

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative McNeal, Clark Henry Senator _____

_____ Represented Wright County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 5 Dec 1918 Wright County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place _____

Dorothy Courson 26 Aug 1939

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Recognized by the Belmont Iowa Lions Club elected
him as Belmonts "Man of the Year" in 1958

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Chamber of Commerce Belmont

C. Profession Booker; grain elevator operator (McNeal Grain Co.);
farm management; real estate; insurance business

4. Church membership Methodist

5. Sessions served 54th 55th 56th 57th 58th General Assemblies 1951, 1953,
1955, 1957, 1959

6. Public Offices _____

A. Local _____

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 28 Jul 1959 Belmont, Iowa; buried Clarion Cemetery, Clarion, Iowa

8. Children Clark E.; David; Kristin; Tyler; Sherman

9. Names of parents Clark Edward and Hilda Marie (Vredholm) McNeal

McNeal, Clark H.

10. Education Edutated in the public schools of
Clarion, Iowa and in Rockford, Illinois where
his family moved in 1930.
11. Degrees Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa - graduate in 1939
University of Michigan - MA in public administration
12. Other applicable information Republican
- His job at first was branch manager for the Beneficial
Management Corporation
 - He came to Belmont in 1942 and after marriage he took over
the farm management and real estate business of his
deceased father-in-law
 - The business later became a partnership in 1944 with his
brother-in-law, Ronald W. Courson.
 - The partnership dissolved in 1953 and he later established the
McNeal Grain Company at Clarion.
 - His son, Clark E. McNeal, served in the 74th and 75th Iowa General Assemblies
1991-1992, 1993-1994 of the Iowa Legislature.

Clark H. McNeal at Age 41; One of Its Ablest Lawmakers

Clark H. McNeal, unquestionably the most widely admired and respected man who has ever called Belmont his home, died Tuesday night at 8:00 o'clock at Belmont Community hospital. His vast horde of friends will always wonder how far beyond the tragically young age of 41 Clark might have lived had he not been so selfless in serving causes he thought to be right — and so ready to respond when a call was made on his dynamic speaking ability and sharp intellect.



CLARK H. McNEAL

This story cannot be written in the prosaic, unemotional style that a proper news story should adhere to — because your editor was too fond of Clark as a friend and held him in too deep esteem as a man to be impersonal in writing of his death.

Clark McNeal was an anomaly in that he was a wholly honest, supremely sincere and thoroughly Christian gentleman who found in politics one his life's greatest delights. There are many fine men in politics; but there are few genuine statesmen. That was the distinction that set Clark apart and won him the admiration of his political opponents no less than that of his party associates.

A bit less sincerity, a willingness to compromise principles in some degree for worthy ends — and a normal life in length of years — would, we honestly believe, have enabled Clark McNeal to inscribe his name among those of Iowa's greatest political leaders. He had already attained the respect due such a status, in the hearts of those who knew him well. And they know that Iowa has suffered a incalculable loss in his untimely death.

Clark H. McNeal was born in Wright county on Dec. 4, 1918, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. McNeal. He was educated in the public schools of Clarion and of Rockford, Ill., where his family moved about 1930.

He was graduated from Cornell college, Mount Vernon, in 1939, then continued his education at the University of Michigan, by which he was awarded a Master's degree in public administration two years later. He took a position as branch manager for the Beneficial Management corporation, a position he

filled until coming to Belmont to make his home in 1942.

He had married Dorothy Courson on Aug. 26, 1939, and it was upon the death of his father-in-law, R. E. Courson, that he came to Belmont to take over management of the latter's farm management and real estate business. The firm became a partnership in 1944, shared with his brother-in-law, Ronald W. Courson.

A friendly dissolution of the partnership occurred in June of 1953, and three months later Clark established the McNeal Grain company at Clarion, continuing to live in Belmont.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. McNeal: Clark E., who is now 17; David, 14; Kristin, 11; Tyler, who is approaching the age of six; and Sherman, 21 months.

Was Chamber President

During the years that Clark was in business here, he was a frequent and dependable participant in a wide range of civic affairs. He served a term as president of the Chamber of Commerce, headed Red Cross and bond-selling drives, played an important role in the campaign that brought Belmont Community hospital into being and generally assisted whenever or however a call was made on his time. He also served a term on the city council.

Throughout his adult lifetime an enthusiastic member of the Republican party, he first entered politics

Rites Friday

Funeral services for Clark H. McNeal will be held Friday at 2:00 p. m. at the Methodist church, Rev. M. L. Jones officiating. Johnston Funeral Home will be in charge and burial will be in the Clarion cemetery. Because of Mr. McNeal's statewide prominence and the great number of friends he had all over Iowa, the body will lie in state at the church from 10:00 a. m. until the hour of the funeral. In respect to Mr. McNeal's memory, the Chamber of Commerce recommends that all Belmont business firms close during the services Friday afternoon. The McNeal family specifies that memorials would be preferred to flowers.

in 1950 by running as GOP candidate for State Representative from Wright county. He was elected handsily and subsequently ran successfully for re-election four times. He was serving his fifth term in the legislature at the time of his death.

Outstanding House Leader

During the 58th General Assembly, last spring, he filled the important position of majority floor leader in the House. He played a vital role in compromising differences between public interests and those of the greatly strengthened Democratic minority, led by Gov. Herschel Loveless. Seasoned political observer.

Benefit by Profit-Sharing Plan

The system previously entailed such benefits as life and hospitalization insurance and disability payments, the cost of which the companies share generously in meeting.

said Mr. Thompson, "to comply with the written philosophy of the company, which reads, 'It is our purpose to provide our employees with the opportunity and incentive for maximum self-expression and growth.'"

Series of Articles To Tell Counseling, Guidance Benefits

Attention is called to the first of a series of articles on student guidance, which appears in this issue. The Independent has editorially urged student guidance and counseling in the local schools for some time and was delighted to have the series of explanatory articles made available.

Zoning-Planning Survey Completed By Rowat-Murray

Monday night at the city hall, John Dickson of the staff of Rowat-Murray, Engineers, presented to the city planning commission the results of the survey the engineering firm had been employed to make as the groundwork for passage of a zoning and planning ordinance.

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

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A chronic heart disorder dating back to childhood, complicated by pneumonia, caused Clark's death. He had entered Belmont Community hospital last Saturday. A week earlier he had gone to Mayo clinic at Rochester, Minn., for examination by specialists to determine if his heart defect could be corrected or improved by surgery.

"Man of the Year" in '58

Last February, near the start of the term of legislature, he was hospitalized for a week by his heart condition. He then returned to Des Moines to fulfill his arduous duties during what proved to be Iowa's longest regular legislative session in history.

He was in steady demand as a speaker, and after concluding his lawmaking duties he continued to fill speaking engagements that were a drain on his energies, because he deemed their purpose important. According to his personal physician, Clark carried on with his legislative duties and platform appearances with full realization that he did so at "personal danger" to himself.

Last year he had been accorded recognition for the unselfish service he had for so many years performed for Belmont and for the state when the Lions club elected him Belmont's "Man of the Year" for 1958.

In addition to his wife and children, Clark is survived by his mother, Mrs. Hilda McNeal of Clarion; and two sisters, Mrs. Lyte (Helen) Gross of Eagle Grove and Mrs. Robert (Grace) Walsh of Independence. His father preceded him in death in 1930.

HELLO WORLD

A 6 lb. 12 oz. baby girl was born July 23 to Mr. and Mrs. William Neuberger, Jr., of Klemme. They have named her Barbara Jean.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. ... July 23. She has been named Patricia Jean.

Barbara Jean is the name selected.

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It is written by Dr. Edward C. Rorber, professor of education at the University of Michigan, a widely recognized authority in the field of guidance and counseling. Subsequent articles will appear as nearly consecutively as available space in succeeding issues permits.

Supt. Don Paris and members of the Belmont Community District board of education have indicated a sincere interest in introducing guidance and counseling service in the local schools whenever circumstances permit. Insufficient office space is a present obstacle; but the matter is being borne in mind and it is intended that guidance and counseling will be inaugurated as early a time as is feasible.

This is a field with which many parents are unfamiliar. To better acquaint them with the benefits of guidance and counseling, The Independent is happy to give space to this series of articles on the subject. It is recommended to all parents vitally interested in their children's futures that they take the time necessary to read these well written, easy-to-understand articles.

SIX ATTEND CDA EVENT

A group of six Belmont women attended a Catholic Daughters Pioneer Day conference Sunday at Ames. Over 600 were present. Those attending from here were: Mrs. V. McLaughlin, Mrs. Ira Stuebaker, Jr., Rose Ormsby, Mrs. George Brady, Mrs. Charles Wilmarth and Mrs. L. B. Oberhauser.

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Monday night at the city hall, John Dickson of the staff of Rowat-Murray, Engineers, presented to the city planning commission the results of the survey the engineering firm had been employed to make as the groundwork for passage of a zoning and planning ordinance.

Mr. Dickson explained that R-M's suggestions in regard to proposed land use and future improvements were wholly subject to approval of the planning commission. He demonstrated by means of a series of maps the information gathered during the survey and the recommendations of the engineering firm, based on that information.

Few Changes Requested

Very few changes were proposed by the commission members, and such as were made were of relatively minor importance. In general, the commission found the Rowat-Murray proposals sound and readily acceptable.

Gene Griffin, chairman of the commission, reports that the suggested changes will be incorporated in Rowat-Murray's final draft of zoning and planning recommendations and it will then be published in brochure form.

Hearings Due Soon

This will be ready for distribution within a matter of a few weeks, and a public hearing on the proposals will then be called by the planning commission. Subsequent to that hearing, a similar one on the same matter will be held by the city council at which objections and comments will be received.

When these hearings have been concluded, the council will codify the proposals.



State of Iowa

1961

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

of the

FIFTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Convened January 9, 1961

Adjourned May 6, 1961

NORMAN A. ERBE, Governor
W. L. MOOTY, President of the Senate
HENRY NELSON, Speaker of the House

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commission which studied problems in government reorganization and consolidation in 1956.

Mr. McFarlane was the Republican candidate to the House of Representatives at the time of his death. His survivors are his wife, and a brother, Edward.

Therefore, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Fifty-ninth General Assembly of Iowa: That in the passing of the Honorable Arch W. McFarlane, the state has lost an honored citizen and a faithful and useful public servant, and the House by this resolution would express its appreciation of his service, and tender its sympathy to the members of his family.

Be It Further Resolved: That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the House and that the Chief Clerk be directed to forward an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

FRANCIS L. MESSERLY,
CHESTER O. HOUGEN,
A. L. MENSING,
Committee.

CLARK H. McNEAL

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee, appointed to prepare a suitable resolution commemorating the life, character, and public service of the late Honorable Clark H. McNeal, begs leave to submit the following memorial:

Clark H. McNeal was born in Wright County, Iowa, on December 4, 1918, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. McNeal. He passed away on July 28, 1959, at Belmond, Iowa, at the age of forty.

Mr. McNeal was educated in the public schools of Clarion and of Rockford, Illinois, where his family moved about 1930. He was graduated from Cornell College at Mount Vernon in 1939, then continued his education at the University of Michigan, where he received a master's degree in public administration two years later.

Before making Belmond his home in 1942, he was employed as a branch manager for the Beneficial Management Corporation. He married Dorothy Courson on August 26, 1939, and it was to oversee the farm management business of her father, R. E. Courson, that Mr. McNeal came to Belmond upon the latter's death. He established the McNeal Grain Company at Clarion in 1953, which he continued to operate until his death.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. McNeal: Clark E., 18 and now a freshman at Cornell College; David, 16; Kristin, 12; Tyler, 7; and Sherman, 3.

Belmond remained Mr. McNeal's home to the time of his death. The innumerable civic duties he performed in behalf of his community brought him in 1958 the Lions Club annual award as Belmond's Man-of-the-Year.

Mr. McNeal served five terms in the Iowa Legislature as Representative from Wright County and during the Fifty-eighth General Assembly filled the important position of majority floor leader in the House.

The State of Iowa benefited from the service and the efforts of this man.

His courage, enthusiasm and common sense fitted him for his place as a dedicated public servant. The future promise of the contributions Clark McNeal would make to society were boundless. The State of Iowa and the nation, upon the untimely death of Clark McNeal, suffered the loss of a great leader.

In addition to the widow and children, Mr. McNeal is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Lyle Gross of Eagle Grove, Iowa, and Mrs. Robert Walsh of Independence, Iowa.

Therefore, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Fifty-ninth General Assembly of Iowa: That in the passing of the Honorable Clark H. McNeal the state has lost an honored citizen and a faithful and useful public servant, and the House by this resolution would express its appreciation of his service, and tender its sympathy to the members of his family.

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R. W. HAGIE,
VERN LISLE,
SCOTT SWISHER,
Committee.

RUSSELL A. PATRICK

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee, appointed to prepare a suitable resolution commemorating the life, character and public service of the late Honorable Russell A. Patrick, begs leave to submit the following memorial:

Russell A. Patrick was born in Sioux County, Hawarden, Iowa, December 6, 1899, and passed away October 8, 1959. He was the son of J. A. and Ima Hastings Patrick.

Mr. Patrick was educated in the public schools of Hawarden, Iowa, and the University of Minnesota. While there he was initiated into the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity and the Sigma Delta Psi, an athletic fraternity. He was outstanding in athletics while in high school and held the javelin record of the Big Ten while attending the University of Minnesota.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Stella McAninch. To this union five children were born, one of whom preceded him in death. In 1953 he was united in marriage with Miss Bernita Conway of Garner, Iowa.

He was very prominent in civic and community affairs, was an extensive farmer and cattle feeder. Active in R.E.A. organization and a firm believer in local government. He was a veteran of World War I, a member of the American Legion and of the Last Man's Club of the local Legion organization. He was a member of Dale Lodge, A. F. and A. M., of which he was a past master, a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge and a past noble grand of this lodge. He belonged to the Methodist Church.

Mr. Patrick, a Republican, served five terms in the legislature. He was first elected in 1946. During that time he had been chairman of the appropriations committee and was a member of the budget and financial control committee. In the 1955 session he was presented the press and radio

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Name: **Clark Henry McNeal**
Birth Date: **5 Dec 1918**
Birth Place: **Wall Lake Twp, Wright County, Iowa, United States**
Father's Name: **Clark Edward McNeal**
Mother's Name: **Hilda Maria Vredholm**
FHL Film Number: **1401737**

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *Iowa, Births and Christenings Index, 1857-1947* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.
Original data:

"Iowa Births and Christenings, 1830-1950." Index. FamilySearch, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2009, 2010. Index entries derived from digital copies of original and compiled records.

Description:

This database is an index extracted from more than 1.7 million birth, baptism, and christening records from Iowa. [Learn more...](#)

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