

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Smith,  
Thomas Henry - Represented Cass and Shelby Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 30 Sept 1854 Albany, Davis County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Josephine Honor 3 June 1880 Drakesville, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Admitted to the bar in 1878 at age 23, director of  
Walden Chautauque Association and later president 1904-1910

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Walden Commercial Club

C. Profession Lawyer; teacher; insurance agent; land owner

4. Church membership Methodist Episcopal

5. Sessions served 34<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1911, 1913

6. Public Offices

A. Local First county attorney of Shelby County in 1886 for 2 terms;  
city attorney of Harlan for 2 terms; Walden school board 1894-1897;  
Harlan city solicitor

B. State

C. National

7. Death 17 Sept 1936 Harlan, Iowa; buried Harlan Cemetery, Harlan, Iowa

8. Children Orpha (Mrs. Leonard E. Opdyke); Lois (Mrs. Rev. Frank Beard);  
Mabel (Mrs. H. H. Hook)

9. Names of parents Parson Stepien and Nancy Jane (Jones) Smith

10. Education Educated in the rural schools of  
Iowa County. Attended the Troy  
Academy, Bloomfield, Iowa

11. Degrees Southern Iowa Normal School, Bloomfield, Iowa

12. Other applicable information Republican

- At age 12 he began teaching country school while at the  
same time he read law, having helped on the farm from earlier.
- He opened a law office at Harlan, Iowa on 31 May 1878  
and continued in this office until 14 Sept 1936 - a  
total of 58 years
- He also became an insurance agent in his early years to gain enough  
money to help establish his practice.
- His wife's father was Senator Horatio Womack who served in the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>,  
16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies from Iowa County 1872, 1874, 1876, 1878.
- He and his wife would take boys into their home so they could  
attend high school and then further their education.

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- Obituary -	The Harlan Tribune	Harlan, Iowa	
	Thurs. Sept. 24, 1936,	p. 1, col. 1, and p. 10, col. 3	
- Outline of Personal History for the Historical Department of Iowa (original located in library clipping folder)			
- Iowa Official Register 1913-1914, p. 680			
- Past and Present of Shelby County, Iowa 1915, p. 1376-1381			
- <a href="http://ancestry.com">ancestry.com</a> (accessed 3 July 2010)			
- Iowa State Records - WPA - Shelby County			
- <a href="http://findagrave.com">findagrave.com</a> (accessed 3 July 2010)			
- Senate Journal 1937, p. 1418-1419			

# Senior Member of Harlan

## T. H. Smith, 82, Buried Sunday

### Was Prominent Leader in Civic and Legislative Affairs of State and City

Thomas H. Smith, 82, one of Harlan's foremost citizens, who has been prominently identified with the history of Shelby County for the past fifty-eight years, died at his home here Thursday afternoon of heart disease. Mr. Smith served two terms as state senator and was recognized as one of the leaders of the Shelby county bar.

His physical strength began to fall several years ago but in partnership with his nephew, Jake More, he was able to continue with his practice almost until the day of his death. He was 82 years, 11 months and 18 days of age.

Thomas Henry Smith was born on the banks of Soap Creek near Albany, in Davis County, Iowa, on September 30, 1854. His parents were Paris S. and Nancy (Jones) Smith. His boyhood was spent amid the pioneer surroundings of that community. It was in those days that he acquired the name of "Tobe" as he was familiarly known. He attended the rural schools and the Troy Academy conducted by the late W. Cullison, who became his law partner many years later. He then attended the Southern Iowa Normal School at Bloomfield. At the age of 18 he began to teach the country school, while at the same time he utilized his spare time reading law. In 1878 at the age of 23, he was admitted to the bar.

On the afternoon of May 31, 1878, he rode on horseback into the new town of Harlan, Iowa and opened an office for the practice of his chosen profession. On September 14, 1936 he left that office for the last time after more than 58 years of continuous practice.

The record of those years is one of which any man might be proud. His ability, industry and integrity won him constantly increasing recognition as a lawyer and a leader. He was one of the old school to whom the practice of law was a solemn responsibility. He was the first county attorney of Shelby County, elected in 1886. He held this office for two terms and subsequently served as city attorney for two terms. His fellow attorneys...

## AMERICAN LEGION MEMBER-SHIP DINNER

Members of the Helmer Reyelt Post, No. 150, American Legion are reminded again of the membership dinner on Thursday, October 1st, which will start their year's program off with a bang. A free "ham and" dinner will be served at the Legion rooms, under the chairmanship of Chef Wilson B. Friend, who knows how to put a "feed" over.

All members are urged to attend and this is a good time to pay your dues and bring a new member.

## Jay Harris Ends Life Here Friday

### Despondency Over Ill Health and Financial Worries Thought to be Cause

Jay Harris, 44, well-known Harlan resident, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head with a revolver shortly after noon on Friday. Mr. Harris committed the deed at the home of his father, Cal Harris, in the northwest part of the city. The act was prompted by financial worries and ill health, according to members of his family.

Until two weeks ago Mr. Harris was associated with his brother-in-law, Roy Rickel in the grocery business, the two having taken over the former Ed & Al Grocery on the West side of the square about June 1st. Previous to coming to Harlan about two years ago, Mr. Harris farmed in the vicinity of Kirkman.

Funeral services were held on Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the Schack & Swinehart Funeral home with Rev. A. H. Nelson of the Bethel Baptist Church officiating. Three musical selections were rendered by a male quartet from Kirkman. Interment was in the Kirkman cemetery. The great abundance of beautiful flowers expressed the sympathy of a great host of friends.

## Earling Festival is Well Attended

## Rally Day Project V

### Of Shelby the Cong Church Harlan

The annual Rally Home Project of Shelby County was held in the parlor of the Congregational Church Thursday afternoon with Mrs. W. F. siding. All of the ship chairmen at the meeting, reaching about 11:30. Beebe of Logan, teewoman, was speaker.

The "Farm Bureau" under the leadership of old Nissen, sung opened; the meeting played the accompaniment. Mrs. Kilpatrick assembly and spoke of having Rally Day for the new which begin in Wm. Knierum told concerning a Sunday had been started in ship as a result study of the spirit be found in a go concluded with a "Painful Party" which enjoyed.

County Agent, G. Feld, gave a brief on income and the various organizations in help to secure a more come. Miss Mau sang a Neapolitan titled "O May Love" encore sang "Santa Scott discussed briefly for the coming year some illustrative used in presenting Titles of the lessons of "Textiles"; "Mories"; "Block Crayon Work." Mrs. "In My Grandmother and "Just Singin' last one named is to be studied in the this year.

Nominations for officers for the coming year made by secret ballot following results: Chas. A. O. Larson; assistant Mrs. J. E. Anderson; chairman...

more than 55 years of continuous practice.

The record of those years is one of which any man might be proud. His ability, industry and integrity won him constantly increasing recognition as a lawyer and a leader. He was one of the old school to whom the practice of law was a solemn responsibility. He was the first county attorney of Shelby County, elected in 1886. He held this office for two terms and subsequently served as city attorney for two terms. His fellow citizens sent him to the State Senate in 1910. Every public spirited enterprise launched in the city of Harlan has received the hearty support of Mr. Smith, and it is a matter of local history that when he threw his influence in favor of any measure it was nearly always sure of success. An example of this was his successful advocacy of the temperance cause when Shelby county voted dry in the early days.

While in the Bloomfield Normal School he made the acquaintance of Josephine Wonn. They were married at the home of her parents, Senator Horatio A. Wonn near Drakeville on June 3, 1880. Their first home was on East Durant Street in Harlan. After three years they secured the seven acre tract of cornfield where they created through many years, the beautiful home called "Idlewild," located on West Baldwin Street. This home and those who lived in it constituted his happiest possession. Its doors were open in hospitality to a multitude of guests from every walk of life. Wm. A. Sunday, the evangelist, Major H. S. M. Byers, the poet and Bishop, Homer C. Stunts were among its familiar guests.

Three daughters were born to this home, Mabel, Orpha and Lois. Three orphaned nephews, Tom, Worth and DeWitt Baer, also found a home at "Idlewild" during their boyhood days.

Next to his home his closest interest was his church. He became a member of the Methodist Church a few years after settling in Harlan. He served on the church board for more than fifty years giving the best of his ability freely and constantly.

He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and the first fifty-year Mason in Shelby County. He was a lifelong advocate of the Republican party. He was also a member of the Sons of the American Revolution.

The surviving members of the family include the widowed wife, the three daughters, Mrs. W. W. Wood of Wenatchee, Wash., Mrs. L. E. Opdyke of Greeley, Colo., and Mrs. Frank Bean of Boone, Iowa; two sisters, Mrs. Kate Abegg of Blakesburg, Iowa, and Mrs. Mattie Caylor of Centerville, Ia.; and one brother, Wesley L. Smith

(Continued on page 10.)

officials. Three musical selections were rendered by a male quartet from Kirkman. Interment was in the Kirkman cemetery. The great abundance of beautiful flowers expressed the sympathy of a great host of friends.

## Earling Festival is Well Attended

### Dunlap Wins Game 6-5. Wearin Speaks Before a Large Crowd Wednesday

Large crowds attended the annual two day celebration at Earling on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, enjoying a full and varied program of entertainment.

The festival opened Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 with a baseball game. Westphalia vs. Dunlap, which was especially good. Dunlap won 6-to-5 in a game which went to ten innings and furnished plenty of excitement.

The hall was jammed with visitors who came for miles in every direction to enjoy one of the famous chicken dinners which have made the Earling picnics so popular.

Those attending enjoyed two full days of activity, featured on Wednesday evening was a splendid address by Congressman Otha D. Wearin. Music by the Earling Cornet band, free movies and boxing matches, a tug of war between Earling and the World for a purse and a dance with music by Pete Kuhl's orchestra, contributed to the program on the two days. Other forms of amusement, numerous games and concessions and drawing of prizes operated continuously.

The weather conditions were ideal for the picnic and the committee spared no time and pains to make it one of the most successful festivals ever held.

### HARLAN TO PLAY WOODBINE HERE FRIDAY NIGHT

The Cyclones will make their second start of the season on the home field against Woodbine Friday night.

So far the Cyclones have won one and lost one of the two games played this season, dropping a game with Sac City last week 18 to 0, after winning from Avoca in the opening game 20 to 2.

The game will be played at the Merrill Athletic field and is scheduled to start at 8:00 o'clock.

For quick results use the Tribune Want Ads.

dy of "Festivals"; Craven W. "In My" and "Just last one be studied this year. Nominations for officers made by following A. O. Lar. Mrs. W. F. man, Mrs. chairman, drama club assistant Fred Olson Mrs. A. W. man, Mrs. Mrs. Be. from the celebration. tory of the ernment h fural proe ception to compared to a school. These lessons facts con state, con ganizations At the ing, the g lunch for entirely re

### OMAHA SI CONSTI

The Kiwanis met in its at the Ho last Thurs attendance

Business confined to gates to at Iowa-Nebra which open City and day. Quite members at three day day or two

There in the histo that are de programs Among the known as the adoptio of the Unite in the Kiwan be held dur 14 to 19.

The comm program fo held last Th E. Hines They had this occasio rotto of Om interesting sion of the history and to the natio America but eign birth, America to privileges g lions.

that this plan enables to get their Sunday and mail placed in the boxes they are saved the inconvenience of waiting until Monday for delivery. Arriving from each train is for dispatch within a short after its receipt in the post Saturday evening and also holidays, this is distributed to holders of boxes very shortly after. While patrons served on carrier routes are unable their mail until the following or perhaps two days later a holiday would follow a day or Sunday. Many patrons have told us that being able their mail Saturday night Sunday and over holidays, worth the small rental for boxes.

**OLD DEMOCRATIC ROUNDUP AT SHENANDOAH.**

Young Democratic Club of County will sponsor a Democratic Roundup to be held at Shenandoah Armory, Friday, September 25, to start at 7 o'clock. G. Kraschel, Democratic candidate for Governor, and Representative Wearin will be the principal speakers. Some other talks will also be given. Dancing and musical entertainment, and free hot dogs will help make it a enjoyable evening. Special entertainment is being planned for those who do not care to dance. Democrats, and other free people are cordially invited. Their guests are expected to

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of Billings, Montana. There are five grandchildren and three nephews who made their home with Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Dr. Tom Baer, of Timberlake, S. D.; Judge Worth Baer of Woonsocket, S. D., and Dr. DeWitt Baer of Steele, N. D.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, September 19, at 2:30 p. m. at the Methodist Church with Rev. S. Grant Lewis of Moulton, Iowa, former pastor of the Harlan Church officiating. Attorney E. S. White, local attorney, spoke briefly in behalf of the Shelby County Bar Association. The Masonic Lodge attended in a body and took charge of the services at the grave. Interment was in the Harlan cemetery.

Active pall bearers were Messrs W. J. Lewis, T. H. Potter, G. K. Swift, F. A. Hulsebus, H. D. Eshelman and Jay Colburn. Serving as honorary pall bearers were Judge H. J. Mantz, Judge E. M. Miller, L. C. Lewis, P. B. Brown, Chas. D. Booth, Lieut. Governor N. G. Kraschel, H. P. Dowling, J. J. Norgaard, Dr. E. A. Moore, A. V. Parker, C. G. Tinsley, Attorneys E. S. White, L. C. White, Dan Buckley, R. F. Swift, Jas. J. Jennings, Bennett Cullison, George Hurley, R. E. Hines, Carl Foster, Fred Louis, Jr. and Emil Hastings.

Family relatives in attendance at the services were Mrs. W. W. Woods of Wenatchee, Wash., Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Opydke and Tom Opydke of Greeley, Colo., Rev. and Mrs. Frank Bean, Josephine and Dick Bean of Boone, Iowa.

Other relatives and friends present were: Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Jones of Omaha, Neb., Mr. and Mrs. Carl Jones, Macedonia, Dr. Dee Baer, Steele, N. D., Judge Worth Baer, Woonsocket, S. D., Mr. and Mrs. J. O. More of Centerville, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. More, Des Moines, Mr. and Mrs. P. E. More of Unionville, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Smith and Patricia Smith of Bloomfield, Mrs. Kate Abegg of Blakesburg, Iowa, Mrs. Mattie Caylor and daughter of Centerville, Iowa, Hon. H. J. Mantz of Audubon, Chas. White and S. C. Kerberg of Audubon, and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Baughman and Eva Baughman of Dunlap, Iowa.

**Card of Thanks**

We wish to extend our sincere thanks for kindness and sympathy extended us during our recent bereavement.

- Mrs. Thomas H. Smith
- Mrs. W. W. Woods
- Mrs. L. E. Opydke
- Mrs. Frank G. Bean

Ira D. Garst

The sudden death of Ira D. Garst, prominent retired Shelby County farmer, occurred at his

illness. He was 65 years of age. He was born in Iowa, and lived on a farm near Harlan. He was a member of the Methodist Church. He was a kind and generous man, and was loved by all who knew him. He leaves a wife and children. Mr. Harris leaves his father, Cal J. Harris and his step mother and one brother, Hiff Harris of Kansas City and one sister, Mrs. Helen Knudsen of Des Moines.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris lived for ten years on the old farm near Kirkman and they lived about the same number of years in the city of Harlan. Mr. Harris was a family man and loved his wife and children dearly. The family and relatives will miss him much here upon this earth.

Those from out of town who attended the services were Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Knudson of D'Molnes, Hiff J. Harris, Kansas City, Mo., Velma and Ray McBride of Des Moines, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Hess and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Swensen of Exira, Harold Tague and sisters and Harlow Tague of Menlo, Mrs. Jas. Tague and daughter Evelyn of Stuart, and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Tague of Guthrie Center.

**Card of Thanks**

We desire through the press to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to relatives and friends for the sympathy and many acts of kindness shown us following the death of the late Jay Harris. Also for the beautiful floral gifts.

- Mrs. Jay Harris and Children
- Mr. and Mrs. Earl Andersen
- Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Harris
- Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Knudson
- Hiff J. Harris.

Mrs. Mike Nollen, Sr.

Defiance.—Mrs. Mike Nollen, Sr. died at her home here last Monday, Sept. 14. She had been suffering from a long seige of sickness and little hope for her recovery had been held.

Effie Hulsebus was born on June 7, 1867 in Oistelerland, Germany and died at the age of 69 years, 3 months and 7 days.

On January 11, 1886 she was married to Mike Nollen. To this union were born four children, all of whom are living.

She leaves to mourn her death: her husband; one son Mike Nollen, Jr.; three daughters, (Marie) Mrs. Louis Thielen of Defiance, (Edna) Mrs. Mike Kobold of Omaha, and (Anne) Mrs. Chester Baird of Harlan; thirteen grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. George Faller; four brothers, Henry, Jacob, Albert and August Hulsebus, besides many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock at the Evangelical Church with Rev. A. K. Henning officiating. Interment was in the Harlan cemetery.

Those attending the funeral from out of town were: Mrs. Frank Nollen, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Bohn, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Hast and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Deder, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hoffmeier, all of Buck Grove, Mrs. Dale Shipp,

years. To do, that, I know you know—we must press sound national policy culture which has been ageously launched and successfully carried out under leadership of Franklin D.velt."

**FIRE CAUSES DAMAGE TO LING STORE**

Earling.—Fire, caused explosion of an oil heater basement of the Scarr Drug was extinguished by the fire department Tuesday fore any great damage was done. Flames blazed in the store where the explosion occurred a great deal of smoke the upstairs. The fire some difficulty in extinguishing the fire which worked walls.



**Congregational Church**

Rev. C. Wm. Bast, Minister. 10 a. m., The church. The superintendents of the are Mr. George Rosenfeld Dale Woods. Come to and to study the lesson day.

11 a. m., The Home of Music. The quartet will present music. The pastor will present the subject, "The Fear of the Lord." Everyone is invited to attend with us.

7 p. m., The meeting of young people. The subject "Our Church at Work for Our Community." Miss Welch will be the leader. Young people of our church invited.

8 p. m., Song service at the church school. All who are invited.

7 p. m., Friday. Quartet.

**Bethel Baptist**

10 a. m., Sunday School  
11 a. m., Morning Service  
Junior Sermon. Morning by the pastor. Antiphonal choir.

7 p. m., Senior and Junior.

8 p. m., Evening Service. Music by the choir.

A series of special services will be held at the Bethel Church from October 4 to 10. Harry Anderson of South Dakota is to be the speaker. Anderson has a strong personality. We extend an invitation to the public to hear him while he is here.

PAST AND PRESENT  
OF  
**SHELBY COUNTY**  
IOWA

By  
EDWARD S. WHITE, B.A., LL. B.



ILLUSTRATED

1915  
B. F. BOWEN & COMPANY, Inc.  
Indianapolis, Indiana

realizes that the successful physician must be a student all the time if he wishes to make a success of his work.

Doctor Walsh was married April 22, 1912 to Dorrit Dillon, the daughter of Milo and Ann Dillon. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Knights of Columbus at Perry. His wife is one of three children, the other two being Thomas and Isabell. Her father has been an engineer on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad for many years. Doctor Walsh is a past exalted ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In politics, he classes himself with the great mass of independent voters, preferring to cast his vote for men rather than for platforms.

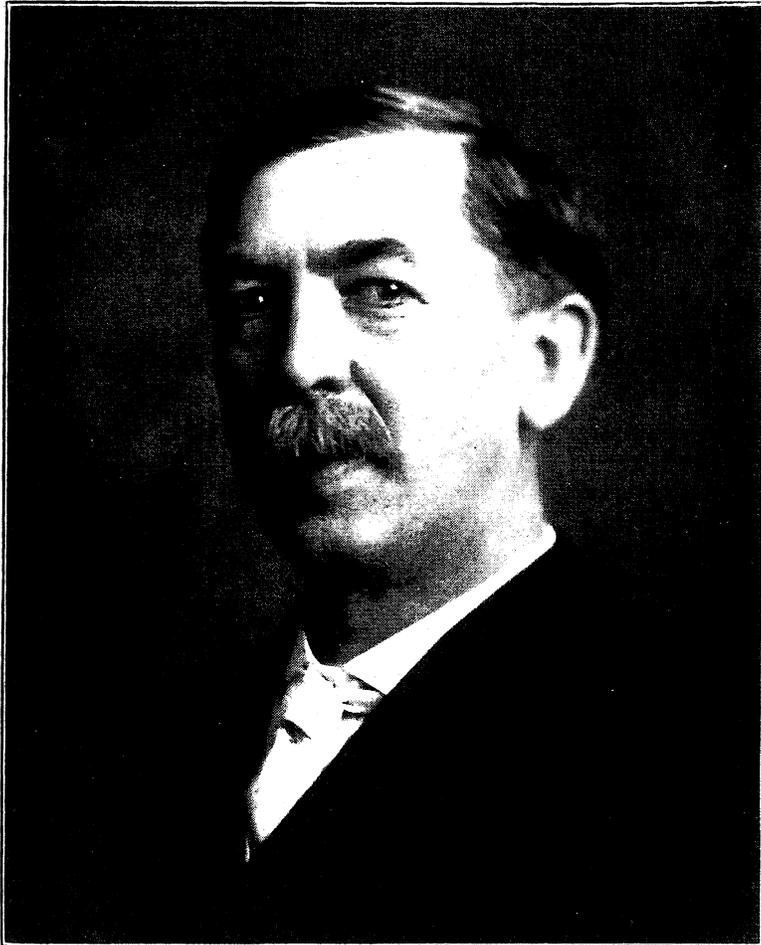
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SENATOR THOMAS HENRY SMITH.

“Let me live in my house  
By the side of the road  
Where the race of men go by;  
They are good, they are bad,  
They are weak, they are strong,  
Wise, foolish, and so am I.

“Then why should I sit  
In the scorner's seat,  
Or hurl a cynic's ban;  
Let me live in my house  
By the side of the road,  
And be a friend to man.”

These two stanzas, so full of homely philosophy, give us the key to the life of Thomas Henry Smith, or “Tobe,” as he is universally known, a man who has done as much for Shelby county, Iowa, as any other man. Prominently identified with the history of his county for more than thirty-five years he has spent his life in the service of his fellow men in a way which stamps him as one of the best citizens of his county. As a member of the state Senate of Iowa, he has always been on the side of every good measure which has been proposed, and his record in the General Assembly is one of which his constituents are justly proud. While a member of the Legislature he introduced, among other bills, the following which show his worth as a man;



THOMAS H. SMITH.

a bill for the establishment of additional normal schools; a bill providing for the collection of vital statistics in the interest of the health of children; a bill for the better protection and preservation of birds and wild animal life; a bill providing for the support of the wives and children of convicts from their earnings; a bill exempting from taxation the property of all soldiers and their widows to the value of twelve hundred dollars; and finally, a bill giving additional power to the office of commerce counsel, making this office one of real value to the people of the state. Up to that time the office could only investigate and obtain information of any wrongs done to shippers or any discriminations made by the railroads of the state, but had no authority to right the wrong even if found and proved. The bill proposed and passed through the efforts of Mr. Smith gives this office the right to file complaints and take definite action before the interstate commerce board or the state railway commissioners of Iowa or the state courts to correct any such evils and thereby secure the people in their rights. Not only is this office given this increased power, but it provides that the commerce counsel is to be the attorney for any citizen of the state of Iowa making complaint before the railway commissioners and he must look after the interests of the humblest taxpayer without any other compensation than his own salary allowed by the state.

These are only a few of the more important bills which Mr. Smith fathered, but are sufficient to indicate his worth as a public-spirited citizen. It is pertinent to mention in this connection a striking incident in the life of Mr. Smith which sets forth another phase of his interesting career. He was present at the Mothers' National Congress, held at Des Moines in 1900, when the assertion was made by one of the speakers that man was incapable of love except as a means to gratify passion. At this juncture Mr. Smith secured the floor and, according to the *Des Moines Register and Leader*, "Tom Smith, of Harlan, Iowa, the lawyer, immortalized his name by a spontaneous burst of oratory in defense of men before three thousand women of the National Congress of Mothers at its second day's session here Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Smith's speech was the climax of one of the most dramatic scenes ever witnessed in Des Moines." The leading papers throughout the country published extracts of this famous speech and the many editorial comments on it indicated that it struck a popular chord everywhere.

Thomas Henry Smith, the son of Paris S. and Nancy Jane (Jones) Smith, was born September 30, 1854, in Appanoose county, Iowa, on the

banks of Soap creek. His father was a native of Ohio and came to Davis county, Iowa, before his marriage. His mother was born in West Virginia and came to Ohio with her parents when a small girl. Later, the Jones family located in Davis county, Iowa, and there Paris S. Smith and Nancy Jane Jones were married in 1851. They are still living, now making their home in Blakesburg, Iowa, and are one of the oldest married couples in the state, having been married sixty-three years. They are the parents of thirteen children, seven of whom are still living.

The elementary education of Mr. Smith was received in the district schools of Davis county, Iowa, after which he took the course given by the Southern Iowa Normal School at Bloomfield, Iowa. He then began teaching, while at the same time he put all of his spare time in at reading law with M. H. Jones, of Bloomfield. At the age of twenty-three he was admitted to the bar and now came the question which faces every young lawyer: Where should he locate? There can be no doubt that the success of many lawyers depend on their location and Mr. Smith was very anxious to find a place where there was a suitable opening. After carefully looking over the state of Iowa, for he was satisfied to settle in his own state, he finally decided to cast his fortunes in the county seat of Shelby county. That he made a wise choice is shown by his subsequent career in this place.

On the afternoon of May 31, 1878, there rode into Harlan on horseback a young man who was destined to become one of the most distinguished citizens the county of Shelby has ever had. He was poor in purse but had something better than money—a sound body, a sound and well-disciplined mind and a laudable ambition to succeed in his chosen life work. He rented one small room and this served as his bedroom as well as his office. His furniture consisted of one rude cot, two rickety chairs, a table, a hand-made bench and a hand-made book case of two shelves. This meager equipment, together with four law books, a bottle of ink and one pen, constituted all of his worldly possessions.

In this inauspicious manner Mr. Smith started his career in Harlan, and the people who watched him ride into the city thirty-six years ago have lived to see him become its foremost citizen. Knowing that he would have a hard time in getting started, and having but one hundred and fifty dollars, he took the agency of an insurance company in order to have something to help him out until he could build up his practice. However, such was his ability that he was soon able to devote all of his attention to his legal practice and within a few years he was recognized as one of the leaders at the

Shelby county bar. Soon after coming to Harlan he formed a partnership with P. C. Truman, under the firm name of Truman & Smith, which continued until January 1, 1881, when G. W. Cullison succeeded Mr. Truman in the firm, under the firm name of Smith & Cullison. This partnership continued until January 1, 1895, the firm having an extensive practice. In 1886 he became the first county attorney of the county and held this office for two years, and subsequently served as city attorney for two terms. It is not possible within the limits of this sketch to follow the career of Mr. Smith in detail and discuss his splendid record as an advocate and his share in the general welfare of his adopted city.

His ability and standing as a lawyer is well told in the "Bench and Bar of Iowa." by an able judge in whose court he practiced for many years: "Mr. Smith entered upon the practice of his profession at Harlan when the town, Shelby county and southwestern Iowa were comparatively new and rapidly filling up and developing. He was young, enthusiastic, hopeful and ambitious. He had been disciplined in hard work and taught to do with promptness and energy whatever was necessary to accomplish a worthy object. Thus equipped he began his profession. With an indomitable will and irresistible energy he has carved out success where others have failed. He is thoroughly loyal to his client. He believes he is right and ought to succeed. To that service he surrenders himself, and whatever hard work, care and study can do to achieve success is done with rare devotion and self-sacrifice. He prepares the law of the case and marshals the evidence with good judgment, and then enters the contest self-reliant and confident, and with enthusiastic hopefulness and determination. He is an able trial lawyer, a safe counsellor, a practical business man, and a citizen and member of society, high minded, honorable and of a pure life."

His record speaks for itself and it is not saying too much to say that no man in the county has been more fully identified with its progress during the past thirty-five years. His fellow citizens have never called on him that he did not respond; they have sent him to the state Senate and there he made a record for public service that is a credit to himself as well as his district. As a Republican he has been progressive in the best and truest sense of the term and his work in the Legislature has not only been a benefit to his own district but to the whole state as well.

It is to be expected that such a man would be successful in a material way. He married two years after coming to Harlan and he and his young wife bought a small home for six hundred dollars and had but fifty-five

dollars for the first payment. They lived economically and gradually paid for their modest little home and were never happier than when figuring how to make their monthly payments. As the years went by and his practice increased, Mr. Smith was able to move to more substantial surroundings and now has probably the finest home in the city. His home, which is very appropriately called "Idlewild," is located on Baldwin street and is surrounded by handsome trees and shrubbery of all kinds. In addition to his beautiful city home, he owns six improved farms in eastern Nebraska, comprising eighteen hundred acres and has extensive holdings in eastern Kansas, Colorado and Washington.

The married life of Mr. Smith has been particularly happy. He was married on June 3, 1880, to Josephine Wonn, the daughter of Senator Horatio A. and Sarah (Underwood) Wonn, both of whom were natives of Ohio. Mrs. Smith's parents were married in their native state and came to Davis county, Iowa, in 1850. Her father was senator for two terms from the Davis-VanBuren district. He died in 1888 and her mother passed away in 1912, at the Smith home in Harlan. Three daughters came to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Smith: Mabel C., Orpha and Lois. Orpha, after four years as teacher of Latin in the Harlan high school and the Bismarck high school, was married to Leonard E. Opdyke, a prominent business man of Bismarck, North Dakota. Lois became the wife of Rev. Frank Bean, a Methodist minister, now stationed at Lewis, Iowa. Mabel cast her lot in the teaching profession and has taught in the high schools of North Yakima and Wenatchee, Washington. These three daughters have all received college educations and are women of refinement and culture. Mrs. Smith is a woman of education and refinement, and while she has been interested in the social life and club work of the city, she allows nothing to come between her and her home. This and her family has her first care and attention.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been earnest supporters of education and interested in everything for the betterment of humanity. Boys ambitious for an education have been taken in the home, doing chores for their board that they might attend the Harlan high school. A sister and husband dying leaving children, three boys, one but eight years of age, was given a home with them. These are now men of education and usefulness. Two, graduates of Iowa University Medical College, are successful practitioners in the Dakotas. The other, a graduate of the Iowa University Law School, is a judge in South Dakota.

The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and have always been interested in all the work of the church. There has not been a public-spirited enterprise launched in the city of Harlan which has not received the hearty support of Mr. Smith, and it is a matter of local history that when he threw his influence in favor of any measure it was nearly always sure of success. Such, in brief, is the career of a man who has measured up to the highest type of American citizenship, a man in whom the "elements are so mixed that the whole world might stand up and say—this was a man."

---

EDWARD F. FISH.

A distinguished veteran of the Civil War and a man prominent in the affairs of Shelby county, Iowa, for many years, is Edward F. Fish. As a young man he taught school before the Civil War and served through practically the whole of the terrible struggle between the states. He has been a resident of Shelby county since 1867, and has been prominently identified with every phase of the county's history since that time. He always has taken a prominent part in Republican politics, and has held various official positions. Mr. Fish is one of the best informed men in the county on the early history of this section of Iowa.

Edward F. Fish, the son of Mason and Clarissa (Lyon) Fish, was born January 11, 1835, in Warren county, Pennsylvania. His father was a native of Cayuga county, New York, his birth having occurred in 1805, and his death in Shelby county, Iowa, August 16, 1876. His mother was born in Onondaga county, New York, in 1814, and died in Shelby county, Iowa, February 29, 1882. Mason Fish and wife both grew to maturity in their native state, and were married at Pine Grove, Warren county, Pennsylvania, in 1832. In 1845 they moved from Warren county, Pennsylvania, and located in Summit county, Ohio, where Mason Fish became one of the superintendents on the canal which had been built from Cleveland, Ohio, on Lake Erie to Portsmouth, on the Ohio river. After serving two years as canal superintendent, Mason Fish moved with his family to Kane county, Illinois, where he lived for four years, after which he moved to Grant county, Wisconsin, where he followed farming for fourteen years, after which he went to Shelby county, Iowa, in 1867, and lived there until his death. Upon coming to Shelby county he purchased eighty acres of unimproved land in Clay township, erected a rude cabin and started in to make his fortune in this

Outline of Personal History of Thos. H. Smith,

RESIDENCE Harlan, Iowa

Kindly furnish on this sheet the necessary data for a personal sketch and return at your early convenience. Every question is important.

The Historical Department of Iowa

DES MOINES, IOWA

EDGAR R. HARLAN, CURATOR

(This form is for use in collecting data on deceased as well as living persons. Appropriate alterations may be made in matter below.)

1. Name in full (all names) Thomas Henry Smith

2. Chief occupation or profession Lawyer

3. Former occupation or profession Raised on a farm

4. Date and place of beginning each Commenced practice of law May - 1878

5. Present residence address Harlan Iowa "Idemite"

6. Present business address Harlan Iowa -

7. Date of birth Sept - 30 - 1854

8. Place of birth "Cris Soap-Creek" Appanoose County Ia

9. If born abroad, where - - -

10. Emigrated to America, when - - -

11. First migrated to what state and county, whether born abroad or in America When less than

two years old parents moved to Davis Co. Ia. in farm where I resided

12. Emigrated the second time to what state or county until Spring of 1878 when I was admitted to bar and located at Harlan Ia

13. Further emigration, if any where I have resided ever since -

14. Education. Give name and location of rural, high, business or technical school, college or university -

Common - school education except - I attended part of three

15. Date of graduation and degree if any years the Southern Iowa Normal at - Springfield Iowa but

never graduated - Taught Country - school  
in winters of 1872-1873 1874-1875-1876 1877-8 - in  
Davis and Wapello Counties Iowa

16. Place of death.....

17. Date of death.....

18. Place of burial.....

19. Name of father in full (all names)..... Paris Stephens Smith

20. Occupation of father..... Farmer

21. Full Maiden name of mother (all names)..... Nancy Jane Jones, Smith

22. Residence when married..... Davis County, Iowa near Albany

23. Military service, if any (exact dates).....

24. Political offices, (from the smallest to the largest, with dates).....

Member of Board  
School - Board 1894 to 1897 - First County Attorney  
of Shelby County Iowa - 1887 and 1888 and several minor  
positions

25. Director or trustee of financial, religious and educational institutions.....

Director of Board  
Chautauque Association from its organization in 1904  
and its President - 1909 and 1910 -

26. Politics..... Republican

27. Religious denomination if any..... Methodist

28. Religious preference if non-affiliated with a denomination.....

29. Member of what societies or associations of learning.....

30. Member of what secret organizations, with honors or offices held, with dates..... Mason

31. Member of what clubs if any.....

Harlan Commercial Club & Golf Club  
Tanner Smith attys

32. Belonged to what firms (give names in full and dates if possible).....

1878 to 1881 - Smith & Cullison 1881 to 1893 - Turner, Smith &  
Cullison, 1889 - 1896 - attys Church & Co. Nevada. Smith & Perkins  
1908 - attys in Iowa on Arkline Smith - Davis County 1889-90 Cullison Smith & Perkins

33. Officer or director in any corporation.....

34. Enclose business card if possible.....

35. Enclose photograph and autograph.....

Thos S Smith

36. Author of books or pamphlets, with titles and publishers in full and dates of publication

37. Miscellaneous War republican nominee for state senate in Carr-Shelby district in 1897 and defeated by the Democrat by a small vote admitted to senate in this district - Nov 8 - 1910 over O. J. Swift -



### FAMILY HISTORY

1. To whom married Josephine Worn  
2. Date of marriage June 8 - 1880  
3. Place of marriage Near Osberville Iowa  
4. Date of his or her birth Dec. 31 - 1857  
5. Place of his or her birth Davis County Iowa near Osberville  
6. Religious denomination Methodist  
7. Date of his or her death  
8. Place of his or her death  
9. Place of his or her burial  
10. Father's full name Horatio W Worn  
11. Born where and when Ohio  
12. Occupation of his or her father Farmer and fine stock breeder  
13. His or her mother's full name Sarah Ann Underwood Worn  
14. Born when and where Ohio  
15. Parents' residence at time of their marriage Ohio  
16. Miscellaneous remarks on their family H. Worn senator from Van Buren & Davis Counties for two terms in the '70's -

1. To whom married second time.....
2. Date of marriage.....
3. Place of marriage.....
4. Date of his or her birth.....
5. Place of his or her birth.....
6. Religious denomination.....
7. Date of his or her death.....
8. Place of his or her death.....
9. Place of his or her burial.....
10. Father's full name.....
11. Born where and when.....
12. Occupation of his or her father.....
13. His or her mother's full name.....
14. Born when and where.....
15. Parent's residence at time of their marriage.....
16. Miscellaneous remarks on their family.....

CHILDREN OF *Thos + Smith* AND *Josephine Brown Smith*

NAME	PLACE OF BIRTH	DATE	PLACE OF DEATH	DATE	MARRIED TO WHOM	WHERE	DATE
<i>Mabel Clara</i>	<i>Harlem do</i>	<i>March 21-1881</i>	<i>Graduated Du Q-</i>	<i>1902</i>	<i>but took M.B.</i>	<i>1903</i>	
<i>Orpha</i>	<i>Harlem do</i>	<i>April 2-1883</i>	<i>Graduated</i>	<i>Westerly</i>	<i>1904</i>		
<i>Lois</i>	<i>Harlem do</i>	<i>Nov 8-1887</i>	<i>Attended two years of</i>	<i>Harlem High-School</i>	<i>Graduated</i>		

CHILDREN OF ..... AND .....

NAME	PLACE OF BIRTH	DATE	PLACE OF DEATH	DATE	MARRIED TO WHOM	WHERE	DATE

SIGNATURE *Thos Smith*  
 DATE *Nov-17-1910*

STATE OF IOWA  
1937

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# Journal of the Senate

OF THE

## Forty-seventh General Assembly

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CONVENED JANUARY 11, 1937

ADJOURNED APRIL 20, 1937

NELSON G. KRASCHEL, Governor  
JOHN K. VALENTINE, President of the Senate  
LAMAR FOSTER, Speaker of the House

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41467  
Published by  
THE STATE OF IOWA  
Des Moines

his death. He was prominent in his profession, especially in the trial of criminal cases.

He gave his allegiance to the Republican party and was the chairman of his county committee for some time. In 1904 he was elected county attorney for Des Moines county and served two years. In 1914 he was elected senator, and was re-elected in 1918, and served inclusively from the Thirty-sixth to the Thirty-ninth General Assemblies; therefore,

*Be It Resolved by the Senate:* That in the passing of the Honorable Frank E. Thompson the state has lost a faithful servant and an honorable citizen.

*Be It Further Resolved,* That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the Senate, and that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to forward an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

JAMES M. BELL,  
A. CLAIRE DEWEY,  
SANFORD ZEIGLER, JR.,

*Committee.*

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

---

THOMAS H. SMITH

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee appointed to prepare resolutions commemorating the life, character and public service of Honorable Thomas H. Smith of Harlan, Iowa, begs leave to submit the following report:

Thomas H. Smith, son of Paris S. and Nancy Jane Smith, was born September 30, 1854, in Appanoose county, Iowa, on the banks of a rather famous stream known as "Soap Creek". Mr. Smith's father was a native of Ohio, his mother a native of West Virginia. His great grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Mr. Smith was raised on a farm in Davis county and his elementary education was received in the country schools, supplemented by a course in the Southern Iowa Normal School in Bloomfield, one of Mr. Smith's instructors being Hon. George W. Cullison, later his partner in the practice of law at Harlan. Mr. Smith at the age of 18 years began teaching country school, putting in his spare time reading law with Attorney M. H. Jones of Bloomfield. At the age of 23 Mr. Smith was admitted to the bar. He moved to Harlan where he began practicing law.

On the afternoon of May 31, 1878, he rode into Harlan on horseback, having borrowed a horse from an uncle of his residing in Davis county. In after years, Mr. Smith made no secret of the fact that at the time of coming to Shelby county he was exceedingly short of money. He first rented one small room which served as his bedroom as well as his office, his furniture consisting of one rude cot, two rickety chairs, a table, a hand-made bench and a hand-made bookcase of two shelves. His law library consisted of four books, and his office equipment a bottle of ink and one pen. His total means, so his biography recites, consisted of \$150.

For a time he took the agency of an insurance company as a means of taking in some money until he could build up his law practice.

In 1880 he was united in marriage with Josephine Wonn. To this union were born three daughters.

In 1886, Mr. Smith became county attorney of Shelby county, holding this office for two years and subsequently serving as city attorney for Harlan for two terms.

He was president and member of the Harlan School board for one term. He always took an active part in politics and served as chairman of the Republican county central committee for two years.

Later, in 1910, he was elected state senator, and for one term represented the senatorial district of Shelby and Cass counties in the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth General Assemblies, introducing and backing a number of measures of importance and taking a high rank as a hard working and able member of the state legislature.

Mr. Smith will long be remembered for his physical and mental strength, for his untiring energy in the services of his clients and the best interests of the community in which he lived for more than fifty years. He believed strongly in the moral and spiritual elements in mankind, and, believing in them, he was, in his life and conduct, an example to others in his community. His thoroughly democratic attitude toward his fellowmen and his kindly good humor greatly helped to make for him an enduring place in the history of Shelby county and in the State of Iowa.

Mr. Smith passed away at his home in Harlan, Iowa, on the seventeenth day of September, 1936.

Mr. Smith's passing should not be one of unreasoning sorrow but rather an occasion of pride and consolation in the contemplation of a well-rounded life and a successful career.

*Therefore, Be It Resolved*, That, in the passing of Honorable Thomas H. Smith, the State has lost a worthy and esteemed citizen, and that we extend to his relatives and friends our sincere sympathy; and

*Be It Further Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be printed in the records of this body and a copy of the same be forwarded to his family.

FRANK PELZER,  
GEORGE M. HOPKINS,  
M. MOORE,

*Committee.*

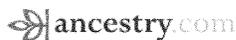
The resolution was unanimously adopted.

---

L. T. SHANGLE

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee which was appointed to report resolutions commemorating the life, character and services of the late L. T. Shangle, begs leave to submit the following report:

Louis Tuttle Shangle, son of Amos L. and Mary W. Shangle, was born on a farm in Prairie township, Mahaska county, Iowa, March 18, 1862,



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You are here: Trees > OneWorldTree® > T H Smith

**PERSONAL INFORMATION** [See Pedigree View](#)

**T H Smith**  
**Born:** 30 Sep 1854  
 Davis, Iowa, USA  
**Died:** 17 Sep 1936  
 Harlan, Shelby, Iowa, USA  
[View person's info](#)

**PAGE TOOLS**

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**Family**   **Historical Records**   **Family Facts**

**Family Groups**

**Spouse**

**Josephine Smith**  
**Born:** Dec 1857 in Iowa, USA  
**Died:** 1941 in Harlan, Shelby, Iowa, USA

**Marriage:** 3 Jun 1880 [View Info](#)

Children	Sex	Birth
Mabel Smith	F	Mar 1881 in Iowa, USA
Orpha Opdyke	F	Apr 1883 in Iowa, USA

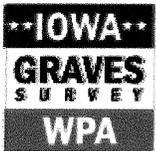
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## SMITH, Thomas

**Born:** 1854  
**Died:** 18 SEP 1936  
**Cemetery:** HARLAN  
**Location:** HARLAN  
**County:** SHELBY CO. - IOWA  
**Record Notes:**

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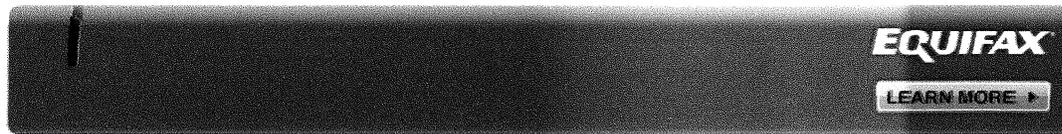
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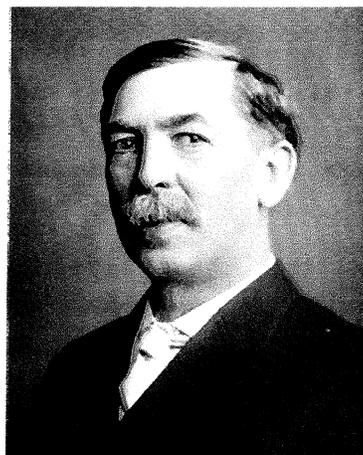
Birth: Sep. 30, 1854  
Davis County  
Iowa, USA

Death: Sep. 17, 1936  
Harlan  
Shelby County  
Iowa, USA

Thomas Henry "Tobe" Smith  
A member of the Iowa State Senate  
Son of Paris D. Smith and Nancy Jane Jones Smith

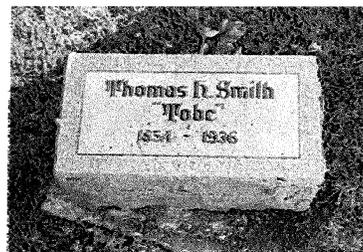
Burial:  
[Harlan Cemetery](#)  
Harlan  
Shelby County  
Iowa, USA  
Plot: Sec. 2, Lot 509

Created by: [W. Fogarty](#)  
Record added: Aug 05, 2004  
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THOMAS H. SMITH

Added by: Eric & Marcia

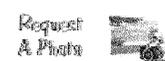
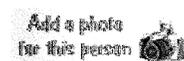


Added by: Patsy D



Cemetery Photo

Added by: Barbara Butcher



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