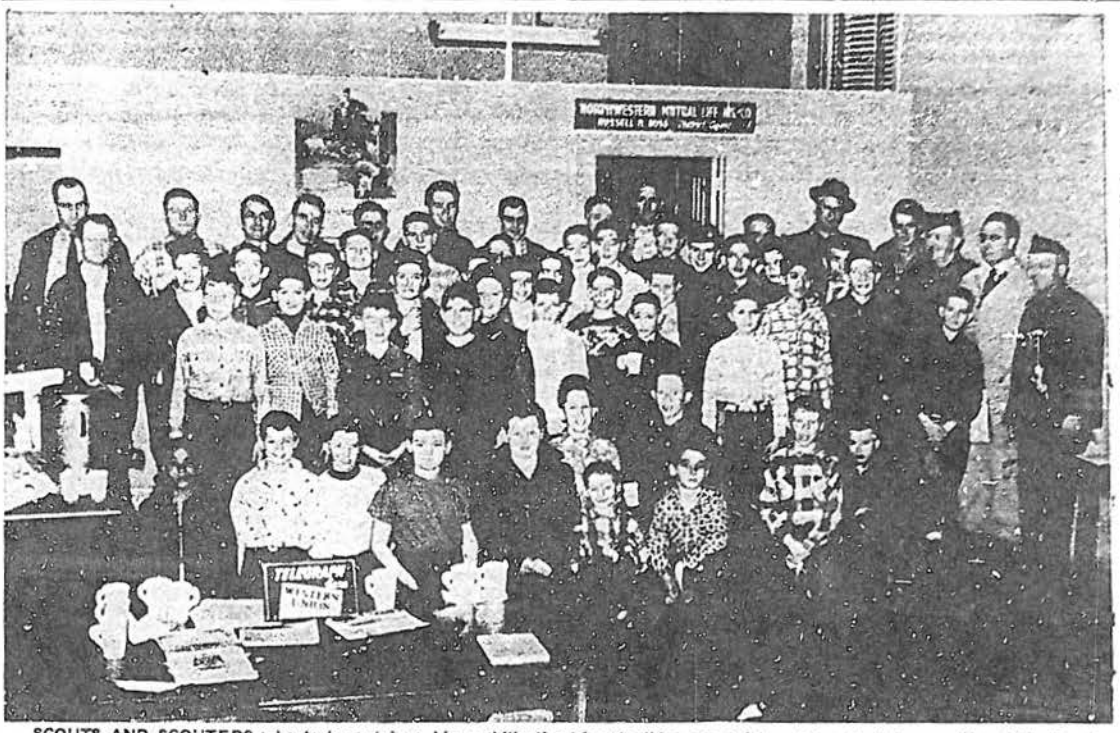
**CHANGE HAND**

In 1923, Mr. Payne bought out Mr. Bradley's interest. In 1925, the plant capacity had reached 60 tons a day. In 1933, Mr. Payne died, and shortly after that, Mr. Martin bought Mr. Payne's interest in the ice plant, thus becoming sole owner.

There had been another development through the years. Mr. Martin, together with Mr. Payne, went into the brick business. There had been a brick plant making a dry pressed brick using the continuous kiln operation. A new system was later built, and the business name was the Centerville Brick and Tile Co. It was later changed to the Iowa Clay Products Co., which still operates here only under different ownership.

Another enterprise with which Mr. Martin was connected was the locker plants, both at the Pure Ice Plant, and uptown.

In addition to helping maintain the home, Mrs. Elizabeth Martin has been active in helping Mr. Martin with the plant operations.



SCOUTS AND SCOUTERS who took part in a big mobilization here Friday night, seen at the Chamber of Commerce rooms after four lost boys had been found. Scouts and Explorers were alerted to go on a simulated emergency to hunt for four lost youths. The Scouts did a grand job and found all four youths within 45 minutes. After that hot chocolate and doughnuts were served at the Chamber of Commerce.

## K. Crouch Dies In Car Mishap

Kenneth Crouch, formerly of Cincinnati, was killed in an auto accident near DeKalb, Ill., Friday evening. Suffering two broken legs in the mishap was his wife, Maxine. The three children of the Crouch couple were also involved and are in the hospital.

Mrs. Crouch is a sister to Gene Logston of Centerville and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Lowe who live west of Cincinnati.

Those from here who left immediately to be with Mrs. Crouch and the children were Mrs. Gene Logston, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Lowe and Charles Lowe.

Few actual details concerning the highway crash are available at the present time.

## Four Lost Boys Found In Scout Mobilization Here

When the Centerville fire whistle blew at 7:50 Friday night it was the signal that four "lost" boys had been found. It was all a part of a big Boy Scout mobilization marking Boy Scout week here.

The demonstration was to prove that Boy Scouts can be of real and vital service and on a moment's notice. The Scouts knew that sometime within two weeks they would be called into action or mobilized. They did not know when. A little after 6:30 calls started going out. The first Scout reported at the band stand in the courthouse park seven minutes later. Within a few minutes after that 53 Scouts had gathered.

At the band stand Field Scout Executive Roy McKinney explained that there were four youths lost in four different parts of town. The Scouts divided into four teams and started out to find them. Within 20 minutes the first boy had been found and within 45 minutes all four had been located. It was fast, well executed work and the kind that might pay off big in a real emergency.

The youths who were "lost" were Tommy Sager in the northeast part of Centerville, Eddy Dooley, in the northwest section, Robin Bass in the southeast section, and Steven Ferris in the southwest.

Called on a minute's notice 53 Scouts came equipped to stay out any length of time, also came with proper night time equipment and showed their ability at concerted action when they found four lost boys in 45 minutes' time.

The whole operation was highly successful. Scout Troops 32, 33, and 86 participated together with their Scoutmasters. Explorer Post 32 also took part. Explorer Scouts are presumed to be ready at any time for a mobilization call.

When the searches ended the fire whistle blew and the Scouts and Scouters all gathered at the Chamber of Commerce where hot chocolate and doughnuts were served.

Mayor Harold Fowler and Postmaster Wallace Koestner were on hand to congratulate the boys. All of the Scouters of the city also were on hand to help the boys in any way they could and to direct their work.

In a time of emergency the trained Scout and especially the advanced Explorer Scouts could be of real service.

Ancel Briggs fire custodian spent his "night off" aiding the Scouts with the city emergency truck. Secretary Harry Dukes of the Chamber of Commerce presided at the serving table.

While it was a bit nippy everybody seemed to enjoy the mobilization and it seems that something of that sort may happen agai nhere in the future.

**CARS OFF SQUARE, PLEASE**

Mayor Harold Fowler has asked that all cars be kept off the square early Sunday morning so that the city street department can clean the pavement.

**IOWA MOTOR DEATHS**

Feb. 16, 1957 ..... 63
Feb. 16, 1958 ..... 97

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.