

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Emerson,  
Stephens Ray - served from Creston in Union County, Iowa  
that served Union, Ringgold and Decatur counties

1. Birthday and place 25 Feb 1889 Union County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place  
Mrs. Florence Roney 13 Oct 1913 at Fairfield, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Member of Builders Exchange of America; Assoc. of  
General Contractors of America; director of Master Builders of Iowa

B. Civic responsibilities Rotary; Elks; Shrine; Mason;  
Chamber of Commerce;

C. Profession Contractor for Emerson Brothers Construction  
Company

4. Church membership Congregational

5. Sessions served 49<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1941 and 1943

6. Public Offices

A. Local Mayor of Creston; board of trustees, State Highway  
Commissioner; president and chairman of Iowa State Baruffe Spk;  
Creston school board

B. State Member of State Highway Commission; president of Master  
Builders of Iowa

C. National Delegate to National Conventions; national vice-  
president of the General Contractors of America

7. Death Aug 1953 Creston, Iowa;

8. Children Jane (Mrs. Fred James); Rachel (Mrs. Joseph S. Knock);  
and Francesca (Mrs. Gail Brown)

9. Names of parents Lincoln Jasper and Vernal (Shaw) Emerson  
Grandson of Rev. Steven and Mary (Peck) Emerson

10. Education Attended Creston, Iowa schools  
graduating in 1908

11. Degrees Graduate of Central College, Pella, Iowa in 1910.

12. Other applicable information Republican

- Began working in the building trade with his father  
while attending school.
- Formed a partnership with Guy J. Swartz in the  
construction business in Creston in 1912 until 1925.
- In 1925 formed the Emerson Construction Co. with his  
brother, Don Emerson, which continued for 27 years.
- His company built many homes and buildings in the  
Creston, Iowa area

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source      Non Applicable      Applicable      Information obtained

- Iowa Press Association This Is In Iowa 1940  
p. 1185

- Union County Iowa 1981, p. 140

c. Obituary - The Creston News Advertiser, Creston, Iowa  
Sat. Aug 1, 1953, p. 1, col. 2 and Mon. Aug 3,  
1953, p. 1, col. 1 and p. 7, col. 5

- Iowa Official Register 1943-1944 p. 36

# CRESTON NEWS

VOL. 74. — NUMBER 106.

CRESTON, IOWA, SATURDAY

## State Funeral P

### PMA Committees Named In County Conventions Today

#### Ruckman Is New Chairman of Union County Committee

Carl Ruckman, Dodge township farmer who has been vice chairman of the Union county production and marketing committee for the past year, today was elected as the committee chairman for the coming year. Ruckman succeeds Raymond A. Strain of New Hope township who is the new vice chairman.

Ed Winkler of Lincoln township, a committee alternate last year, was elected as the third member of the committee. He succeeds Elmer Everling of Spaulding township, who was named as the first alternate for the new term. He succeeds Frank Miller.

Alton Decker of Jones township, a community committeeman during the past year, was named the second alternate.

The delegates met in the annual PMA county convention at the PMA office here this morning. Their only duty was the election of the county committee. The delegates had been chosen in township elections held during the past few weeks.

New committee terms begin Monday. One of the first duties of the committee will be the selection of a full-time office manager, who will handle the executive duties formerly performed by the committee. The committee, under the new PMA setup, will become a part-time group to handle policy matters. In the past it has been on a full-time basis handling both policy and executive duties.

Applications for the office manager post here, and in other Iowa counties, are being received at the county offices.

Administrative plan, county committeemen will be eligible for PMA em-

### Ray Emerson Dies

#### Prominent Creston Man Had Been Ill About 6 Years

S. Ray Emerson, prominent resident of Creston, died this afternoon.

Mr. Emerson, who was 64, had been ill for several years. He had suffered a stroke July 24 and another early this week. His condition had been serious for several days.

He was a former mayor of Creston, a former state senator, and a former member of the state highway commission.

Mr. Emerson was a native of Union county. He was born Feb. 25, 1889, the son of Lincoln J. and Verna Shaw Emerson. He graduated from Creston high school in 1908 and from Central college at Pella in 1910. He was married, Oct. 13, 1913, to Meta F. Rancy of Fairfield, who survives him.

Mr. Emerson had been a building contractor here for a number of years with his brother Donald. He was president of the Iowa State Savings bank for several years and was chairman of the bank's board of directors at the time of his death.

Surviving him are his widow; three daughters, Francesca (Mrs. Gail Brown) of Creston, Rachel (Mrs. Joseph G. Knock) of Creston, and Mrs. Jane James.

### Political Pot Bubbling Early

By DWIGHT McCORMACK  
DES MOINES — The season for political announcements and speculation opened so much earlier than usual this year that the list of possibilities for top nomination is already well under way. In the last few months the



S. Ray Emerson

### Expect August Temperatures to Be Below Normal

WASHINGTON — The weather bureau said Friday its 30-day outlook for August calls for temperatures to average below normal. The northern half of the nation except for near normal in the lower lakes, Middle Atlantic State and northwest coast.

Above normal temperatures are expected in the southern half of the country except for near normal in the central plains, the bureau said.

Precipitation is expected to exceed normal in central and northern parts of the nation, but subnormal rainfall is predicted for the southeast, far west, and western Texas. Near normal amounts are indicated in the Rocky mountain states, Ohio valley, Middle Atlantic states, southern plains, and Gulf coast.

### Harry Ford, 71, of Shannon City Dies

SHANNON CITY — Harry Ford, 71, of Shannon City, died at 3:40 p. m. Friday after an illness of more than two years.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p. m. Monday in the Methodist church here with Rev. Ida Roberts of Blanchard officiating assisted by Rev. Merlin Wilkins. Burial will be in the Shannon City cemetery. The body is now at the Richards' funeral home in Winterset and will be brought to Shannon City Sunday. Mr. Ford was formerly employed at the Richards' funeral home.

Born Sept. 14, 1881, in Jefferson township, Ringgold county, he spent all his life in the Shannon City vicinity except for a few years at Winterset. He was the son of George and Roseta Ford. He was married on Dec. 11, 1912, in Creston to Josie Stinson of Shannon City who survives. Also surviving are Mrs. Pearl Ryason, Mrs. Ethel Hardman, Mrs. Dale Johnson, Mrs. J. R. Carlson, Mrs. Earl

### Start Blood Donor Recruiting Monday

A drive to recruit 200 blood donors for the visit of the Red Cross bloodmobile to Creston on August 11 will be started Monday by the American Legion Auxiliary. A team of Auxiliary members will call upon every business house in Creston to recruit donors to meet the quota for the visit. Mrs. Frank G. Reynolds, Auxiliary president, said today.

Mrs. Pearl Ryason is chairman of the recruitment campaign for the Auxiliary. The members who



will assist her in the drive are Mrs. Ethel Hardman, Mrs. Dale Johnson, Mrs. J. R. Carlson, Mrs. Earl

**Reds let marry her... TOLE HIS BRIDE!**

**NEVER LET ME GO**

with **RICHARD HAYDN**

An M.G.M. Picture

● CARTOON ● SPORTS REEL

● 2 TOP ATTRACTIONS ●

Organization Present **QUEEN OWNED** **Technicolor**

**SHERIDAN HAYDN**

**Take Me to the Sun**

**Technicolor**

# Fights and

## Plan Funeral for S. Ray Emerson Here On Tuesday

Body Will Lie In State From 10 A. M. Tuesday

Funeral services for S. Ray Emerson, prominent Creston man, will be held at the First Congregational church here at 2 p. m. Tuesday.

Mr. Emerson died shortly before 2 p. m. Saturday at the Greater Community hospital. He had suffered a stroke on July 23 and had a later stroke early last week. He had been in poor health since suffering a stroke about six years ago.

Rev. Leslie J. Barnette will officiate at the services Tuesday afternoon. Casket bearers will be Arthur M. Glick, J. D. Keynolds, Willis G. Royce, Lloyd Kenney, George Gault and Arthur J. Nord. Honorary pall bearers will be W. D. (Pat) Patterson, Dr. F. E. Sampson, Fred Ide, Dr. H. A. Childs, Burton R. Jones and N. I. Menzer.

### Native of County

Mr. Emerson's body will be taken to the church at 10 a. m. Tuesday to lie in state until the hour of the funeral services.

Stephen Ray Emerson was a native of Union county, the grandson of pioneer residents of the county. He was born Feb. 25, 1889, the son of Lincoln Jasper Emerson and Verna Shaw Emerson. His father was a builder and it was that occupation Mr. Emerson followed during most of his adult life. He was a grandson of Rev. Steven and Mary Peek Emerson, pioneers of Union county.

Ray Emerson graduated in 1908 from Creston high school and from Central college at Pella in 1910. While attending school he worked with his father in the building trade.

### Widow Survives

He was married, Oct. 13, 1913, at Fairfield, to Meta Florence Raney of Marengo. Mrs. Emerson survives him. They made their home in Creston.

They were the parents of three daughters, who also survive him. They are Jane (Mrs. Fred James) of St. Johns, New Foundland; Rachel (Mrs. Joseph G. Knock) and Francesca (Mrs. Gail Brown), both of Creston. Five grandchildren also survive. They are Nancy and Steven Brown and Jody, Barbara and Karl Knock.

Two brothers, Don and Willard Emerson, both of Creston, and two sisters, Ethel (Mrs. Robert Wilbee) of Don Moines and Geraldine

## Weekend Traffic On Iowa Highways Takes 5 More Lives

By The Associated Press

Five persons were killed in as many traffic accidents on the state's highways over the weekend to bring Iowa's 1953 motor vehicle death toll to 320. The state had 286 fatalities on this date last year.

### The dead:

Mrs. Joan Zuck, 18, Des Moines, was killed Sunday when the car she was driving rolled over several times after apparently striking a curb on Highway 65-69 about four miles north of Indianola.

Mrs. Delbert E. Ream, 27, Ottumwa, was killed Sunday in a car-truck collision on Highway 63 five miles north of Ottumwa as she and her husband were nearing their home after a Canadian vacation trip.

William Kepler, 26, Webster City, was killed Sunday when his car struck a bridge abutment on Highway 20 at the east city limits of Webster City.

Margaret Freeman, 43, Fort Madison, was killed Saturday after her auto left a gravel road two miles south of Wever in Lee County.

Charles Alvis, about 60, near Montrose, was killed Saturday night in the collision of a car in which he was riding and a semi-trailer truck on a gravel road two miles north of Argyle.

## Boost In Debt Limit Shelved for Early Adjournment

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress drove toward afternoon adjournment today after a White House conference decided to postpone action on raising the federal debt limit until next year if possible.

Acting Senate Leader Knowland (R-Calif) and Sen. Millikin (R-Colo), chairman of the senate finance committee, told newsmen after a breakfast meeting with President Eisenhower that every effort would be made to avoid a special session this fall to act on the debt ceiling.

Eisenhower had proposed an immediate 15 billion dollar increase. The house voted approval but the senate finance committee killed the measure last Saturday.

Secretary of Treasury Humphrey, who with Budget Director Dodge sat in on the White House meeting, said later the administration will operate under the limit for the remainder of the year if it is at all possible.

## Heavy Rain Hit North Miss C

Shower Afternoon Mercur

A shower in this afternoon wave of the Creston heavy rainfall parts of north

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There was Kent and Cr afternoon.

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**GO**  
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**RICHARD HAYDN**  
An M.G.M. Picture

75 ● CARTOON ● SPORTS REEL

IT! ● 2 TOP ATTRACTIONS ●

Best Organization Presents  
**QUEEN OF THE ROWNED**  
by Technicolor  
RICHARD OLIVIER  
NATIONAL RELEASE

SHERRIDAN  
HAYDN  
**Take Me To Town**  
color by Technicolor

**LARK DRIVE-IN** ★  
**Theatre**  
ONLINE ROAD AT HIGHWAY 25  
at 7:00 P.M. — First show starts at dusk.  
PHONE 178

W A MINING TOWN!

**WOMAN of the NORTH COUNTRY**

RUSSEY CAMERON AGAR STORM  
CARROL NAISH JIM DAVIS RAY C. TIPPET

**TRUCOLOR** BY CONSOLIDATED

Tweet Tweet Tweety and Sports  
r 12 Free! ● Kiddies Free Playground  
rts ● Free Pony Ride ● Croquet Court

Starts 11 p.m. - "Mummy's Ghost"

Come as you are — Your car is your theatre ★  
- SUN. and MON. — 2 BIG DAYS

SOBS of GUFFAWS!

Dick HAYMES in

**ALL ASHORE**

RAY McDONALD PEGGY RYAN BARBARA BATES

COOL CARTOON AND COMEDY

pioneers of Union county.  
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**Widow Survives**  
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They were the parents of three daughters, who also survive him. They are Jane (Mrs. Fred James) of St. Johns, New Foundland; Rachel (Mrs. Joseph G. Knock) and Francesca (Mrs. Gail Brown), both of Creston. Five grandchildren also survive. They are Nancy and Steven Brown and Jody, Barbara and Karl Knock.

Two brothers, Don and Willard Emerson, both of Creston, and two sisters, Ethel (Mrs. Robert Wilbee) of Des Moines and Geraldine (Mrs. George Atwood) of Wakefield, Ia. Another sister, Mrs. Basil Wise of Creston preceded him in death by only four days. She died suddenly at her home here last Tuesday.

**A Builder**  
Mr. Emerson became a partner with Guy F. Swartz in a construction business in Creston in 1912 and continued in that association until 1925. In that year he formed the Emerson Construction company with his brother, Don, and continued in the firm for 27 years. Among the many structures they built in Creston were the Methodist and Episcopal churches, the Agnew building, the Matilda Gibson memorial library, the telephone company building and many

(Continued on Page 7)

**Maude Tilford, 68,  
Dies in Creston**

**CORNING**—Mrs. Maude Tilford, 68, of Creston, died Sunday at 10:40 a. m. in a Creston nursing home.

Funeral services will be Tuesday at 2:30 p. m. in the Methodist church, Creston, with Rev. A. P. Keast officiating. Interment will be in the Cromwell cemetery. The body is at the Roland funeral home, Corning, and will be taken to the Methodist church Tuesday where it will lie in state from 1 until 2:30.

Mrs. Tilford's husband preceded her in death in 1940. Surviving are a son, Loren, of Corning; a daughter, Mrs. Mildred Kerr of Richmond, Calif.; a sister, Mrs. Minnie Evering of Mt. Ayr; and three brothers, Arthur Stone of Anita, Charles Stone of Mt. Pleasant, and John Stone of San Bernardino, Calif.

drove toward afternoon adjournment today after a White House conference decided to postpone action on raising the federal debt limit until next year if possible.

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Eisenhower had proposed an immediate 15 billion dollar increase. The house voted approval but the senate finance committee killed the measure last Saturday.

Secretary of Treasury Humphrey, who with Budget Director Dodge sat in on the White House meeting, said later the administration will operate under the present 275 billion dollar debt limit for the remainder of the year if it is at all possible.

"We will make every effort to comply with the demand of the senate finance committee to postpone the necessity for action by it as long as we can and until the next regular session of congress if possible," Humphrey said in a prepared statement.

Knowland and Millikin told newsmen they are hopeful a special session can be avoided.

**Seven Die As  
Fire Sweeps  
Hotel In Texas**

**TEXARKANA, Tex.** (AP) — Seven persons perished early today when fire swept through a second-story hotel on the Texas side of this border city's business district.

Four other persons were injured, two critically, as the flames gutted the hotel.

Mrs. B. Baker, owner of the 12-room hotel, and two other persons escaped without injury.

Fireman Ivy Dukes said five of the bodies were found clustered around a window in one of the rooms. He said the victims apparently suffocated.

Dukes said the lower part of each bedroom window was sealed off by a window fan. He said there was evidence that the five people had tried unsuccessfully to rip away the blind to get at the upper window before they died.

The window was still closed.

**'Baby Brother', 80,  
Saves 3 Sisters**

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — An 80-year-old "baby brother" saved his three sisters, aged 81, 82 and 86, when fire broke out in their home today. Frank Norton roused and led to safety Miss Celia Norton, 81, Miss Elizabeth Norton, 82, and Mrs. Mary Burrell, 86, after he heard an explosion and found the kitchen on fire.

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the date for preliminary hearing. Dillon was held in jail without bond.

A coroner's jury reported Mrs. Dillon "came to her death feloniously by means of strangulation at the hands of her husband." The coroner said her larynx had been crushed.

Sheriff Thorat All said Mrs. Dillon's partly clad body was found at the foot of the bed. Her face was bruised and there was a jagged cut on her arm. Two nearly empty whisky bottles were in the room and the floor was strewn with shattered glass.

Stockburger was found slumped unconscious in a corner, the sheriff said. The hardwareman and the attractive woman had registered at the hotel as Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Stockburger, the sheriff added.

Authorities were summoned to the Tangney Hotel when the desk clerk, Marvin Engle, 17, reported a fight in progress in the third floor room. The sheriff said Dillon ran from the hotel while authorities were en route and was arrested later when he reappeared and asked for a room.

**Frank C. Doty, 78,  
 Of Macksburg, Dies**

MACKSBURG—Frank C. Doty, 78, a lifetime resident of the Macksburg vicinity, died at the Winterset hospital Saturday morning. His death followed a 24-hour illness.

Funeral arrangements have not been made pending word from a daughter who is an army nurse serving in France.

Mr. Doty, a retired farmer, was 78 years old on July 24. He had farmed in the Macksburg community for many years but had retired.

Surviving are his widow, Besie; three daughters, Mrs. Mary Hall of Iowa City, Mrs. Lois Jorgensen of Ankeny, and Capt. Irene Doty, an army nurse now in France; six grandchildren, three great grandchildren; a brother, Jake Doty of Benton, Kans.; and a sister, Mrs. Delilah Pyle of Albuquerque, N. M.

His body is at the Watts funeral home at Lorimor.

**30 Survive Crash  
 Of Air France  
 Plane In Turkey**

PARIS (AP)—An Air France Con-

tested hearing in Union county district court here before Judge H. J. Kittleman, Aug. 1, 1953. Plaintiff's petition declared they were married at Jackson, Minn., Oct. 27, 1948, and were later divorced. They remarried in October 1952, and lived together until June 1953. They have two children. Plaintiff charged defendant with cruel and inhuman treatment. Decree awarded her a divorce, custody of the children, and \$60 per month for child support.

**Ray Emerson . . .**

(Continued from Page 1)

homes.

During those years he served four years as a member of the Creston school board, eight years (1931-1939) as mayor of Creston, as a member of the board of the First Congregational church, as president of the Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary club, the Crestmoor Golf club, and the Creston Country club. He was a member of the Elks lodge here and was a 32nd degree Mason.

**State Senator**

Mr. Emerson was honored by his fellow builders in Iowa with the presidency of the Master Builders of Iowa and with the national vice presidency of the General Contractors of America.

In 1940 Mr. Emerson was elected to the Iowa state senate from the fifth district, which includes Union, Ringgold and Decatur counties. He served one term and was appointed to the Iowa state highway commission, on which he served two terms.

Mr. Emerson was president of the Iowa State Savings bank here for a number of years but, after suffering a stroke in 1947, gave up the presidency and became chairman of the board of the bank, a position he held at the time of his death.

**Ike Takes Off to  
 Meet With Governors**

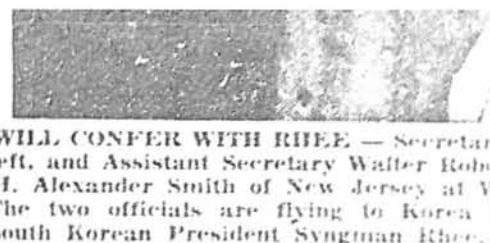
WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower took off from National airport at 12:37 p. m. today for Seattle where he will attend the governors' conference.

Gov. Frank Lausche of Ohio who will name the late Sen. Robert A. Taft's successor joined the presidential party for the flight.

The president took off shortly after attending memorial services for Sen. Taft.

**Visitors from St.**

GREENFIELD — Mr. and Mrs.



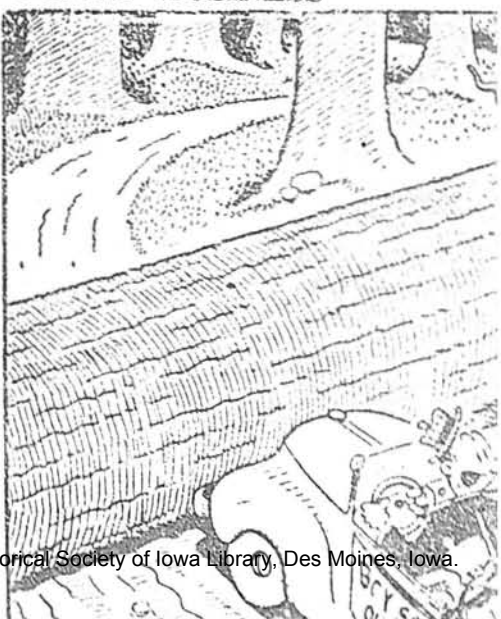
**WILL CONFER WITH RHEE** — Secretary Rhee, left, and Assistant Secretary Walter Robert H. Alexander Smith of New Jersey at W. The two officials are flying to Korea to meet South Korean President Syngman Rhee.

**CARNIVAL**



**"Better make that Businessmen's from the Better Business"**

**FUNNY BUSINESS**



# UNION COUNTY IOWA HISTORY



UNION COUNTY  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
INC., 1966

Written by the people of Union County and Compiled by the Union County Historical Society



## DICK EMERSONS

Rev. Stephen L. Emerson and Mary L. Emerson were married October 17, 1852 at Licking County, Ohio. They moved to Union County in 1856. To this union were born four sons: Willie George, Ralph, Lincoln Jasper, Stephen, and three daughters: Jenny, Lea and Chattie. They resided in Creston at 408 North Mulberry.

Lincoln Jasper married Verna Shaw and to this union were born Ray, Ethel, Donald, Jean, Ellen and Willard. They resided at 410 North Mulberry and Lincoln Jasper was a builder.

Lincoln Donald married Hannah James on June 16, 1916 and they had two children, Hannah Beryl and Lincoln Richard. Don and Hannah resided at 1200 North Sycamore Street for 43 years. Hannah died in 1966 and Don in 1972. Beryl married Patrick Hannan, Jr. They had four children and resided in Kansas City, Missouri. Pat died in May 1980 and Beryl resides in Kansas City. They both graduated from Creston High. Lincoln Richard attended Irving Grade School and graduated from Creston High School in 1936, then attended the Lincoln Flying School in Lincoln, Nebraska. He married Vera Farnsworth in September, 1941 in Buffalo, New York. To this union were born three sons. Donald Richard attended all Creston Schools and graduated from Iowa State University. He is presently Director of Alumni Affairs at the University of Colorado in Boulder. He married Sally Saunders of Iowa City and they have two sons, Matthew and Christopher. Lincoln Jeffrey attended all grade schools and graduated from Creston High School and Southwestern Community College. He is married to the former Joann Fine of Maryville, Missouri, who is a teacher in the Creston High School. Jeff is owner and operator of the Emerson Construction Company in Creston, Iowa. Joel Ray attended all



Richard, Jeffrey, Vera, Dick, and Joel Emerson.

grades and graduated from high school here. He is a graduate of the University of Nebraska and George Washington University and is presently a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps as an anesthetist at Portsmouth, Virginia. He married the former Merri Kay Mink of Creston. They have two children, Shannon and J.J.

Richard (Dick) served in the ETO during World War II. After returning to Creston he operated the Emerson Construction Company and the Emerson Kitchen and Bath Center for the past 35 years. Landmarks that were built by the Emerson Construction Company are: Matilda J. Gibson Library, Creston Mutual Telephone Company, First Methodist Church, Episcopal Church, Eagles Building, Agnew Building, and many homes in the rural and town. Dick was the first Judicial Magistrate appointed in Union County and has served in that capacity for eight years. Dick is a past president of the Creston Rotary Club; Blue Grass Shrine Club and American Legion. He was also a member of the Creston School Board, Za Ga Zig Shrine and is a member of the Methodist Church and a 25 year member of Crestmoor Golf Club.

Vera graduated from Creston High School and attended Junior College. She is a past president of the Bancroft History Assembly, Creston Adult Education, Women's Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce and Board member, United Fund, Red Cross Bloodmobile. She is currently an officer of the Republican Women, Member and on the Board of Methodist Church. She is an active partner in the business and a kitchen designer and member of the American Institute of Kitchen Dealers. At present she is a part-time Housing Aide for Union County through the Iowa State University Midcrest Exten-

sion Service. The Emersons resided at 1015 North Spruce for 23 years but presently reside at 609 North Cedar.

Our years in Creston have been mostly pleasant and rewarding. We have seen a few changes over the years. We have purchased our cemetery lots at Graceland so this is undoubtedly the "end of the trail" for us. Vera Emerson

## STEPHEN L. EMERSONS

Jasper Priest Emerson<sup>6</sup> (Stephen<sup>5</sup>, James<sup>4</sup>, Stephen<sup>3</sup>, Stephen<sup>2</sup>, Robert of Haverhill<sup>1</sup> (1809-1887) and wife Eliza (McCamy) are buried in the Afton Cemetery. They came from Licking Co., Ohio in 1857 four years after their son, Stephen L., had built a log cabin near 12-Mile Creek and returned for his family. They were homesteaders. Jasper built the first frame house in Highland Twp. and was known for the looms, spinning wheels and beautiful axe handles he made. As Justice of the Peace he settled quarrels, "cried" public sales, and performed marriages until son Stephen was ordained as a Christian minister. Other children were: Nancy Deuel later Barber, 1835; Lucretia Wickham, 1837; George W. Ca. 1839; William J. Ca. 1843.

Stephen Lafayette Emerson<sup>7</sup> (1830-1906) was a farmer and circuit-riding preacher. In his early log cabin he had a Seth Thomas clock. One day when his wife, Mary Ann (Peck) was alone with the children the latch-string was pulled and several tall Indians filed in. Hiding her fright, Mary Ann offered them seats which they solemnly took. All were silent for some time until the clock struck when the Indians burst into excited talk and laughter and soon left. They were Pottawattamie Indians who returned annually to visit family graves along 12-Mile Creek, hunt and hold contests with the settlers. Their Chief, John Green, left his son, John White, with Stephen's family to go to school. He learned rapidly but soon was called away to replace as chief his father who had died. Children of Stephen and Mary Ann were: Ralph W., 1853; Willis George, 1855; Jennie Eckert later Hayden, 1858; Mary Chattie Smith, 1861; Lincoln Jasper, 1863; Lydia Stone 1866; and Stephen S., 1869.

Lincoln Jasper Emerson<sup>8</sup> (1863-1919) was a stogie joiner framing large structures such as churches or barns with pegs instead of nails. One was the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Creston. His wife was Verna (Shaw) (1866-1931). She knew her Bible so well that she filled in when the



Stephen Ray Emerson

Baptist minister was gone. Lincoln seldom attended church except when she preached but he was a good man well-liked by all. Their children: Stephen Ray (1889-1953); Ethel Wilbee (1892-1959); Jean Wise (1893-1953); Donald L. (1895-1973); Ellen Davis (1900-1921); Willard (Buck) (1902) and Geraldine Atwood (1905).

Stephen Ray Emerson<sup>9</sup> and English-Drama teacher Meta Florence Raney (1885-1959) were married in Fairfield, Ia. 13 Oct. 1913. Ray always

thereafter claimed 13 as his lucky number headed the Emerson Brothers Construction which built many homes in the 1920s as well as Congregational and Episcopal Churches. He Mayor of Creston for 3 terms, State Senator terms and a State Highway Commissioner years. He was President and then Chairman of Board of the Iowa State Savings Bank. He was liked and respected and he had a great sense of humor. Meta only taught in the High School for years but many of her students kept in touch. They know how she had inspired them. Ray v. 32nd degree Mason, Rotarian, Master Builder America and one of the Four Horseman of Meta was a P.E.O., member of Bancroft, Gil Board member and they both belonged to the Gray Mare bridge club. Their children: Frank Brown (1915-1958); Rachael Knock; and James who has fond memories of growing up in Creston in the 1920s and 30s. by: Jane Emerson Jones

## T. STEPHEN EMERSON

Emerson is among the earliest American families has been traced to various localities in England. Records show that a coat-of-arms was granted 1535 to Radus Emerson.



Four Sons of T. Stephen Emerson — John, George and Jasper.

Several generations later Thomas, wife, and 10 children left England. Tradition says they came in the ship "Elizabeth Ann" in Records of England show the family was non-formists and probably had difficulty getting Reference to Thomas as a baker in Massachusetts records may mean he assumed the character of an artisan to make removal from England less difficult. Granted 80 acres of land in 1638 at Ipswich, Massachusetts.

Early March, 1697, Abnake Indians descended on the outlying homes of the Village of Haverhill in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. They killed some of the inhabitants; took captives and burned homes. Thomas's grandson and family were captured. Hannah Emerson Dustin, her baby and Nurse Neff were captured. For reasons unknown to the Indians grabbed the baby by the feet and dashed head against a tree. April, 1697, another child named Sam asked a brave to show how he killed swiftly; the brave obliged. After all were slain captives obtained tomahawks, killed 10 Indians and loaded what they would need in one canoe; sailed. At dawn Hannah returned to camp and saved the 10 Indians. Having been given up for dead was great rejoicing when the captives returned. Hannah traveled to Boston, petitioned the Court for a bounty to help them rebuild and finish their home. Hannah was awarded 25 pounds. Mary and Sam each received 12 pounds 6 shillings and Hannah was proclaimed a heroine.

Five generations later great-great-great-grandfather Stephen Emerson, born 1782 at Wear, Hampshire, married Elizabeth Boynton, born at Andover, Massachusetts. He served 40 years in the unpopular war of 1812. With 6 children moved to Licking county, Ohio in 1815. Trip days; with only 75¢, no land for sale, they secured on a large tract of land. She died 1854, he died 1899. Great-great grandfather Jasper Priest 1809, Wear, New Hampshire. Married Mary McCamy (McCamy) who was born 1807,