

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Bisler, John Markley Senator \_\_\_\_\_  
Represented Adams County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 27 Dec 1867 Brooks, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Minnie Louisa Day 13 Mar 1892

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business \_\_\_\_\_

B. Civic responsibilities Mayor

C. Profession Farmer, educator

4. Church membership Methodist, later Highland Community Church

5. Sessions served 41<sup>st</sup>, 42<sup>nd</sup>, 43<sup>rd</sup> General Assemblies 1925, 1927, 1929

6. Public Offices

A. Local County superintendent of schools Jan 1892 - Jan 1896

B. State \_\_\_\_\_

C. National \_\_\_\_\_

7. Death 26 May 1936 Douglas Township, Adams County, Iowa; buried

8. Children Hannie Joan (Mrs. Allen Hoskison); Mary S. (Mrs. H. J. Johnson);  
Margie (Mrs. Andrew Barnard); Carl K.; Neal;  
Blanchel (Mrs. Walter Arbuckle)

9. Names of parents John and Savilla (Markley) Bisler

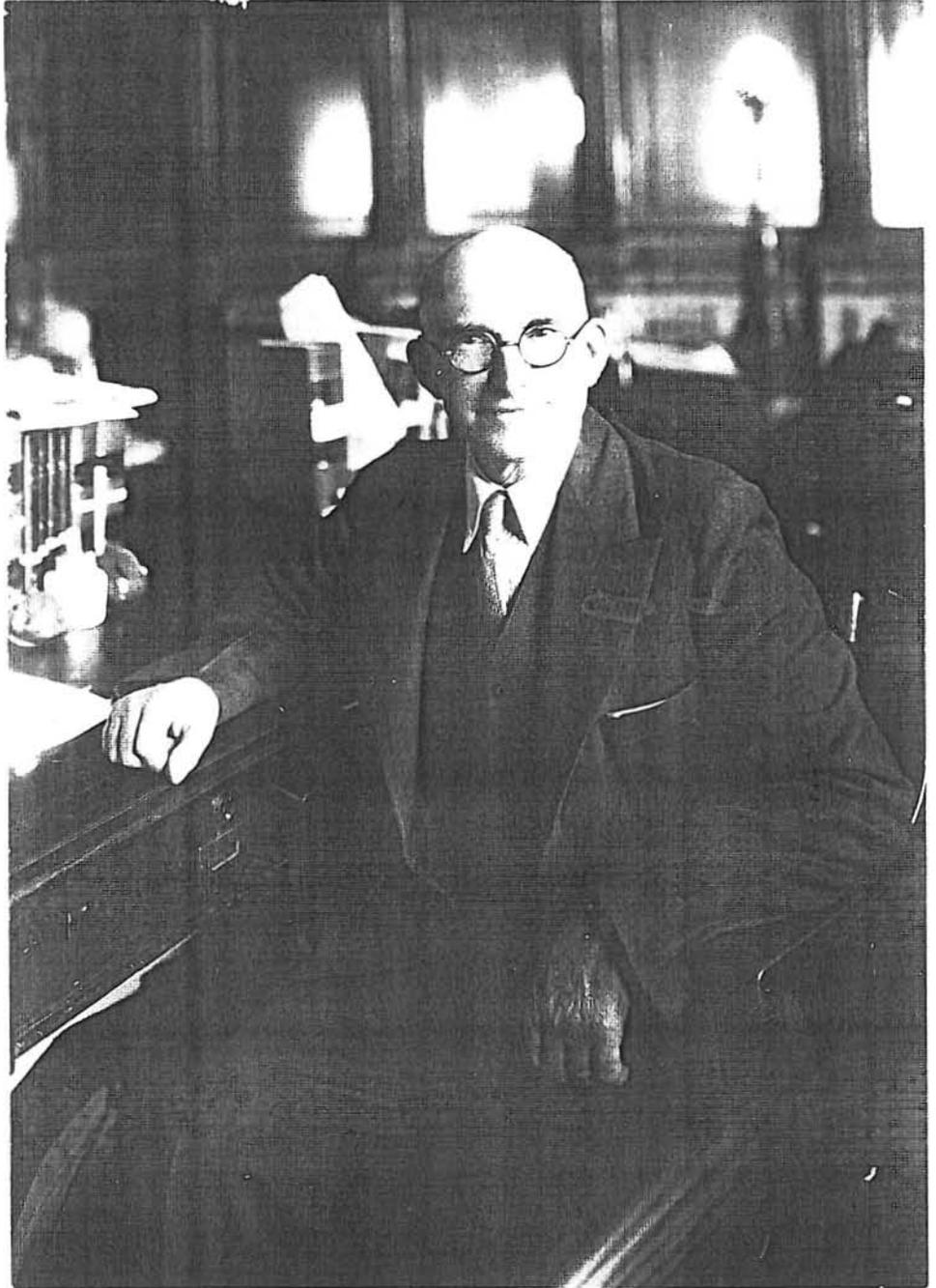
10. Education Attended school first in his home and then  
attended Highland School was built

11. Degrees Attended Keokuk Normal College, Shenandoah, Iowa;  
graduate of Highland Park Normal College, Des Moines, Iowa  
in 1891

12. Other applicable information Republican

- His childhood was spent near where he lived at his death
- When old enough, he obtained a certificate and taught school  
in Mills County, Iowa
- After teaching and attending college he moved to his farm
- He was Superintendent of Schools in Adair County, Iowa in 1927





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

RICHARD DIX  
LEILA HYAMS

—in—  
**"YELLOW DUST"**  
Story—*"Katz Pajamas"*  
By **"L. H. GORDON"**  
Cartoon  
Edition - 10c & 26c

**Monday, Monday**  
**and Tuesday**  
Continous showing Sun.  
from 1 o'clock

**NEW SONGS...**  
**NEW DANCES...**  
**THE GRANDEST**  
**STORY SHE'S**  
**EVER HAD!**



**Shirley**  
**EMPLE**  
in  
**CAPTAIN**  
**ANNUARY**

A FOX Picture with  
**BUDDY KIBBEE**  
**SLIM**  
**UMMERSVILLE**  
**JUNE LANG**  
**BUDDY EBSEN**

Directed by  
Butler  
with the story  
of E. Richard



or Comedy —

CRESTON ON NORTH MULBERRY ST. and will  
be located in their new home after  
June 15th.

**John M. Bixler Died**  
**Early Tuesday Morning**

The death of John Bixler Tuesday morning brought to Adams County the loss of a pioneer who had lived a busy, useful life, which had won him the esteem of his fellow citizens and confidence of the entire community. In spite of the fatal malady which he suffered, he was able to be about until a few weeks before his death. Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 at the Highland church conducted by Rev. Bowden of Villisca. Burial was made in the Nod-away cemetery.

John M. Bixler, son of John and Savilla Markley Bixler, was born at Brooks, Iowa, December 23, 1867 and died at his home in Douglas township at three a. m. Tuesday morning, May 26, 1936, aged 68 years, 5 months and 3 days. The immediate cause of his death was sarcoma. Mr. Bixler's childhood was spent in the vicinity of his present home, and the first term of school which he attended was held at his father's home. When the Highland school house was built he was one of the pupils at the first term of school taught in the district. He was studious and obtained what he could from the limited advantages of the country schools at that time.

When he became the required age, he obtained a certificate and taught in the rural schools of his neighborhood, the Quincy school and a school in Mills County. He attended the Western Normal College at Shenandoah for some time, and when O. H. Longwell of that college went to Highland Park Normal College of Des Moines, as its first president when that institution was founded, Mr. Bixler registered as a student in that institution from which he graduated with the first class in 1891. He served as county superintendent of schools from January 1892 until January, 1896. He then moved to his present farm.

March 13, 1892, he was married to Fannie L. Day and to them six children were born all of whom are living, namely: Fannie Fern, wife of Allen Hoskinson of Corning; Mary S., wife of W. P. Johnson of Harlan, Iowa; Marjorie, wife of Andrew Barnard of Selkirk, Ontario, Canada; Carl K. Bixler of Corning; Neal Bixler of Manson, Iowa; and Blanche, wife of Walter Arbuckle of Corning. There are fifteen grandchildren who were his pride and joy. These with his life companion, two sisters and one brother still survive to mourn his departure; also a large family of nieces and nephews.

The living sisters are, Mrs. E. L. Hoyt, Corning, and Mrs. Isabelle Markley, Creston on North Mulberry St. and will be located in their new home after June 15th.

**Mrs. Norman M.**  
**TEACHER OF**

Bachelor of Music  
Graduate of Simpson C

Phone 324W—

**The Bigg**

Everything for E  
"The One Price

2 Grocery Phones 19-40

**CERTO**, for jelly making  
Rogers Jelly Server FRI

**KELLOGG'S DEAL**  
1 Pkg. Pep FREE  
with 2 large pkgs.  
Corn Flakes & 1 pkg.  
Wheat  
Krispies, all for **38c**

**RED HEAD PAINT CL**  
Large pkg. . . .

**P'nut Butter, 27c**  
2 lb. jar

Monarch Whole Kernel  
**Corn, 29c**  
2 No. 2 cans

**MARSHMALLOWS,**  
(8 oz size 9c)

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



**irley  
EMPLE  
APTAIN  
WUARY**

FOX Picture with  
**Y KIBBEE  
SLIM  
MMERVILLE  
JUNE LANG  
UDDY EBSEN**



Comedy—  
"Second Childhood"  
by Mouse in  
"Three Little Wolves"  
FOX NEWS

ADDITIONAL NOTE—Sunday  
starts at 1 o'clock  
and of 2:30, our regu-  
lating time.  
The Shows Sunday  
1, 3, 5, 7 and 9  
& Tues. 7:00 & 9:00  
Sessions—  
1, until 6, 10c & 26c  
ings, 10c, 26c & 36c

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hood was spent in the vicinity of his present home, and the first term of school which he attended was held at his father's home. When the Highland school house was built he was one of the pupils at the first term of school taught in the district. He was studious and obtained what he could from the limited advantages of the country schools at that time.

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He was a member of the 41st, 42nd and 43rd general assembly of the State of Iowa representing Adams County and to this work he gave untiring efforts. In the session of legislature which convened in 1897 he was chosen Journal clerk and served the general session and also the special session in 1898 to recodify the laws of the state.

He joined the Methodist church of his community in early youth, and when the Advent Christian church was organized at Highland he became a member and later was a member of the Highland Community Church. He was a faithful and persistent worker in the Sunday School of which he was superintendent, and from which he was absent only the last month. The home has lost a devoted husband and father and the community a valued citizen in the passing of Mr. Bixler.

Fairbury, Nebr., May 27 (UP)—  
Mrs. M. O. Bennett, 21 wife of a

Everything for Ever  
"The One Price"

2 Grocery Phones 19-40

CERTO, for jelly making  
Rogers Jelly Server FREE

KELLOGG'S DEAL M  
1 Pkg. Pep FREE S  
with 2 large pkgs.  
Corn Flakes & 1 pkg. Eco  
Wheat 38c Sup  
Krispies, all for 38c Qua

RED HEAD PAINT CLE  
Large pkg. . . . .

P'nut Butter, 27c Salr  
2 lb. jar Allst

Monarch Whole Kernel  
Corn, 29c Hor  
2 No. 2 cans No. 1

MARSHMALLOWS, ful  
(8 oz. size 9c) . . . . .

Flour, Buddy \$1.25 Coff  
Boy; 19 lb. bag 2 lbs

BANANAS, Golden Rip  
4 lbs. . . . .

Orang's, navls. 23c Lem  
252 size; dozen large

Strawberries - Pineapples

Bacon, 27c Picn  
Sugar cured; lb. Shdrt  
1/2 or Whole Slab

Smoked Hams, 26c Bac

# HISTORY OF ADAMS COUNTY

## IOWA

### 1984



#### Heritage

Are we struggling to be worthy  
 As along life's road we go.  
 If we're having serious problems  
 There's a thing we all should know.

Our heritage is not a face,  
 We put on or off at will.  
 No amount of money bought it,  
 No amount, will keep it still.

What we are and what we can be,  
 Is an attitude of mind.  
 Share life's story with each other,  
 Leaving selfishness behind.

When you leave a heritage to others,  
 You are planting God's good seed.  
 It may help in their life struggle,  
 And fulfill your own deep need.

By June Myers

63, 752

STATE HISTORICAL LIBRARY  
Des Moines, Iowa

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had moved from Ohio about 1883. Their children were Clyde and Fern Fannie. Jacob taught school, farmed and once was sheriff of Adams Co. He died at Carl in 1924.

Jacob M. Bixler, father of Jacob M. Bixler, Jr., was born in Fayette Co., Pennsylvania. (1799-1872) He married Elizabeth Murray about 1821 in Penn. They were the parents of nine children. They moved to Ohio about 1832 and to Adams Co., Iowa in 1856.

Nellie Roberts Bixler was the daughter of Henry and Mary Elizabeth McCune. They moved to Adams Co. from Zanesville, Ohio in 1895. They were also the parents of a son Clark who lived in Mt. Etna until his death in 1979. *Wayne Anderson*

### BIXLER-HILL

We, Velma Grace Hill and Glenn Raymond Bixler were married December 22, 1925, at the home of my parents W.J. and Edith Hill. I was teaching at the Houck school at the time and finished my term and Glenn, son of Sidney and Elsie Bixler was farming north of Carbon. We lived on my folks farm as renters until 1937, when we moved to Villisca, as a partner in the implement business one year, returning to the farm in 1938 after Glenn was seriously injured by an exploding truck tire, that could have taken his life.



**Glenn and Velma (Hill) Bixler**

We lived with my folks and had a married hired man living in our former home for four years, until we moved to a farm we bought. Glenn was a very progressive farmer keeping up with new things. After 1942 we retired from active farming and continued with renters, Wayne and Georgia Goodvin and son Max, for 21 years. Our present renters are Glen and Mary Lou Roberts and family, with livestock lease, this being their 20th year of farming north of Carbon, the last eight years in partnership with me, alone, as Glenn passed away in June 7, 1975, and is buried at Quincy Cemetery. He was born January 15, 1902. A stillborn son July 9, 1932, and his parents and my parents preceded him in death. He was survived by Ma and six brothers and sisters Violet, Erle, Beth, Harold, Gene and Max and nephews and nieces.

Glenn and I are 4th generation descendants of pioneers, John Bixler and John Houck. They along with our grandparents have biographies in Adams County History Book published in 1892.

Glenn loved the land and worked to leave it better than when he acquired it. He operated a maintainer and a grader six years building roads. He was a coon hunter all his life and was widely known as a breeder and trainer of coon hounds. He wrote a column "Iowa Trails & Tales" for Fall Cry Magazine for 16 years and enjoyed the friendship of many hunters from other states.

He was always interested in Community Betterment and active in Republican Party and served in township offices and responsibilities. We were members of Carbon United Methodist Church, attended country schools, graduated from Corn- ing High School. He attended Grand Island Business College, and I took summer classes in Creston and taught three years. I love farm homemaking, reading, fishing, travelling and antiques and pet dogs. In childhood I enjoyed a

foster brother, Billy Hill and foster sister Phila Hill, my grandmother Houck and aunts and uncles and cousins.

Glenn and I saw Depression, World Wars, Korea and Vietnam but thought we had a wonderful life in Adams County. *Submitted by Velma Bixler*

### JACOB BIXLER

Jacob Bixler was born 20 Apr. 1796, in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, son of Joseph Bixler, who was born either in Penn. or New Jersey, most likely Penn.



**Jacob Bixler**

He married Elizabeth Murray, also from Fayette County, Penn. b. 5 Jun. 1796. dau. of Robert and Margaret (Jackson) Murray. Robert Murray was a native of Ireland.

They had 9 children; Robert, Mary (Norris), Lydia (Hommon), John, Charles, William, Joseph, Jacob Jr., and Margaret (Aldridge). The Bixlers moved to Ohio about 1831 and to Iowa in 1856. They settled in Quincy Twp. with their children, William, Jacob, Jr., Lydia and Margaret. Three sons had already settled in Quincy Twp., John, Joseph, and Charles. Their daughter Mary (Norris) stayed in Indiana and their son Robert in Ohio.

In early life they were members of the Lutheran Church. On coming to Iowa they joined the Methodist Church.

Jacob died 7 Oct. 1871, and Elizabeth died of typhoid fever 7 Oct. 1859. Both are buried in the Quincy cemetery.

They saw hard times because of the ravages of the prairie fire in the fall of 1856 which destroyed feed, grass, chickens, outhouses, and the stables. The winter of 1856-1857 was the great snow which the wind drove into the hollows till the hills were not much higher than the low. Some places the snow was thirty to fifty feet deep. There came a thaw followed by severe cold which left a solid crust on these drifts which became traps for deer and wild turkey. A herd of deer would break through the crust and they would flounder in the snow and die or be killed by wolves or hunters.

In August 1857, there was so hard a frost that no corn matured and the settlers had to haul corn for bread and seed from Missouri. *Submitted by Louise Brown*

### JOHN BIXLER

John Bixler was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, 4 Mar. 1823, son of Jacob and Elizabeth Murray Bixler. John was about 9 when he moved with his parents to Tuscarawas County, Ohio.



**John and Savilla Ann Bixler**

There he was reared on a farm and received a common school education.

On 26 Nov. 1846, he was married in Tuscarawas County to Savilla Ann Markley, b. in Harrison County, Ohio, 25 Jan. 1827, dau. of Jacob and Margaret (Wallace) Markley, natives of Washington Co., Pennsylvania. Her parents moved to Appanoose Co., Iowa in the 1850s or 1860s.

John and Savilla Ann left Coshocton Co., Ohio in the spring of 1853, stopped in Owen Co., Indiana where they resided until 1 July 1854, when they resumed their Westward trek. Here they left buried their youngest child, Margaret Ann. The family then consisted of themselves, Burr (5), Elizabeth Jane (3), brother Joseph Bixler undertook the journey to Iowa with ox teams, grazing the oxen at nights and Sundays. In October 1854, they arrived in Adams Co. with their few possessions and 75¢. Brother Charles Bixler and family joined them in Appanoose Co. On the 15 Oct. 1854, they stopped at Henry Reese's in eastern part of Adams Co. Here they camped until the men explored farther west meeting the Pottowattomie tribe of Indians at what is now Nodaway and saw them pull out for their Western home from which they would periodically return to camp and visit their burial ground west of Brooks where several skeletons were unearthed in the construction of the railroad.

The three brothers John, Charles, and Joseph settled on the middle Nodaway River. John lived one mile west of Quincy. Then he moved to Nodaway Twp. and to Jasper Twp. where he was in the sawmill business at Brooks. He lost his eye there from a file piercing it in 1860 so he was considered unfit for the Civil War service. In 1874 he settled on an 80 acre farm Sec. 34 in Douglas Twp.

He was a Twp. Trustee, Justice of Peace, Republican, Methodist until 1886 when he and Savilla became charter members of the Highland Advent Christian Church. He was stricken with paralysis in 1900 and died 9 Jan. 1903. Savilla died 21 Dec. 1909 and both are buried in the Nodaway cemetery.

They were parents of 13 children: William, Burr, Elizabeth Jane (Coleman), Margaret Ann, Mary Louise (Hoyt), Robert Allen, Harriet Isabelle (Markley), Jacob Truman, Lydia (Walton), Lillie Savilla (Strait), John Markley, Charles, and Effie May (Narigon). *Submitted by Louise Brown*

### JOHN MARKLEY BIXLER

John Markley Bixler was born December 1867, son of John and Savilla Ann Markley in Brooks, Iowa. They moved to a farm in Douglas Township section 34 when he was six years old. He attended grade school at Highland Douglas number eight and graduated from Highland Park College at Des Moines, Iowa. John was superintendent of the schools in Adams County and in 1927 was the Representative from Adams County. John married Fannie Louisa Day March 13, 1892. The daughter of Samuel Day and Mary Amdor Day who was born



John and Fannie Bixler

in Indiana. Samuel Day drove a pair of two year mules from southern Illinois when the land east of Corning was still open and settled in the Middle Valley school district.

John M. Bixler and Fannie raised 6 children, Fern Hoskinson, Mary Johnson, Marjorie Barnard, Carl K., Neal and Blanche Arbuckel — Coon, Carl and Mary are the only ones living.

Carl Kenneth Bixler was born August 8, 1899, on the home farm where he has lived all his life. He enjoyed the outdoors hunting and fishing and all sports and farmed till 79 years old. He went to Highland country school and to Corning High school till World War I. Member of Instruction Lodge no. 275 A. F. A. M. for 59 years. Member of Company K. National Guard enjoyed target shooting with 22 and 30-06 rifles and 45 pistol. 1926-1929. Pay — dollar a day.

Carl married Mable B. Day January 27, 1933, the daughter of Herman Day born August 17, 1905. Herman Day came with his mother and brothers and sisters in a covered wagon from Jones County, Iowa in 1895 and Mabel's Mother Fannie M. Roberts daughter of William Roberts a native of England.

Carl and Mable have three children. Sam who took Forestry at Fort Collins, Colorado, Carol a registered Nurse who took training at Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Council Bluffs. Carol married Jim O'Neill and they have six children. Jerry married to Joni Browning have a daughter Tanya; Terri O'Neill married to Yvette Stacey they have a son Aaron living at home are Patrick, Jon, Jennifer and William.

Sarah Bixler lives in Pasadena, Ca. and works for the American Broadcasting Company in Los Angeles. Her hobbies are Old Houses and Cats. Sarah now lives in an old house which she is restoring and is raising Abyssinian cats which she shows.

Sarah graduated from Iowa U and went to California and taught one year and then served in the Air Force for four years where she attained the rank of Captain.

Mabel's brother John lives on the place where she and her sister and brothers were born. Mable has also a brother Arthur and a sister Ella Strait. William Day is deceased.

Sam Bixler work in Forestry is the preserving of wood and inspects power lines and poles. Submitted by Carl K. Bixler

### BIXLER-STRAIT

Robert Allen Bixler, son of John and Savilla Ann (Markley) Bixler born Feb. 5, 1857 in Adams County, Iowa, the 6th of thirteen children. On March 27th, 1878 he married Helen Esmeralda Strait from Ohio. They met while teaching in the Adams County schools. Their home was a farm in Adams County.

They had 11 children; one daughter died in infancy, another, Orea Isabelle Crecelius died in 1912 leaving a son, 14 months of age. They are buried in Nodaway Cemetery.

Other children; Sidney Allen, Helen Evelyn, Jane Olive, Burr Ambey Leslie, Ruth Alice, Florence Savilla, Pearl May, Dorothy Merle, Robert Arthur.

In 1885 they became Advent Christians and he a minister of the Gospel. He and his wife were charter members of the Highland Advent Christian Church in Douglas township.

He held pastorates in Iowa and northern Missouri. He died suddenly Feb. 13, 1921, after 42 years of married life, and is buried in Nodaway cemetery. Mrs. Bixler, a devoted wife and mother died March 27, 1930 and is buried beside her husband.

The Bixler children, educated in Adams County schools and indoctrinated with the Christian faith scattered to the four winds. Helen married William Egleston, living in Adams County until moving to South Dakota. After several years they returned to Iowa where they died. She is buried in Nodaway cemetery. Sidney married Elsie Mooney they lived all their lives in Adams County. Both are buried in Quincy cemetery. Jane Olive married Raymond Tindall of Carbon. They lived in Adams County, in Montana, and North Carolina, where they are buried. Burr moved to Florida in 1905, was a minister of the Advent Christian Church, and very active in both Christian and Civic work. He married Janie Vincent Brown of Lake City, Florida. In 1913 Burr founded the Advent Christian Home, (later called Village), Dowling Park, Florida, for children, retired ministers, missionaries, and later other retired persons. He edited the church paper of the south and a local county paper. He died in 1950. He and his wife are buried in Live Oak, Florida. Ruth married John Berlin Keepers of Wisconsin. John was a minister of the Advent Christian Church. Ruth was a very active minister's wife. They lived in Illinois, Michigan, South Dakota and Washington. Both are buried at Nooksack, Washington.

Florence married William Tiffin. Both were ordained ministers of the Advent Christian Church. She is buried at Dowling Park, Florida.

Pearl a high school teacher married William Smyth. Both are buried in Aurora, Illinois.

Robert Arthur married Vern Orme of Adams County. He was an ordained minister of the Advent Christian Church. He is buried at Dowling Park, Florida.

Dorothy Myrle, the only surviving family member lives at the Advent Christian Village, Dowling Park, Florida.

She had a career as a Registered Nurse in Iowa and Missouri and Hospital Administrator in Kansas. She is an Advent Christian and works as a volunteer at the Advent Christian Village Arts and Crafts Shop. Dorothy M. Bixler

### BIXLER-ORME

Robert Arthur Bixler, son of Robert Allen and Helen Strait Bixler, was born November 28, 1899 in Adams County, Iowa, the youngest of 11 children.



Robert Arthur and Vera Bixler, Dorothy, Robert, Anieta, Frances

On June 22, 1919, he married Vera Pearl Orme, (date of birth October 24, 1898) daughter of Fred and Lillie Maude Bullock Orme of Adams County. After their marriage they farmed for several years in Adams County and Wisconsin. Later they were engaged in various business and self employment enterprises in Villisca, Iowa; Lincoln and Scottsbluff, Nebraska; and Concordia, Kansas. During those years they were blessed with the birth of four children: Dorothy Virginia — March 25, 1920,

Robert Arthur Jr. — July 27, 1921, Anieta Berniece — September 17, 1922, and Frances Aileen — January 27, 1927.

Mr. Bixler was raised in a strongly religious environment. As a youth he was active in church activities, in Loyal Workers, and served as Sunday School superintendent. As an adult he and Mrs. Bixler were active in church activities wherever they lived. Therefore, it was no great surprise to family and friends when in 1948 he was called into the full time Advent Christian Ministry, first serving the Brays Church, Iberia, Missouri. Reverend and Mrs. Bixler (a loyal, dedicated and active pastor's wife) later served churches in Collettsville, North Carolina; Houston, Texas; Mt. Ayr, Iowa; and Stone Mountain, Georgia. Their assignments in Houston and Stone Mountain were with Mission Churches requiring Rev. Bixler to exercise his talents in planning, development, building and improving church property.

The Bixler's retired in 1970 and built their retirement home near the Advent Christian Village, Dowling Park, Florida. The Village was founded in 1913 by his brother the late Reverend Burr A.L. Bixler. It serves many needs of orphaned children, and of retired Ministers, Missionaries and lay people. Rev. Bixler's retirement was short lived when on the first Sunday after moving to Florida he was asked to supply the pulpit at Perry, Florida. He preached there for three years. On October 23, 1977, he preached his last sermon in the Bixler Memorial Church, Dowling Park, which is named in honor of his brother Burr.

Reverend Bixler lost a 13 year battle with cancer when he died on January 31, 1978. Mrs. Bixler remains active in activities of the Advent Christian Village at Dowling Park. She enjoys visits by and to the families of the four children who reside in each of the four time zones of the continental United States: Dorothy Fryer, Villisca, Iowa; Robert Arthur Bixler, Jr., Aurora, Colorado; Anieta Clayton, Daly City, California; and Frances Rademacher, Damascus, Maryland. By Mrs. Vera Bixler

### SARAH ELLEN BIXLER

Sarah Ellen Bixler was born August 14, 1940, at the farm home of her parents, Carl Kenneth and Mable Belle Day Bixler. (The farm was, and still is, located six miles west of Corning, Iowa on old Highway 34.)



Sarah Bixler

She went to Highland Sunday School and Highland School, Douglas #8, and when this school was closed, due to too few pupils, took the Corning school bus East on old Highway 34 to Doghollow, Douglas #7. Upon completion of the first eight grades, she went to high school at Corning, Iowa.

She was a member of Brooks Blue Belles and 4-H Farmerettes 4-H clubs. During this time, she took ballet lessons and was in Corning High School plays.

After graduation from high school, she went to the State University of Iowa, at Iowa City, Iowa,