

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of **Representative** GRAY, JOHN STANLEY **Senator** GRAY, JOHN STANLEY

Represented Mahaska County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 5 Sept. 1907, Mahaska Co., Ia.

2. Marriage (s) date place

Helen Lamond (of Oskaloosa), 19 May 1934, Davenport, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Farmer

B. Civic responsibilities Farm Bureau, church, Mason, Rotary, Ch of Comm.

C. Profession _____

4. Church membership Met hodist

5. Sessions served 56-58GA, 1955-1960, Mahaska; 59GA SD 44 Mahaska (1961-1962)

6. Public Offices

A. Local township trustee and assessor; Pfes. Mahaska Co Bd Educ.

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 5 March 1962; suicide at home; bur. Forest Cem., Oskaloosa

8. Children (1st Lt.) John S. Gray (Ft. Benning, Ga.)

9. Names of parents Walter S. Gray (1865-1956), farmer, Mahaska Co
Kate Grace Wright (1874-1960). M. Wright, Iowa 24 Dec. 1900.
4 ch.

10. Education Oskaloosa schools; William Penn College; Capital City Bus. Coll.,
DM

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information Lived on farm east of Oskaloosa, which
was scene of Farm Field Days in 1957 when thousands visited farm to see interesting
demonstrations, displays, and programs.

Pres. Co. Bd Education, Co. Farm Bureau, and Bd Trustees Central Methodist Church.

Suicide because of nervous conditions and depression.

Survived by spouse, son, mother, sister and two brothers.

Sen. John S. Gray found dead in home basement

John Stanley Gray, 55, Mahaska county state senator and prominent Oskaloosa farmer, died Monday of wounds which County Medical examiner Dr. Sidney A. Smith said were self-inflicted in the basement of his Spring Creek township home about four miles east of Oskaloosa.

The body was discovered shortly after 3:30 p. m. by Mrs. Gray when she returned home after attending a church meeting in Oskaloosa. Dr. Smith fixed the time of death about midmorning, probably between 10 and 10:30 a. m.

Mrs. Gray, who had left home about 8:30 a. m., found two notes left in the house by Senator Gray and immediately started a search, finding the body in the basement. Dr. Smith said the notes indicated that Gray planned to take his own life because of a nervous condition and depression.

The senator, Dr. Smith said, had fired a blast from a .16 gauge shotgun into his left chest.

John Gray was born in Mahaska county Sept. 5, 1907, son of Walter S. and Grace Wright Gray. He attended Oskaloosa schools, Penn college here and the Capital City Business college in Des Moines.

He married Helen Lamond of Oskaloosa on May 19, 1934, in Davenport, and lived on a farm east of Oskaloosa. He served as Spring Creek trustee and assessor, was president of the Mahaska county board of education, Mahaska farm bureau, and board of trustees of the Central Methodist church, and was member of the Masonic lodge, Rotary club and Oskaloosa chamber of commerce.

John entered active politics in 1954 when he was elected state representative from Mahaska county. After serving three terms, with distinction he was elected as state senator in 1960. Almost three years of his term remain to be completed.

During his general assembly service he filled positions of importance on assembly and interim committees. He was highly regarded in state official and legislative circles. He proved a valuable member of the chamber of commerce, highway and other committees as the result of his legislative background, according to Sec. Cliff Dodson.

The John Gray farm east of Oskaloosa on the Burlington road was the scene of Farm Field Days in 1967 when thou-



sands visited the farm to see the interesting demonstrations, displays and programs.

Surviving is the widow, Helen Lamond Gray; a son, First Lt., John S. Gray of Ft. Benning, Ga.; his mother, Mrs. W. S. Gray of Oskaloosa; a sister, Mrs. L. Virgil Briggs of Hampton and two brothers, Joe W. Gray of Oskaloosa and William W. Gray of Searsboro.

Services will be at Central Methodist church Thursday, March 8, at 2 p. m. with Rev. Gerald LaMotte officiating. Burial will be at Forest cemetery.

The Garland chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Probe fire cause continues today

Investigation continued today into the cause of the fire which destroyed Oskaloosa's Lacey hotel and three other business establishments in the quarter block brick structure early Saturday morning.

Fire Chief Kenneth L. Whitehead and Deputy State Fire Marshal, Wilbur Johnson of Ottumwa, Monday conferred with Henry Symons, Oskaloosa high school instructor and occupant of a third floor hotel apartment, and with Howell "Red" Howells, hotel night clerk, but said they as yet have no statements to make. They also have talked with other hotel guests, including Mrs. Louise J. Newcomb, occupant of a third floor apartment who sustained minor burns in escaping from the building.

Whitehead said any official statement as to possible cause of the fire, which rapidly destroyed the building, would have to come from Johnson. He said the Deputy Marshal probably would have a report to make within the near future.

Central cagers to invitational meet at Lakeland

PELLA — Central college's Flying Dutchmen have been invited to participate in an invitational post-season basketball tournament at Lakeland college near Sheboygan, Wis., Thursday and Friday.

Along with the Dutchmen (8-12) and host Lakeland (19-6), Rockford college of Rockford, Ill., and Hillsdale college of Hillsdale, Mich., will also be competing.

Rockford and Hillsdale will meet in the first game Thursday at 7:30 p. m. with the Lakeland-Central contest following. The losers will play for consolation honors at 7:30 p. m. the following night with the winners clashing in the second game for the championship.

Although Central has only an

8-12 record for the season, they have been improving rapidly winning six of their last 10 games including four of the final six.

Coach Marinus Kregal has listed his traveling squad as: freshmen Harold DeBle of Artesia, Calif.; junior Dave Eldahl of Newton; sophomore Don Harmeling of Cedar Grove, Wis.; junior Gerald Kuiper of Pella; freshman Eugene Loomans of Waupun, Wis.; junior Ed Rathmell of Winfield; sophomore Phil Van Den Berg of Otley; senior Bruce Ver Hoef of Sioux Center; sophomore Larry Moldmacker of Fulton, Ill.; freshman Wayne Olm of Kiel, Wis.; and freshman Gary Wynveen of Oostburg, Wis.

Eddyville resident dies at Ottumwa

EDDYVILLE — Life-long resident of Eddyville, John Thomas Denning, 82, died Tuesday, March 6, at 8:30 a. m. at Ottumwa hospital after a stay of two weeks. Prior to that he had been residing at the Ida McDonald home, 1143 north Court in Ottumwa.

A retired farmer, he was a member of Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 1, Des Moines; Christian church at Eddyville and Mahaska county Farm Bureau.

He was born in Mahaska county, the son of Phillip and Elizabeth Richard Denning.

Surviving are two sisters, Mrs. Ida Sisco and Mrs. Villa Sisco of Oskaloosa.

Services are tentatively set for Thursday, March 8, at 2 p. m. at the Christian church in Eddyville with burial at Highland cemetery. The Eddyville co-operative funeral home is in charge of arrangements.

RITEs FOR MRS. GENEVA

WHAT CHEER — Funeral services for Mrs. Margaret Geneva, 90, lifelong What Cheer resident who died Monday morning at Mahaska county hospital, will be held at 2 p. m. Wednesday at the What Cheer Methodist church, with Rev. Charles Sommer officiating. Burial will be in Sixteen cemetery, with the Whyte funeral home in charge.

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WEST OF MAY'S

ment Co. and driven by Corp of Leighton route 1, John Richard Freeman of three Iowa State University.

ville chapter's degree is will perform the Royal Mason work; Iowa City Washington the Royal and et Masters work and the venport Kaaba Shrine ght Templar degree team give the commandery

istinguished guests who be present for the day-long il de Kenneth Naugle E port, potentate of ba shrine, and Marion L. er of Cedar Falls, grand mander of Knight Templar. Iso Don Maxwell of Washo, grand master of Royal Select Master Masons, and ar Epperley of Leon, high st of Royal Arch Masons owa.

Oskaloosa Legion will host state oratorical contest

Oskaloosa's Harry Anderson at No. 34 will be host to the American Legion sponsored 1962 oratorical contest involving high school students Monday, March 12, it was announced today by Robert Atson, member of the local it and contest chairman.

Representing the fifth Legion district will be Miss Rosemary Atson, Oskaloosa high school student, who will be competing against representatives of eight other Iowa districts. Miss Anton has been named Instructor Henry Symons represent the fifth district, other high school in the district involving enrolled students contest, according to Atson.

The state contest, which has been set to get underway at 9 p. m. has been tentatively scheduled for the local junior high school auditorium but efforts are being made to secure other facilities with better acoustical qualities. Contestants will, as in past