

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Ellsworth, Ernest Orlando Senator

Represented Hardin County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 29 Nov 1873 Iowa Falls, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities Mason

C. Profession Banker

4. Church membership Congregational

5. Sessions served 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th General Assemblies 1929, 1931, 1933, 1935

6. Public Offices

A. Local _____

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 26 Dec 1945 Iowa Falls, Iowa; buried Iowa Falls Cemetery, Iowa Falls, Iowa

8. Children _____

9. Names of parents Eugene S. and Harriet Ellsworth

10. Education _____

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information Republican

- He was actively identified with the construction of the Des Moines, Iowa Falls and Northern railroad from Iowa Falls to Des Moines
- Military service - World War I - trained boys called into service from Hardin County, Iowa.
- He gave large sums of money to Ellsworth College, Ellsworth, Iowa, the new Ellsworth hospital, the new city hall and many other private charities
- He conserved the family estate and was one of the top 3 wealthiest men in Iowa.

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
-	<i>Iowa Official Register 1933-1934</i>		
-	<i>Obituary - The Eldora Herald Ledger Eldora, Iowa</i>		
	<i>Thurs. Jan. 3, 1946, p. 1, col. 4</i>		
-	<i>Hardin County Iowa 1981, p. 61-63</i>		

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tions as well as test flights in
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of students for solo and advanced
phases of flying.

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siderable value to the students tak-
ing training. They will be able to
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course of flying without having to
wait the uncertain arrival of
inspectors from distant points. It
will mean a saving in time and
money. Also, for students prepar-
ing for an examination, it will be
a psychological boost to have the
anxiety of "waiting around"
eliminated.

BROWN BACK AS SECRETARY OF CIVIC CLUB

**W. K. Bramwell Named
Head Community Chest
Succeeds D. W. Dickinson**

Members of the board of di-
rectors of the Community club
met Friday night. Dinner was
served prior to the business ses-
sion at DeBaggio's Grill. Bob
Dornsbach, president of the board,
presided.

The board accepted the resig-
nation of D. W. Dickinson, county
attorney, as chairman of the Com-
munity War Chest. W. K. Bram-
well was appointed to fulfill the
chairmanship of the newly re-
organized Community Chest. Guy
Jones also tendered his resignation
as secretary, to be replaced by R.
R. Brown, insurance representa-
tive, recently discharged from the
U. S. Navy.

M. Z. Albers, county superin-
tendent of schools, appeared be-
fore the board to speak in behalf
of the Greater Iowa Development
program. Albers pointed out the
program's desire to interest all
high schools in entering the essay
contest. The purpose of the con-
test is to better acquaint Iowans
with the unlimited industrial,
cultural, agricultural, recreational
and future living advantages that
Iowa offers. The contest will be
conducted during February and
March, 1946. This contest repre-
sents one phase of Iowa's attempt
to present itself in the "spotlight"
nationally in bidding for postwar
expansion. Similar programs are
underway in other aggressive
states.

Other business transacted at the
meeting included the approval of
expenses pertaining to the holiday
programs.

Members of the board of di-
rectors include Bob Dornsbach,
president; John Wood, L. L.
Scott, Bud Smith, and

medical service plan, a non-profit
insurance service which will work
in harmony with the Blue Cross
hospital service.

The year 1945 marked the pass-
ing of Dr. W. E. Marsh of El-
dora, and Dr. J. F. R. Brubaker
of Hubbard, both members of the
50-year club of the state medical
society, also the death of Dr. B.
W. Purcell of Iowa Falls, and the
retirement of Dr. C. M. Wray
and Dr. O. M. Pagelson of Iowa
Falls, both veteran physicians and
surgeons.

Death Takes Former State Representative

Ernest O. Ellsworth, former re-
publican state representative from
Hardin county from 1929-36,
died of a heart attack Wednesday
evening as he entered his home in
Iowa Falls. He was born in Iowa
Falls, Nov. 29, 1873, the son of
Eugene S. and Harriet Ellsworth.

His passing marks the close of
the activities of both father and

their lifetime contributed greatly
in both spirit and material to the
development of Iowa Falls and
Hardin county.

Mr. Ellsworth lived a quiet life
and was adverse to any publicity
in his gifts of large sums of
money to Ellsworth college, the
new Ellsworth hospital, the new
City Hall and many other private
charities.

His father died in 1907 and
since that time E. O. Ellsworth
has been in charge of the estate,
which it is said, he conserved
with such ability that he could be
counted as one of the top three
to five most wealthy men in Iowa.

He is survived only by a niece,
Mrs. Marcia Middleton, of Bever-
ly Hills, Calif.

Private funeral services were
held Monday afternoon, attended
by members of St. Elmo's com-
mandery. Among those attending
from Eldora were H. S. Ham-
mond, Edward Nuckolls and A. M.
McCracken. Services were in
charge of Rev. N. I. Baxter,
pastor of the Congregational
church. Internment in the family
lot in the Iowa Falls cemetery.

DEPUTY 25 YEARS

F. H. Har, deputy sheriff of
Marshall county since Jan. 1,
1921, and well known in Hardin
county, has resigned his office ef-
fective at once. He has served
under both the republican and
democrat sheriffs and is said to
be the oldest deputy sheriff in
continuous service in Iowa.

Eldora Has Its Share - - -

Speaking of the Weather!

Weather Summaries for 1945
for Eldora and surrounding area for
1945 was 46.9 degrees or slightly
under the long time average.

Had it not been for a very

HOLDS SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

Evening Sessions Open to Farmers and Business Men Topics of Interest to Both

The seventh farm evening
vocational agricultural department
of the Eldora schools will open
next Tuesday evening, Jan. 8,
starting at 8:30 o'clock and con-
tinuing until 9:30, in the voca-
tional agricultural room.

Meetings will be conducted on
a discussion basis and will be fol-
lowed by a lunch and a film. The
sessions are open to farmers and
business men and it is urged that
attendance begin with the first
meeting. Marvin G. Rovang, in-
structor, will be in charge.

Tuesday night Francis Kutish,
editor of the Iowa Farm Econ-
omy, and extension economist of
Iowa State college, will lead a
discussion on feed demands and
general price outlook for farm
products in 1946.

The general subject for the
farm course is Livestock Manage-
ment and Soil Conservation. Dates
and topics as outlined by the
evening school council are as fol-
lows: Jan. 8, 1946 price outlook;
Jan. 15, feeds and feeding; Jan.
22, production testing in hogs;
Jan. 29, market grades in live-
stock.

Feb. 5, fertilizers; Feb. 12,
building war torn soils; Feb. 11,
erosion controls; Feb. 26, pasture
improvement.

March 5, hay production prob-
lems; March 12, feeding qualities
of fertilized grains; March 22,
farmers and merchants dinner.

Smith Edits Daily At Hobbs, N. M.

Word has been received that A.
Earl Smith, former advertising
man for the H-L, has located for
the winter at Hobbs, N. M., where
he is editor of a new daily just
starting in an oil boom town, only
16 years old and having a popula-
tion of 16,000. More oil wells
coming in all the time. He and
Mrs. Smith have a two-room
apartment and are enjoying the
hot days and the cool nights. His
address is c-o The Army Store,
Hobbs, N. M.

noon and continued till 17 inches
had fallen; winds rose to gale
to far below zero.

1945 may well be remembered

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**HARDIN COUNTY
IOWA
1981**



Written by the People of Hardin County
and Compiled by the Hardin County
Historical Society



National Guard at Iowa Falls 1912

paved. Sewer, water electricity and telephones are taken for granted. Churches and schools were built and rebuilt. Today we are told that some of our school buildings are not needed — a smaller school population!

In 1934 a swimming pool was built in the tourist park on Rocksylvania Ave. This was formerly Cobb's Grove, but today known as Jones park. In 1957 an Olympic size pool replaced the aging pool of W.P.A. days.

Many parks keep Iowa Falls a part of the river green belt. The elk, deer and buffalo left the Ellsworth Zoological Park on the south side and is now used by the public and especially by scouts. Oak park is near by and along the bluffs from Oak to the Assembly park is a narrow strip giving a view of the river. Chief Blackhawk reigns on the south and the indian carving by Peter Toth stands guard on the west. Foster park along the river on the westside was given to be left in mostly natural state but is grass and a few trees today. It is much used for picnic groups. There is a wayside park west on Highway 20 and a small plot on Highway 20 north and a few neighborhood parks. The former Baptist Assembly grounds has tennis courts and picnic facilities. River and across from it makes a good place to view waterfalls. Rock Run park is across north from Jones park — the stone house built for the Pratt family was torn down and the stones used in Wild Cat Glen bridge.

West of Union Cemetery is I.A. Nichols' bird and flower refuge along Elk Run creek. It was willed to the care of the County Conservation Commission. It is much used by the school, college and scouts as an outdoor classroom.

Anyone coming back to Iowa Falls after fifty years or so, would find it quite changed. In fact if you have lived here all that time it is hard to recognize places familiar in the early days. Once, more than 20 passenger trains stopped in Iowa Falls, now only a few freight trains. The early fords for crossing the river have been replaced by numerous bridges; all since the 20's by descendants of Levi Welden, who was a builder himself.

The early grist mill and other mills of pioneer days are gone; The hydro electric dam built in 1925 has covered all and deepened the river.

In early days a place to tie up the horses in town was a problem. Today it is parking for cars and trucks, motor homes, golf carts, snowmobiles, bicycles, mopeds and motorcycles. And with all these powerful motor equipped vehicles more and more need for ambulances with trained persons to run them — and it is also necessary to keep an updated hospital!

And with more people, more trained police are needed. Since the police and auxiliary are in charge of the ambulances, they must have Emergency Medical training as well as training in police procedures. The North Hardin Sheriff's Emergency squad is composed of a dedicated bunch of volunteers who keep up on rescue techniques, take first aid and Emergency Medical Training. They have a new building at the end of Main Street to store their vehicles and equipment and for training headquarters.

Chamber of Commerce, under various names has been serving the business community since the early 1900's, they recently chose Franklin McCord as secretary. He is a local man with pioneer roots who retired after 20 years in the diplomatic service.

City housekeeping needs many workers to keep

buildings, streets and parks and other city facilities functioning. The street crews get a big vote of approval for snow removal!

Once a community herdsman was hired to graze the town cows during the day. Now a dog catcher and kennels for strays and loose dogs are needed!

The city manager type of government has been used here for many years. Peter Gardener is the present manager. Arnold Anderson is now Mayor and the councilmen are Stan LeMoind, Rocky LaVelle, Cecil King, Don Eggspueller and John C. Welden.

Iowa Falls 'the scenic City', now has a population of 6,152—quite a change since 1851 when Benjamin Talbott and son spent a lonely winter here!

We like Iowa Falls, We hope you do, too! Dorothy Westbury

Progress Club of Iowa Falls

In 1897 a group of local women decided that they needed a study club — and so Progress club was started. During the weekly evening meetings the members followed a vary serious course of study — starting with literature and history. The business meetings were strictly according to parliamentary law. To keep up with everyday events, current events were a part of each session. Refreshments gave a social turn and at times the husbands were invited to elaborate dinners.



Iowa Falls Street Scene

The charter members of the club were Mary Farrington, Kate Bliss, Alice Smith, Janie Pattern, Maggie Cowan, Luna Cowan, Jennie Hesselwood, Gertrude Hay, Mabel Cobb, Lou Welden, Edith Burlingame, Edith Wiggins, Belke Soule, Lillian Carleton, Jennie Shipley and Elsie Nichols.

Lou Welden's daughter, Katherine has been a member the longest with Dorothy Westbury next — she joined in 1932.

As library facilities became available, more clubs formed and later radio and tv spread information and entertainment, the club changed and became mostly a social group with monthly luncheon meetings.

In 1947 a Golden anniversary was held with former members as guests, Charter members attending were Elsie Nichols, an active member and Gertrude Hay of Storm Lake. Mabel Cobb of Washington D.C., sent greetings.

Today the 8 annual meetings, could be a morning coffee, dessert or regular luncheon, or dinner or even a field trip. Members provide programs or out of club groups or individuals are invited to share interests.

In recent years the club has skipped a Christmas gift exchange and instead donated to local projects — Red Cross, Emergency Squad, Car seats for Babies, Exchange students or the new hospital fund.

Members for the 1980-81 year include Jerene Barlow, Dottie Carpenter, Ruth Drotz, Pat Fritz, Betty Goodyear, Verla Gray, Edna Helvig, Kay Helvig, Lucille Helvig, Katie Laneville, Edith LeMoind, Marie McCormick, Doris Miller, Ramona Reed, Norma Richtsmeier, Ferne Schrage, Gladys Sprugel, and Dorothy Westbury. Associate members were Arlene Ackerman, Martha Baker, Ardith Vest, Bess Welden, Iva Welden and Katherine Welden.

Eugene Ellsworth

Eugene Ellsworth was a man to become the guiding force in transforming Iowa Falls from a pioneer community into a center of commerce,

culture and education. He was born on a farm in Wisconsin, in 1848. His father Orlando Ellsworth, was a former scholar and teacher who had moved with his wife from New York to Wisconsin in 1847. Eugene's mother died in 1854. In 1864 Orlando and a second wife and family moved west to Iowa to Hardin County.

They settled in Iowa Falls, perhaps because of its strategic location in the midst of some of the richest undeveloped farmland in the state. It was here, in the heart of a growing and prospering Iowa, that young Eugene would seek his own fortune. He would undertake a career in land speculation and investment that would make him a wealthy man before his thirtieth birthday. Ellsworth spent his life in Iowa Falls, his later years devoted to giving back to the community which he felt had given him his start. The next generation would find his son, Ernest, attempting to continue the successes of his father.

When they arrived in Iowa Falls, the town already boasted numerous stores, a log-cabin schoolhouse, a Quaker meeting house, a saw mill and several livery barns, one of which drew Orlando Ellsworth's attention. Attracted by what seemed to be a lucrative business, Ellsworth purchased a half-interest in a stable. The deal included two teams, and 16 year old Eugene was soon enlisted as a driver.

During his tenure behind the reins, Eugene began to absorb the knowledge upon which he would base his future career. A good portion of his riders were potential land buyers in search of prime acreage, and Eugene listened and learned. He learned of Eastern money lenders and the plans for railroad extensions northwest from Marshalltown and Ackley into Hardin County. Ellsworth realized that he was in on the ground floor of a great land boom. Some of the richest, blackest soil on earth lay waiting to produce its first crops. He began devouring materials on land sale, and soon realized that if he too were to deal in land, he must have capital. This was not long in coming, The railroad came.

The railroad brought with it unprecedented commerce and began changing the shape of the land. Farmers in the area no longer had to drive days to ship crops to market. And for Ellsworth, not yet 20, the presence of the railroad meant that he could open a shipping business for trade with distant outlets. Once again, he was making the rounds of Hardin County farmland with investors, only this time he too was buying. He interrupted his busy schedule for a stint at business college in Dubuque.

In 1872 Eugene married Harriet Northrup. Two children, a son Ernest and a daughter Caroline, were born of the union. Ernest who never married, would in later years manage the cumbersome Ellsworth estate.

By the end of 1872, Ellsworth was advertising for sale (at prices ranging from \$12 to \$35 per acre) 130 parcels of prime farmland in Hardin and neighboring Franklin County. Lack of capital was no longer a worry, due to the success of Ellsworth's shipping company.



Metropolitan Opera House

The following year, Ellsworth enlarged his territory to include Wright County and added a loan service in his land company. He was now an agent for 80,000 acres in a three-county area and controlled more than an estimated \$30,000 worth of mortgage loans. And, as the story would have it, he always sold at a profit.

In 1874 Ellsworth was elected mayor of Iowa Falls and served for ten years. During this time he took a partner, Louis Jones, and founded the Ellsworth and Jones Land Company of Iowa Falls, with branch offices in Chicago, Boston and Crookstone, Minnesota. The company naturally had many dealings with the railroad. Recognizing Ellsworth's finesse in handling land transactions the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern Railroad Appointed him secretary of the Iowa Falls and Northwestern Land Company, primarily to supervise the sale of town lots springing up along the new line. This gave him the opportunity to acquire land in other Midwestern states. A situation that increased his already sizable fortune.

In 1889 after the death of a well-to-do friend, who had never taken the time to enjoy the fruits of his labor, Ellsworth devoted the bulk of his money and energy to his adopted hometown — Iowa Falls. The most lasting of his interests was the founding of Ellsworth College. With the help of John Tobin of Fort Dodge and matching funds from the citizens of Iowa Falls, The first buildings were completed in 1891. The school named "Ellsworth College" in honor of its chief benefactor. Ellsworth continued his financial support of the college. He bought large farms in Emmet and Hancock Counties as an endowment fund.

Ellsworth's philanthropy touched other parts of Iowa Falls as well. In 1899, he built the Metropolitan Opera House. From 1900-1904 he contributed \$40,000 toward the Ellsworth Hospital and an undisclosed sum for the public library. One of his long-envisioned projects was a continuous parkway along the banks of Iowa River. His dream was about to become a reality when Ellsworth died in 1907 at the age of 59.

Eugene Ellsworth's son Ernest took over his father's philanthropy work until his own death in 1945.

History of Ellsworth College

In March of 1890, Professor John Tobin came to Iowa Falls from Fort Dodge to begin a commercial college. Citizens of Iowa Falls got behind his efforts by raising \$3,400 and securing the land for the first building.

The college was named in honor of Eugene S. Ellsworth, a prominent citizen who provided much financial aid for the building and growth of the college.

Classes began in September of 1890 with fifty students enrolled. The first courses offered were commercial, normal, academic, and higher English. At the end of the first term, the enrollment reached 122 students.

The first building was Old Main, completed in 1890. East and west wings were added in 1892. Professor Tobin left the community at that time and C.W. Lyon became president of Ellsworth College.



Ellsworth College
Iowa Falls

President Lyon was at Ellsworth from 1892 to 1899. During this time, the Ellsworth Conservatory of Music came into existence. It was headed by Dr. A.E. Bullock, a renowned pianist and singer.

In 1900, E.S. Ellsworth provided funds for the construction of a men's dormitory, North Hall. He had a goal of establishing a four-year college and provided generous donations for many later building additions.

Mr. Ellsworth was influential in hiring Ido R. Meyer as president of the college. During Meyer's administration Ellsworth College became a four-year college. A Bachelor of Arts degree was offered, stated accreditation was obtained, and its scholastic work was transferable to any private or public college in the state.

In 1906, President Meyer initiated a normal course offered during the summer. During his administration Caroline Hall (a women's dormitory), the first college library, and a heating plant was added to the campus. Not all of these improvements were made by E.S. Ellsworth, although he contributed generously to their financing. A \$10,000 grant from the Carnegie Foundation was received for construction of the library, and residents of the community contributed \$70,000 toward building the women's dormitory.

In 1907 E.S. Ellsworth died. In his will he stipulated that two of his farms, comprising 4,992 acres, be sold for not less than \$345,000 and that the proceeds from their sales be invested in United States bonds and state and municipal bonds or first mortgages on Iowa or Minnesota farm land as an endowment for Ellsworth College. One half of the land was sold, but the remainder was put under the jurisdiction of college Board of Trustees and rental from the land still serves as the college endowment.

The college thrived as a four-year institution until the early 1920's when it suffered financial difficulties due to less income from its farms and declining enrollment. With the help of the late E.S. Ellsworth's son, E.O. Ellsworth, the financial dilemma was resolved; however, the question of Ellsworth's future remained.

During 1927, there was some speculation that the college would become a part of Iowa State College, Ames, or that it would be sold to the Missouri Lutheran Synod to become a church college. Late in the year alumni and townspeople again decided to help the school, and \$12,000 was raised for the 1927-28 school year's operating expense. Faltering enrollment made it necessary to close both dormitories and curtail the college dining service.

In 1928, the citizens of Iowa Falls voted to change Ellsworth to a public junior college, assuring the future of the institution by providing tax money. The first tax money arrived in April of 1928. In the summer of the same year, the Board of Trustees entered into a 99 year agreement with the Board of Education of the local public school district, and the school was under the dual jurisdiction of the local school district and its own Board of Trustees.

Ellsworth College functioned adequately during the depression years. From 1930 to 1939, Sheridan R. Jones was dean of the college as well as an outstanding instructor in the field of biology. His devotion to Ellsworth College and work instituting the museum will long be remembered.

The poor condition of most of the college buildings and small enrollment plagued Ellsworth during the World War II years, and in 1945 another crisis had to be met. At that time there was some sentiment that the college be closed. The building were in severe disrepair, and land left by E.S. Ellsworth had been bringing in less than two dollars per acre rental in recent years.

President of the Board of Trustees, Ira A. Nichols, again led the fight for the life of the college. Between 1946 and 1949 the college heating plant was remodeled, Caroline Hall was virtually resurrected from twenty years of disuse, North Hall was remodeled into apartments, and \$16,000 was raised by private subscriptions.

The insurance on Old Main was raised to the maximum of \$70,000, and a new contract was entered between college trustees and the Iowa Falls Board of Education. By terms of this contract, the school board had to operate a junior college. The Board of Trustees was to oversee the endowment lands, be responsible for the care of the college buildings and grounds, and turn over to the school board a certain percentage of the rental income from the land endowment.

On September 1, 1949, the college seemed to be back on its feet and over one hundred students enrolled for a new term. Then at 4:33 A.M. on Saturday, September 5, a bolt of lightning touched off a fire which destroyed Old Main, the heart of the

college. By 8:30 a.m., the building was totally destroyed.

This time the faculty led the way. They decided to continue with classes. They met in the college library and in the parlors and Sunday School rooms of a local church.

Opinion in the community concerning the future of Ellsworth was divided, and for a time during the fall of 1949 talk about closing the college was prevalent. By January, 1950, the situation had reached a critical stage, and once more the townspeople were called on to register their opinion concerning the future of their school. A questionnaire was circulated to residents of the community asking them to indicate their preference concerning the continuation of the college, and if so, whether or not they wished the school to continue on its old site. Those polled overwhelmingly registered their approval of the old school on the old site.

For each dissenter concerning the future of the college, a myriad of supporters in the community came forward. The board decided to completely remodel Caroline Hall. A clarification of the will of E.S. Ellsworth was declared, and the contract between the Ellsworth College Board of Trustees and the Iowa Falls Board of Education was rewritten. The college farms were improved and the newly remodeled Caroline Hall was now the main college building with classrooms, laboratories, offices, and lunch rooms for college and public school pupils. In the summer of 1950, feeling that his job was accomplished, Ira A. Nichols left the college board.

During the 1950's the enrollment climbed gradually, and in 1958 and 1959 a huge subscription drive for a new main building was initiated. The drive was masterminded by a citizen's committee composed of local business, professional, and educational leaders — people who felt the future of the college deserved consideration. Their first action was to promote, by their active support, the drive in the state legislature for more funds for junior college. Then they set about considering the need for more facilities at Ellsworth. This ended in a decision to conduct a fund drive for a new main building at the college. Present needs, future needs, and community needs were all considered, and the college faculty, Board of Education, Board of Trustees, the building committee of the citizen's committee, and representatives of the State Department of Public Instruction worked with the architects in deciding what was to go into the new structure.

The raising of the necessary \$350,000 by private subscription was, however, the real hurdle, and through the local newspaper and public meetings the committee launched its successful fund drive. The citizen's of the community responded to the appeal with still another example of loyal support for their college.

The official dedication of New Main took place on Sunday, April 9, 1961, with Governor Norman Erbe giving the keynote speech. The new building houses an auditorium, music classroom with attached practice room, a student lounge, a faculty lounge, main offices, a cafeteria, and a library.

Other changes have been made: In the winter of 1961 the dean's house on the campus was sold and removed from the campus; old North Hall was torn down in the summer of 1961; the old library, rededicated Bullock-Jones Hall, has been remodeled upstairs for classrooms and during the summer of 1961 the first floor rooms were remodeled to house the business department and more recently remodeled again for the English department.

In 1963, Ellsworth Community College completed a self-study and became accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools for the first time.

As enrollments increased, the need for housing also increased, and in 1964 the Ellsworth College Trustees constructed Florence Wall Residence Hall which provides housing for over 200 women students.

On March 19, 1968, at a joint meeting of the involved boards and with members of the Ellsworth Community College Board of Trustees present, the authority to operate Ellsworth Community College was transferred from the Iowa Falls Community School District to Merged Area VI Community College, effective July 1, 1968.

After the merger with Area VI Community College District, the superintendent and business offices were located in Marshalltown, Iowa. The community colleges in Marshalltown and Iowa Falls became dual colleges of the newly formed district, although each college has retained its individual flavor and identity.

Merged Area VI Community College District is also known as the Iowa Valley Community College District.

Both the Marshalltown and Ellsworth Community College share the same superintendent and other administrative staff, and each campus has a dean with a staff of administrators.

The assessed valuation of Area VI is \$2,423,734.384.

Upon entering the state area school system the college in 1969 applied for a second North-Central evaluation and was subsequently re-accredited.

As enrollments continued to grow, the need to provide new physical facilities also grew, particularly in the area of career education.

In 1969 McClure Hall was opened. This building was built by the Ellsworth College Board of Trustees, but was later sold to the Iowa Valley Community College District and became the first building on the Ellsworth campus owned by the District. It provided air-conditioned facilities for the career education instruction and general purpose classrooms.

The Mathematics-Science Building, the first building constructed by the District was completed in early 1973. This building is a single story, air-conditioned structure containing 18,300 square feet.

Thompson Hall, a residence hall for men, was occupied in the fall of 1972 and houses 200 male students.

In 1972 the college sought re-accreditation by the North-Central Association of Colleges and Schools and was re-accredited for a period of ten years.

A new physical education facility was completed in early 1978 and contains approximately 24,000 square feet with a large multi-purpose floor with courts for basketball, volleyball, and tennis. It also has a wrestling/gymnastics area, an archery range, a baseball/softball batting cage, and two racquetball courts. The community was encouraged to use this facility along with the college students, and the public response was most gratifying.

In early 1979, the Ellsworth College Board of Trustees, seeing a college and a community need for an indoor swimming pool, made plans for the construction of a 25 meter olympic-size pool to be attached to the new physical education facility. The community again responded to the call and showed their traditional support by contributing nearly \$300,000 to the project. The college staff, displaying their dedication, contributed over \$18,000.

On March 16, 1981, Homer and Ruth Calkins of rural Iowa Falls made a gift of 76 acres of land which includes woodlands, wetlands, and native prairie, as well as some tillable ground. This area will be used as an outdoor classroom for nature study and has been named the Ellsworth Community College Nature Area, The Calkins Campus.

Iowa Falls: Schools

When I started school in 1907, the Iowa Falls School System consisted of five buildings; the old square elementary four grade building on Iowa Street, the High School on the corner of Iowa and Stevens Streets, the Tower building at the corner of Stevens and Hickory Streets, a four-room North Ward school at River and North Streets and a small frame East Side school on the corner of Rocksylvania and Commercial Streets. Loren Hezzlewood was Superintendent of Schools.

In March of 1913 the High School building was struck by lightning, and burned. The building was gutted, but within a month the voters had authorized a bond issue of \$75,000 for a new Central School building. Until the new building could be built, high school classes were held down town in the Ellsworth building, above Berfield's Store, and known as "Berfield Academy." The new three story Central Building, which housed all the grades from kindergarten through 12th, was opened for classes in the fall of 1914.

The present East Side school was built in 1920, and was named the Julia O'Neil School in honor of one of its long-time teachers. In 1934 the West Side school was authorized and built.

Meanwhile, in December 1934, the North Ward school burned and improvised rooms in Caroline Hall at Ellsworth College were used to house classes. When, a few years later, after several abortive attempts to finance a new high-school, auditorium and North Ward school, a bond issue was finally passed, the new building was built at the head of Main Street in 1940. The new grade school was named The Blanche Stoddard School.

The high school outgrew this building in the late 1960's and it is now used for 5th and 6th grade classes, and is affectionately known as "Mini-High".

In 1960-61 a new Junior High building for 7th, 8th, and 9th grades was built on the north side of River Road at the foot of Simplot Hill. A big playing field and a cinder running track lie to the north of the building.

About 1929 Ellsworth College was in financial trouble and for a time was put under the jurisdiction of the Iowa Falls School System. The legal and financial tangles were many, and bitter feuds broke out at various times between "town and gown". Eventually, in 1968 the jurisdiction of the college was returned to the Ellsworth College Board and Ellsworth Junior College became an entity of itself and was no longer part of the Iowa Falls School System.

The Iowa Falls High School is now housed in a fine building built in 1971, west of Taylor Avenue between Vernon Drive and Willow Lane. Pupils for all seven buildings are now bussed to school by 11 busses. Total enrollment for all schools is 1650 pupils, and the current budget comes to more than four million dollars. Submitted by Katherine Wel-den

Public Library

The Carnegie-Ellsworth Public Library of Iowa Falls is the concrete result of the dreams, thoughts, plans, labor and perseverance of many of Iowa Falls' early citizens who placed considerable emphasis on culture, education, and opportunity. They looked ahead to an ever-growing and developing community whose needs would increase with its growth. A public library was the definite answer to those needs.

The secretary's books containing the minutes of the meetings of the library board, together with the local newspaper, have proven to be detailed and authoritative sources for an account of the history and growth of the library.

October 14, 1895:

A called meeting of those interested in a public reading room and library was held in the parlor of the Congregational Church. After discussing the great need for such a library and reading room, and also the fact that other towns about do have libraries, it was moved that temporary officers be elected. It was further moved that a committee of six be appointed to outline a plan of organization.

November 19, 1895:

The Library Association met to adopt the articles of incorporation. The chairman, Professor Richards, appointed a committee of five to solicit stock for the association. There was opportunity given those present to subscribe for stock which resulted in \$300 being taken.

December 7, 1895:

A committee was appointed to find a desirable building. Mr. O.B. Chassel was appointed librarian. Membership tickets were set at \$1 yearly; ten cents is charged for the loan of a book for two weeks.

December 3, 1895:

The first annual election of members of the Board resulted in the following: Mrs. E.S. Ellsworth, Mrs. L.E. Jones, Miss Mary Bliss, Mrs. H.C. Miller, Mrs. J.D. Steere, Dr. M.W. Hille, W.H. Woods, George H. Courtney, and J.L. Farrington.

December 10, 1895:

The Y.M.C.A. tendered their library, chairs, stove, lamps, tables, etc. to the newly organized Public Library Association of Iowa Falls.

January 6, 1896:

The M. Thomas building was leased at \$10 per month.

February 9, 1896:

Books totaling \$36.50 were ordered; magazine subscriptions came to \$24.25.

February 23, 1898:

The city council was petitioned to accept the library and all its furniture and fixtures in compliance with a vote to levy a tax for the support of the same. A two-mill library tax was voted.

January 23, 1900:

The book committee was instructed to take initiative steps toward the starting of a Children's Corner.

March 21, 1901:

The trustees of the public library met at the request of and at the office of Mr. E.S. Ellsworth to consider plans of the new library building "which were pronounced very elaborate and perfect".

May 5, 1903:

The Iowa Falls Sentinel reported:

"Mr. Andrew Carnegie, of New York, has agreed to furnish \$10,000 to build a free public library in the city of Iowa Falls. . . . The question now rests alone with the honorable members of the city council to provide and maintain a fund of not less than \$1000 per year. To Rev. A.H. Beaver, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Iowa Falls, is due the praise for the offer in this laudable enterprise. Rev. Beaver has been in correspondence with the great capitalist for some time and he has at last succeeded in getting the great money king to make this offer." The offer further stipulated that the city must provide a suitable site for the building.

May 18, 1903:

The committee on location made a report in favor of Lots 5 and 6 in Block 12 owned by E.S. Ellsworth. The mayor and city clerk were authorized to purchase this property at \$3,856.

August 5, 1904:

The cornerstone of the new Carnegie-Ellsworth library building, to be erected at the cost of \$15,000 was laid. The ceremonies were in charge of the Masonic fraternity. Past Grand Commander John W. Wells of Marshalltown was the principal speaker of the afternoon.

January 26, 1905:

Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Jones offered to furnish the children's room.

May 30, 1905:

Mr. Ellsworth donated a case of birds to the library.

February, 1908:

The first movies were made to interest rural areas of the county in contributing to the library's financial support. The first contract with the county supervisors to provide service to 75 families in rural Hardin township was agreed upon in 1925; in some form, it has remained in effect until the present day, when rural tax support provides approximately 20% of our operating expenses.

In 1948, the library basement was remodeled for use as the children's room.

In the early 1950's the steel stack and balcony area in back of the circulation desk was added.

1958:

The library joined the newly organized North Iowa Library Extension, a cooperative arrangement to provide services and books.

1966:

Old newspapers belonging to the library were micro-filmed to preserve them.

1973:

The newly formed North Central Regional Library System replaced NILE as the area's cooperative agency.

1981:

New shelving and furniture were purchased for the library.

Librarians

Mrs. Florence Anders served as librarian for 26 years, from 1897-1923. She was succeeded by Miss Lucille Simmons until July, 1924. She, in turn, was followed by Mrs. Vivian Ellis, better known as Mrs. S.R. Jones, from July 1, 1924 through 1928.

Miss Beatrice Woods succeeded her from 1928-1929, then Miss Marjorie Powers became librarian until her sudden death in 1941. She was succeeded by Miss Lucile Miller, who served until her retirement from full-time work in 1977. Mrs. Jean Morgan was librarian for the next year; She was fol-