

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Avery, Amelias Hale Senator \_\_\_\_\_  
Represented Clay County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 20 May 1870 Excelsior, Richland County, Wisconsin

2. Marriage (s) date place  
① Grace Cornwall 11 Dec 1889  
② Grace Dembarny 30 Nov 1899 Woonsocket, South Dakota

3. Significant events for example:

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

B. Civic responsibilities Mason

C. Profession Insurance agent; teacher; school superintendent

4. Church membership Congregational

5. Sessions served 44<sup>th</sup> 46<sup>th</sup> 48<sup>th</sup> 49<sup>th</sup> 50<sup>th</sup> 51<sup>st</sup> 52<sup>nd</sup> 53<sup>rd</sup> General Assemblies

6. Public Offices 1931, 1935, 1939, 1941, 1943, 1945, 1947, 1949

A. Local Mayor of Spencer, Iowa 1927-1928

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

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

7. Death 7 Dec 1950 Spencer, Iowa; buried Riverside Cemetery, Spencer, Iowa

8. Children By 1<sup>st</sup> wife Ethel (Mrs. A. L. Tucker); by 2<sup>nd</sup> wife Alden Dembarny; Barbara; Margaret (Mrs. J. A. Dembarny - died in 1931)

9. Names of parents Alden Hale and Sarah (Otha) Avery

Avery, Amelias Hole

10. Education He attended rural schools near Epilevin, Wisconsin;  
and also attended Cedar Valley Seminary, Osage, Iowa

11. Degrees \_\_\_\_\_

12. Other applicable information

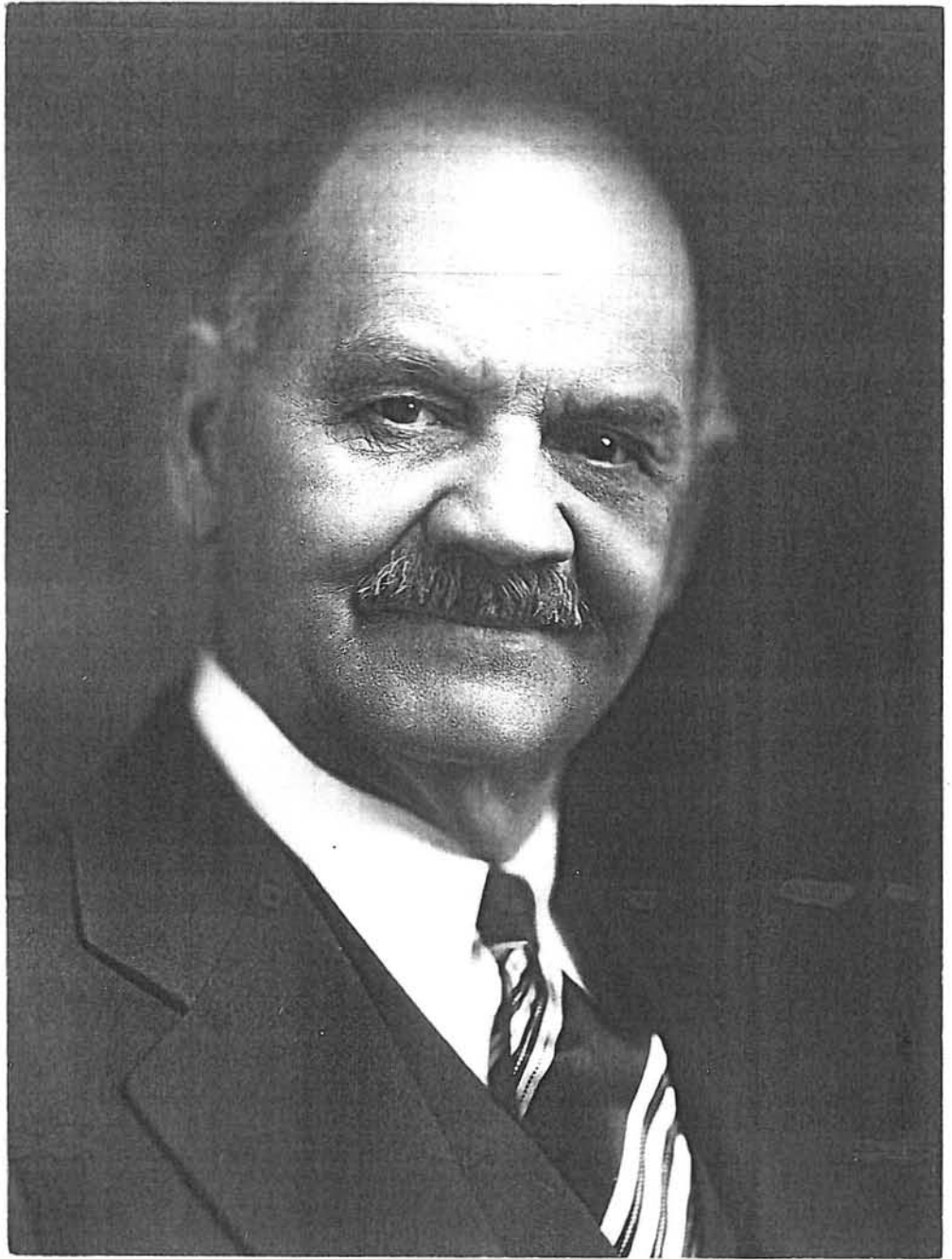
Republican

- In 1887 he moved to South Dakota and taught in rural and  
town schools at Ashton and Hronsschet.
- He moved to Spencer, Iowa in 1901, there he served as both  
a teacher and superintendent of schools until 1915.
- From 1915 until death, he was an insurance agent in Spencer, Iowa.
- His second wife, Grace Dunham, born 1878, died 1972, also buried  
in Riverside Cemetery, Spencer, Iowa.

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- <u>The Iowa Press Association of This Week in Iowa 1940, p. 281</u>			
- <u>History of Clay County, Iowa 1984 p. 165-166</u>			
- <u>The Iowa Official Register 1949-1950, p. 62</u>			
- <u>Centennial of Clay County, Iowa 1983, p. 301</u>			
- <u>Obituary - The Spencer Daily Reporter, Spencer, Iowa, Fri.</u> <u>Dec. 2, 1950, pt. 1, col. 2 and p. 4, col. 1 &amp; 2</u>			
- <u>The Glory of Iowa 1952 p. 1289</u>			
- <u>ancestry.com (accessed 12/11/2007)</u>			
<u>Original photo is located in Special Collections, State Historical Library of</u> <u>Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa</u>			



# ist Through Red Horse Near Hamhung



Clement Attlee (right), Secretary of Defense George C. Marshall (left) discuss the Korean crisis Friday.

(UP) — A column of 20,000 fighting U. S. marines and infantrymen trapped for more than a week behind Chinese lines battled to within six miles of safety Friday in the snow-choked mountains of northeastern Korea.

Air reports said the five-mile-long column was moving slowly and jerkily through the mountains behind a tank spearhead that slugged its way through one Chinese roadblock after another.

### Six Miles Apart

Fighting up from the south was a rescue column of the U. S. 3rd division. An air report released by a navy spokesman said the two columns were only six miles apart Friday and were closing the gap steadily.

A raging snowstorm deprived the columns of air cover for a while Friday but the skies cleared as night approached. Marine Corsairs and navy planes returned to blast the ambushing Reds with bombs, rockets, flaming jellied gasoline and machinegun fire.

All fighting in Korea was concentrated in the Hamhung area while the war stood still for the U. S. 8th army in the west. In addition to hammering at the escaping marines and army men, the Chinese Communists struck toward Hamhung in a two-pronged offensive.

The offensive captured two towns along the Americans' escape route and other raiding bands of 100 to 500 Reds struck within ten miles of the Hamhung escape center in hit-and-run attacks.

One column 5,000 strong captured Sinhung, 17 miles north of Hamhung, and pushed on to the south. A communique called the fall of Sinhung "the first confirmation of reports that enemy troops had arrived in the area northeast of the Hamhung complex."

### Yanks Surrounded

The encircled Americans—three regiments of the 1st marine division and two regiments of the 7th infantry division—still were fighting their way south from Koto, 30 miles north of Hamhung. A large number of dead Chinese were found.

# Plants y, S. Car.

Birth of new generation  
Hanford  
to a "new Oak Ridge Atomic Energy Commission building a "new Hanford" in South Carolina. Together they are comparable in importance to the far-reaching projects which would be the first atomic bomb program got World War II. The has been production of atomic energy from storage materials made at Hanford.

# Dad Avery Is Dead at Age of 80

A. H. (Dad) Avery, veteran Clay county state representative and Spencer political and civic leader, died Thursday night at the Spencer Municipal Hospital.

Death came to the aging state representative at 10:55 p. m. He had been a patient at the hospital since Nov. 27 when he collapsed at his home in Spencer. Members of the family said he had been ill since Nov. 11.

Funeral services with full Masonic rites will be conducted at 2 p. m. Saturday at the Congregational



A. H. (DAD) AVERY

church with Rev. Clayton J. Kampp officiating. Burial will be in Riverside cemetery.

Avery, dean of the House of Representatives, was first elected Clay county representative in 1930 after a notable career as a school teacher, school superintendent and mayor of Spencer.

### Speaker Pro Tem

He served in eight regular general assemblies of the state legislature and four extra sessions. He was speaker pro tem of the 50th general assembly. Mr. Avery's political career began in 1907 when he was elected mayor of Spencer for one term. In 1930 he sought the state representative post.

DEC 1950

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## Education Board Urges Increase

DES MOINES (UP)—The Iowa Board of Education requested an increase Friday of about \$3,300,000 a year for operating the state's educational institutions and an increase of \$31,500,000 for capital improvements for the next two years.

The requests were presented to Gov. William S. Beardsley and State Comptroller Ray Johnson. The hearings were held as Beardsley worked on his budget to be presented to the 1951 legislature.

The board requested \$20,274,074 a year to operate the institutions, compared to \$16,973,177 a year granted by the 1949 legislature, and \$34,225,134 for the two years for capital improvements, compared to \$2,700,893 granted by the 1949 legislature.



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Mr. Avery's political career began in 1927 when he was elected mayor of Spencer for one term. In 1930 he sought the state representative post on the Republican ticket to begin his long and notable career as a legislator.

In 1932 he was defeated in the primary, but during the next two years was returned to the House by a special election following the resignation of the incumbent. He was again defeated in the 1936 general election, but again was returned to office two years later and served continuously until the time of his death.

#### Devoted to Boys

Rep. Avery was particularly noted for his work with boys. A devoted Mason, he was responsible for the establishment of a DeMolay chapter in Spencer 30 years ago. The title "Dad" originated from his DeMolay activities and soon became an affectionate title used by virtually all who knew him. For many years he served as this city's official Santa Claus.

Older residents of this area also remember that it was through Mr. Avery's efforts that chautauquas were a part of several summer programs in Spencer. Such talent as William Jennings Bryan; Will Carleton, the poet; Ann Nielsen, the gifted singer, and many other out-

Continued on page 4

BY CHARLES DICKENS



THE WEATHER

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ement Attlee (right), Secretary of Defense George C. Korean crisis Fri-

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day at 2 p. m. at  
eran church. Rev.  
en will officiate and  
ill be in Fairview  
Meadow township.

# Avery.....

Continued from page 1  
standing figures in the political and entertainment world appeared on the Spencer chautauqua programs.

**Born May 20, 1870**

Mr. Avery was born May 20, 1870, in Excelsior, Wis., a son of Alden H. and Sarah Otto Avery. He attended rural schools and Cedar Valley seminary, Osage, Iowa.

In 1889, he moved to South Dakota and taught in rural and town schools at Ashton and Woonsocket.

He moved to Spencer in 1901 and served both as a school teacher and superintendent of schools until 1915. He served as

mayor of Spencer from 1927 to 1928.

Mr. Avery was first married to Grace Cornwall who preceded him in death. To this union one child was born, Theta Avery Tucker, of Minneapolis. He was married to Grace Dunham Nov. 30, in Woonsocket, S. D. To this union three children were born, two of whom are living, Alden D. and Barbara Avery, both of Spencer. Alden D. Avery is an attorney and Miss Avery a teacher in the Spencer public schools system. One daughter, Margaret Avery Dunning, died in 1931.

**Masonic Member**

Mr. Avery was a member and past master of the Masonic lodge in Spencer and also a member of the Congregational church.

# Well-to-Do Bu Form Ve

**By Ted Polumbaum  
NEA Staff Correspondent**

**BROOKLINE, MASS. (NEA)** Not so long ago you could pick up an ancient Model-T Ford for about \$15. Now you'd be lucky to get a rusty old one for \$150 and if you show too much interest, the price might be three or four times that figure.

The reason for this can be found in places like the garb and turreted barn of the old La Anderson estate in Brookline just outside Boston, where brass radiators and Stutz Bearcats and Stanley Steamers.

Elevated to a status in the auto world that old Chippendale holds among furniture lovers these erstwhile junk heaps have been taken over by well-to-do businessmen and amateur mechanics who form the Veteran Motor Car Club of America.

They devote hundreds of hours to cleaning rats' nests out of their newly-found wrecks, replacing missing parts, repolishing and repainting, and polishing up the brass and enamel.

Then they proudly assemble their mobile antiques at events like the Antique Auto Fair, sponsored by the Veteran Motor Car Club on the grounds of the Anderson estate, which is now a city park and houses the Anderson museum of ancient cars.

There, spectators who show up in sleek 1950 streamlined models watch the ancients get cranked up, charged up, oiled up, depending on whether the mode of locomotion is gas, electricity or steam. Then the parade takes off, with horns of three, four and five decades ago blending their notes with suddenly revived shouts of "get a horse."

The old autos come out of the museum for display, and others arrive, under their own power, from all over New England for the fair. There are prizes and contests—basketball on wheels is one event—and the members

## QUICKIES

**By Ken Reynolds**



"Stop your bawling - or I'm selling that violin with a Daily Reporter Want Ad!"

In Classification 10 you will find pianos and other musical merchandise listed for sale. Call 375.

General  
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HISTORY

OF

72-3

# Clay County, Iowa

FROM ITS EARLIEST SETTLEMENT TO 1909

BY

Samuel Gillespie and James E. Steele

ALSO BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES  
OF MANY PROMINENT CITIZENS OF THE COUNTY  
AS WELL AS ITS ILLUSTRIOUS DEAD

Illustrated

CHICAGO  
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY  
1909

12403

HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT



township. William Downie McPherson, the second of the name, was born March 10, 1860, and resides on the old homestead, being in charge of the place and looking after the comfort of his father and mother. For some years he has been correspondent for the Spencer newspapers and has been active in official circles, serving as assessor twelve years and also acting as constable for some time.

On the 9th of January, 1875, Thomas McPherson, of this review, was again married, his second union being with Elizabeth Furgeson, a daughter of David and Margaret (Campbell) Furgeson, both natives of Scotland. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. McPherson were Alexander and Hellen (Gieggen) Furgeson and the maternal grandparents were John and Elizabeth (McQueen) Campbell. The parents of Mrs. Elizabeth McPherson passed their entire lives in their native land, where Mr. Furgeson died in 1873, while Mrs. Furgeson departed this life April 30, 1875. Unto the marriage of Thomas McPherson and Elizabeth Furgeson there were born two children. The elder, Maggie Campbell, born July 15, 1876, was married April 5, 1899, to Thomas O. Kenyon, and they have two children, Helen and Ronald Thomas, the family residing in South Dakota. The younger daughter, Elizabeth McPherson, who was born July 12, 1879, died June 26, 1881.

Thomas McPherson has reached the seventy-sixth year of his existence and his has been a useful life, for not only has he won success in business but has been ever willing and ready to bear a full share in matters of public improvement. For more than seventeen years he filled the position of school director and the cause of education has found in him a warm and stalwart friend. He is now serving as justice of the peace, having been incumbent of that office fourteen years, during which time his decisions have ever been fair and impartial, being based upon the law and the equity of the case. Fraternally he was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows while in Scotland. He votes with the democracy and he and all of his family are members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. McPherson belongs to that class of men who are the real builders and promoters of the country. Indeed, so broad has been his philanthropy, so kind his heart, so open his purse and so generous his disposition that he is honored and beloved among his neighbors, amid whom he has labored. Being the oldest citizen of the township, no history of Logan would be complete without extended reference to him.

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#### PROFESSOR AMPLIAS HALE AVERY.

Prof. Amplias Hale Avery, superintendent of the city schools of Spencer, in which connection he is giving the benefit of his broad knowledge and ability to his chosen field of labor, winning for himself recognition as one of the foremost representatives of educational interests of Iowa, was born in Richwood township, Richland county, Wisconsin, May 20, 1870, and is one of seven children whose parents were Alden Hale and Sarah (Otto) Avery. The father was a son of Richard Avery, a native of Vermont. His grandfather was likewise born in the Green Mountain state, and was of English descent. He fought for the

independence of the colonies in the Revolutionary war and lived for many years to enjoy the fruits of liberty, passing away in Vermont at an old age. Richard Avery learned and followed the cabinet maker's trade until the time of the Mexican war, when he joined the army as a cavalryman and died in the service. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Jerusha Hale, long survived him, living to the age of about seventy-nine years. They were the parents of six children, Alonzo, Amplias, Alden, Henry, Jerusha and Deborah. The maternal grandfather of Professor Avery was John Otto, a native of New York and of German descent. He followed the occupation of farming, married a Miss Teller, and lived to the age of eighty-three years.

Alden Hale Avery, the father of Professor Avery, was a cabinet maker in early manhood, but later turned his attention to other pursuits. Removing westward to Wisconsin, he settled in Richwood township, Richland county, among its pioneer residents, establishing a home there when the district was largely covered with forest growth and when the work of improvement and development seemed scarcely begun. He built a saw mill, grist mill, woolen mill and chair factory, becoming closely associated with the industrial progress of the community. In fact he was numbered among the prominent and influential residents of Richland county because of his business activity and his enterprising efforts in behalf of general improvement. He wedded Sarah Otto, a native of New York, who died in 1873, at the age of thirty-seven years, while his death occurred in 1879 when he had reached the age of forty-seven years. They were both of the Unitarian faith. Of their family of four sons and three daughters five reached adult age: Maria, the deceased wife of Samuel Yeager; Caroline, the deceased wife of Emmet Paine; Richard; Frank, who died just a month prior to the date on which he would have graduated from the University of Wisconsin law school; and Amplias H.

Professor Avery left Wisconsin when fourteen years of age and came to Iowa. He then entered the Cedar Falls Seminary at Osage and worked his way through that school. In 1889 he removed to South Dakota and for a year and a half devoted his time to the study of law in Aberdeen. Because of the financial stringency of that period he accepted a country school in order to replenish his depleted exchequer, and later became principal of the public schools of Ashton, South Dakota, where he remained for three years. He was so successful as a teacher that it was with no difficulty that he obtained schools, accepting the principalship of the Woonsocket public schools, where he remained seven years. In 1901 he came to Spencer, where he acted as principal of the high school for a year, and was then called to the superintendency, in which position he has since remained. There are four schools of the city, over all of which he has general supervision, and during his incumbency as superintendent he has introduced many substantial improvements in the methods of teaching and also in the branches taught. His labors are at all times practical and he inspires the teachers under him with much of his own zeal and interest in the work.

Professor Avery was married December 11, 1889, to Miss Grace Cornwall, a daughter of A. R. and Amanda (Luse) Cornwall. There was one child of that marriage, Theta, who is now attending Stanley Hall School for Girls. On the 30th of November, 1899, Professor Avery wedded Miss Grace Dunham, who

was born at Wheatland, Iowa, July 6, 1878, a daughter of Niles J. and Clara (Rogers) Dunham, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of New York city. There are two children by this marriage, Margaret and Alden Dunham Avery. Mrs. Avery is a member of the Congregational church and has won for herself an enviable position in social circles. Professor Avery belongs to Evening Shade Lodge No. 312, A. F. & A. M., and Clay Chapter No. 112, R. A. M. Politically he is a republican, but while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do, he does not seek public office. He is a man of strong intellectual and marked force of character, whose natural ability makes him a leader of public thought and opinion.

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GEORGE W. MANNING.

George W. Manning is one of the active and prosperous farmers and stock-raisers of Riverton township, and is conducting his business interests on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres within four miles of Spencer. The farm's neat and thrifty appearance indicates Mr. Manning's careful supervision and practical methods and he is justly accounted one of the leading agriculturists of the community. He came to Iowa in 1870, at which time he took up his abode in Cedar county, while, since March, 1892, he has lived in Clay county. His birth occurred in Ontario, Middlesex county, Canada, August 5, 1848. His father, Jotham Manning, was born in Massachusetts and was of English descent. His youthful days were passed in his native state and when a young man he went to Canada, where he married Ann Dale, who was born in Pennsylvania and was of German lineage. Mr. Manning became a farmer of Ontario, Canada, and there reared his family and spent his last years. He performed the arduous task of developing a farm in the midst of the forest, cutting away the timber and clearing away the stumps in order to till the fields. His remaining days were there passed and his death occurred in 1876.

The old home farm in Canada was the training ground of George W. Manning and, under the guidance of his father, he was prepared for the practical duties of business life. He assisted in the cultivation and improvement of the homestead until he had attained his majority and then crossed the border into the United States, locating first in Livingston county, Missouri. He had previously learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed in Chillicothe, Missouri, for nine months, then removed to Cedar county, Iowa. There he worked at his trade, in the employ of others for a time, but later became a contractor and builder, and was thus closely identified with the substantial improvement of the district.

While living in Cedar county Mr. Manning was married, in 1871, to Miss Anna J. Wareham, who was born in Pennsylvania but was reared in Iowa. Her death occurred in Cedar county. By that marriage there were six children. On the 13th of January, 1886, Mr. Manning was again married, in Cedar county, his second union being with Mary C. Gano, a native of that county and a daughter of David Gano, who was one of the first settlers there and is now living in Scotland, South Dakota, at the age of seventy-five years. His wife also survives and is now



## Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name: **A H Avery**  
 Census Date: **1 Jan 1925**  
 Residence County: **Clay**  
 Residence State: **Iowa**  
 Locality: **Spencer Ward 1**  
 Birth Location: **Wisconsin**  
 Marital Status: **Married**  
 Gender: **Male**  
 Birth Year: **abt 1871**  
 Race: **White**  
 Relation to Head: **Head**  
 Mother: **Sarah Otto**  
 Mother's Birthplace: **York State**  
 Father: **Aldon Avery**  
 Father's Birthplace: **Vermont**  
 Marriage Place: **Wisconsin**  
 Spouse Name: **Grace D Avery**  
 Line: **27**  
 Roll: **IA1925\_1661**  
 Neighbors:  
 Household Members:
 

Name
A H Avery
Grace D Avery
Alden Avery
Barbara Avery

**Source Information:**

Ancestry.com. *Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2007. Origin of Iowa State Censuses, 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925 as well various special censuses from 1836-1897 obtained from the State Historical Society of Iowa via Heritage Quest.

**Description:**

This database contains Iowa state censuses for the following years: 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, and 1925. It also includes some head of household censuses and other special censuses from 1836-1897. Information available for an individual will vary according to the census year and the type of census. Some of the information contained in this database though includes: name, age, gender, race, birthplace, marital status, place of enumeration. [Learn more...](#)

<http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/ssse.dll?indiv=1&db=IAstatecen%2c&rank=0&gsfn=A> 12/11/2007