

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Bruce, Merion Senator _____

Represented Pocahontas County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 21 Sept 1870 Pocahontas County, Iowa
Rolfe, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place
Gussie Wilcox 21 Sept 1893

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Knights of Pythias, I.O.O.F.

C. Profession Editor and publisher of the Rolfe Arrow newspaper
of Rolfe, Iowa established in 1912 and consolidated on 12 Feb 1914 with
The Rolfe Reveille founded by his father in 1888.

4. Church membership Presbyterian

5. Sessions served 45th General Assembly 1933

6. Public Offices

A. Local Postmaster of Rolfe for 16 years; city councilman; town clerk

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 10 Dec 1946 Des Moines, Iowa; Grant Clinton - Garfield Cemetery

8. Children Coyla (Mrs. J. Dolliver Kent)

9. Names of parents James Joseph and Mary J. (Price) Bruce

10. Education Educated in the local schools at Rolfs, Iowa

11. Degrees Graduate of Iowa Business College in Des Moines 1888

12. Other applicable information Republican

- He lived in Pocahontas County all his life
- He learned the printers trade from his father.
- In 1892 he succeeded his father as editor of The Reville, a newspaper founded by his father in 1888.
- In May 1910 he founded The Rolfs Arrow newspaper and in Feb 1914 he consolidated it with The Reville. He edited this paper until 1 Sept 1937 when he disposed of the paper.



Quality MEATS

PORK LIVER lb 29c

REEF lb 35c

LOGNA lb 39c

AUSAGE lb 39c

ROUND STEAK lb 49c

COASTS lb 45c

Lbs Average COASTS lb 39c

1 lb carton 33c

Quality Vegetables

TEXAS SEEDLESS
9c Granefruit 10 ac. 33c

Last Rites Held For Marion Bruce Thursday, Dec. 12

Conducted by Rev. Schneck in Presbyterian Church

Funeral services for Marion Bruce of Des Moines were held Thursday, December 12, at 2:30 p.m. in the Rolfe Presbyterian church. Brief services had been held at 9 a.m. at Dunn's Funeral Home in Des Moines.



The Rev. W. F. Schneck, pastor, was in charge of the services here and was assisted by the Rev. J. O. Wangberg of the Trinity Lutheran church, who read the scripture and offered prayer.

Mrs. Jennie Bowen, Mrs. C. J. Morrison, Mrs. C. J. White and Mrs. M. R. Seth sang "Beautiful Garden of Prayer," "Some Day He'll Make it Plain to Me," and "Be Still My Soul," accompanied by Mrs. C. E. Boyce, church organist. Mrs. F. E. Grant, Mrs. J. R. McIntire, Mrs. Fred Nelson and Mrs. Hortense Siefkin were in charge of the many floral tributes.

Pallbearers were A. G. Lighter, E. Eikenberry, Fred Nelson, B. A. Kerns, Alfred Gadd and N. A. Wilson. Burial was in Clinton-Garfield cemetery with Masonic graveside rites. The McIntire Funeral Home was in charge.

Marion, second son of James J. and Mary Jane Bruce, pioneers, was born September 21, 1870, at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Price, near Pottsville, Pocahontas county, Iowa. The family residence was at Old Rolfe, at the time. He resided at the old town until about 12 years of age, when the family moved to the new town, to the railroads and to the more modern conveniences. The next few years of his life were spent in getting an education. He went as far as the local school could carry him. There was no organized high school in the county at the time. He graduated from the Iowa business college at Des Moines in 1888, and spent some time learning the printing trade. He then succeeded his father as editor of the Reveille, a newspaper the senior Mr. Bruce had founded in 1888.



Santa will be here in p dies.
There will also be a FRI Show starts at 3:00 P. M

SANTA BY T

Xmas Programs

A Christmas program was most effectively presented by the music department of the public school at the high school auditorium Tuesday evening under the direction of Glenn Peterson, music instructor. Had the entertainments been given more advance publicity the auditorium would have been filled to capacity for the event, which greatly pleased those attending. Mr. Peterson accompanied at the piano for all numbers.

Featured throughout the program were lighted candles, carried by each one taking part during the evening.

The program opened with a solo by Roselyn Brock, "O Holy Night"; Jane Peterson read a story, "Why the Chimes Ring"; a group of English Christmas carols was sung by the girls' sextette, Roselyn Brock, Shirley Shelgren, Phyllis Molyneux, Jane Peterson, Rita Zeman and JoAnn Hauck; JoAnn Hauck sang a solo, "No Candle Was There" and Arberta Jacobson sang "Christmas Rose."

The mixed chorus, all carrying candles, marched from the auditorium door to the stage singing "Silent Night" and with the blue curtain as background furnished a beautiful setting for a tableau, "The Birth of Jesus." Dressed in costumes pertaining to their characters were Shirley Fuller as the Madonna, Dick Anderson as Joseph and Roger Howland as the Three Wise Men. Phyllis Bradburn served as reader. Christmas carols were sung by the mixed chorus.

Pl Mrs. wedd Bush were the c one. On calle the clude Mr. lock of 1 Du were with light Bust active their B. A law, M loved the chap year ty, 2 their coun activ affa

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RD 1 lb carton 33c

Fruits and Vegetables

doz 39c | TEXAS SEEDLESS Grapefruit 10 96s 33c

POTATOES 15 lb pk 39c

alk 17c | IDAHO Russet Potatoes 10 LBS. 39c

APPLES bushel 3.95

5c | EATMOR FANCY RED Cranberries lb 39c

ches 10c | JACK RABBIT Sweet Spuds 3 lbs 33c

OOT up | JUMBO FRESH ROASTED PEANUTS lb 27c

DAY LOW PRICES

LAM GIRARD
ROLFE, IOWA



RIGHT RESERVED TO LIMIT
ON EVERY ITEM

he resided at the old town until about 12 years of age, when the family moved to the new town, to the rail- ways and to the more modern con- veniences. The next few years of his life were spent in getting an educa- tion. He went as far as the local school could carry him. There was no or- ganized high school in the county at the time. He graduated from the Iowa business college at Des Moines in 1888, and spent some time learning the printing trade. In 1892 he suc- ceeded his father as editor of the Reveille, a newspaper the senior Mr. Bruce had founded in 1888.

Marion was united in marriage to Gussie Wilcox, September 21, 1893, and to this union one daughter was born, Coyla M., now Mrs. Dolliver Kent of Des Moines.

In 1897 Mr. Bruce was appointed postmaster at Rolfe by President Mc- Kinley and served 16 years, through the terms of Presidents Roosevelt and Taft. Other official capacities in which he served were, one term as city councilman and several years as town clerk. In 1933 the voters of Po- cahontas county chose him to repre- sent them in the 45th General Assem- bly as a member of the House.

In May, 1910, he founded the Rolfe Arrow, and in February, 1914, consol- idated it with The Reveille. He con- tinued to edit and publish The Arrow until September 1, 1937, when he disposed of the same, later selling his residence and becoming foot loose. Failing health induced this action.

Mr. Bruce was affiliated with the Presbyterian church much of his life, and in 1943 received a certificate of life membership in the Masonic Blue Lodge, which requires a continuous affiliation of 50 years.

He passed away at Iowa Methodist hospital, Des Moines, Iowa, on De- cember 10, 1946, at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Bruce leaves to mourn his pass- ing his wife and daughter, Mrs. Dol- liver Kent, a grandson, Dolliver Kent, jr., all of Des Moines; one sister, Mrs. E. E. Wilcox, Rolfe; three brothers, James and Harold of Des Moines, and J. E. Bruce of Yakima, Wash., and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Showers.

Those attending the services from a distance were Mrs. Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Kent and Dolliver Kent, jr., Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bruce, Erwin Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Buchan and Mrs. Mayme Beam, all of Des Moines; Mr. and Mrs. Don Kent of Cherokee; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bruce of Fort Dodge; Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Camp- bell of Mallard; Dr. and Mrs. Roy Campbell of Sioux Rapids; Mrs. Lila Buchholz of Melvin, W. H. Wilcox of Stillwater, Okla., Mr. and Mrs. Fuller, Des Moines.

MORE BABIES

The stork set a new record for Webster City hospitals last month, with 44 trips. Best previous record was 35.

was there and received

sang "Christmas Rose." The mixed chorus, all candles, marched from the au- door to the stage singing "Night" and with the blue ex- background furnished a setting for a tableau, "The Jesus." Dressed in costumes ing to their characters were Fuller as the Madonna, Dic- son as Joseph and Roger Raymon Zeman and Richar as the Three Wise Men. Phy turn served as reader. Chris- ols were sung by the mix- during the production whi- with the singing of "Three Orient" by Willis Puff, Al- tensen and Jimmy Nelson.

Presbyterian Church

The annual Christmas p- be given at the Presbyteri Monday evening, Decembe consist of the following nu-

Prelude, Mrs. C. E. Boy selection, Shirley Fisher; s McIntire; "Hark the Her- Sing," congregation; welc- Markley, Carolyn Ives, Jan- "It Came Upon the Midni- congregation; prayer, Rev special, choir; scripture Chambers; pageant, "Com Christ-child."

Part I—Primary Depa

Offering. The Holy City, Catharin

Part II—Junior Depa

Pageant, junior depart- to the World," congregat-

Distribution of gifts an- The primary and jun-

ments will practice on Su- noon at 2 o'clock instead

urday. The chorus will- Sunday afternoon at 4

children who are in th- should be at the church a

day evening.

At D.M.T. Schu

The Des Moines Town- dated school will presen-

Christmas program in the auditorium Thursday, D-

at 8 o'clock p.m. under- of Mrs. Meyers. An offe-

taken.

"Marche Slave," "Volo- and "Christmas Festival

orchestra; "Christmas "White Christmas," g-

Magic Christmas Tree, g- and 4; "Joy to the Wor-

gels We Have Heard on- chorus; "Down by the

Stream" and "Jingle Bel- tet; Christmas Tableaux

7 and 8; piano duct, "I Wooden Soldiers," Vy-

and Joyce Johnson; "P- Christmas Carol," high-

Methodist Chu

The Christmas pro- Methodist church will b-

(Continued on Pag

helenjwh@dwx.com

From: <Bare67deb@aol.com>
To: <IOWA-L@rootsweb.com>
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2005 6:23 AM
Subject: [IOWA] Bio of Marion Bruce

A Narrative History
of
The People of Iowa
with
SPECIAL TREATMENT OF THEIR CHIEF ENTERPRISES IN
EDUCATION, RELIGION, VALOR, INDUSTRY,
BUSINESS, ETC.
by
EDGAR RUBEY HARLAN, LL. B., A. M.
Curator of the
Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa
Volume IV
THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.
Chicago and New York
1931

MARION BRUCE is editor and publisher of the Rolfe Arrow, a paper he established in 1910. On February 12, 1914, he consolidated with it the Reveille, which had been founded in 1888, by his father, James Joseph Bruce.

His paper work was only one of the manifold activities of the late James Joseph Bruce, undoubtedly one of the most useful men and strongest characters in the life and affairs of Pocahontas County. He came to Pocahontas County in 1866, when it was almost a frontier community, with only about two hundred population. He was born in Oswego, New York, November 6, 1843. His parents, Thomas and Mary (Auld) Bruce, had landed a short time before after a voyage from County Monaghan, Ireland, and were on their way to Simcoe County, Ontario. James Joseph Bruce when eighteen years old taught his first term of school, in Simcoe County, continued that work for several years, and when he left Canada he brought with him a first grade teacher's certificate as his recommendation for work in the new country, where he intended to establish a home. From Chicago he traveled over the Illinois Central Railway, crossing the Mississippi River at Dubuque and going on to what was then the terminal of the road, Ackley, Iowa. From there he traveled by stage coach to Iowa Falls, and there joined a fellow Canadian, and they walked seventy miles or more to Lizard Township, Pocahontas County. In the entire county there were only four school houses and J. J. Bruce was chosen to teach the Walsh School in Lizard Township. In 1867 he was elected county superintendent of schools and because of his unusual mental equipment was also elected justice of the peace and county supervisor. In 1869 he was elected county treasurer, the duties of that office taking him to the county seat, Old Rolfe, where he lived until the new town of Rolfe was founded, in 1882, on the railroad. In many activities he was associated with W. D. McEwen, who had been county superintendent of schools when he came to Pocahontas County. They started a general store at Old Rolfe, and the postoffice was located in the store. In fact the store was a real

7/12/05

community center. J. J. Bruce was a man of wonderful versatility of talents. He had a sound mind in a sound body, was a man of strong character, with a constant willingness to serve and help others. It was perhaps as much a matter of necessity as of desire that he gained a practical knowledge of medicine in his early years in Pocahontas County and used his knowledge to treat the common ailments in the absence of a regular physician, whose services could only be obtained in emergency from a distance. He also conducted a drug store. In 1869 he established the first newspaper in Pocahontas County, the Pocahontas Journal. This paper was printed at Fort Dodge, and the reason for its existence was to carry official and legal notices. The law with regard to such notices having been changed, the paper was discontinued in 1872. In 1888 J. J. Bruce established at New Rolfe the Rolfe Reveille and was its editor for several years. Even these activities did not include the full story of his services. He studied law, and in 1882 was admitted to the bar. He was interested in real estate, and with the construction of the Des Moines Valley Railway Company he secured the right-of-way from Tara to Ruthven, and organized and became president of the Northwestern Land Company, which owned townsites along the town. He took an active part in organizing the Pocahontas County Mutual Insurance Company, of which he was secretary. He was chosen the first mayor of the new town of Rolfe, was president of the school board and justice of the peace, was a member of the State Legislature in 1886-87, and for nine years was on the county board of supervisors, most of the time as chairman. At one time he owned over two thousand acres of Pocahontas County land. For all his diversity of service and business interests he was satisfied with a very modest share of material wealth. He really spent a fortune in behalf of the advancement of his community. He was active in reform work and during his later years was a prominent prohibitionist. He knew the Scriptures thoroughly, and his talks were not only inspirational, but a call to practical action in moral and civic reform.

James Joseph Bruce died September 29, 1927, at the age of eighty-four. He married, March 4, 1867, Miss Mary J. Price, who had come to Pocahontas County in 1865. They had an ideally happy married life of over sixty years. Of their ten children, eight sons and two daughters, those who survived the father were William U., Marion, Robert, James, John E., Bertha Belle Wilcox and Harold C. He was also survived by nineteen grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

Marion Bruce, one of the older children of his parents, was born in Pocahontas County September 21, 1870, and has lived in the county all his life. After attending the local schools he learned the printer's trade, and in his many years of work as a newspaper man he is exemplifying one of the special talents that marked his father. He is independent in politics, as is also his newspaper. He is a Presbyterian, a member of the Masonic Lodge and Knights of Pythias, and for sixteen years was postmaster of Rolfe.

Marion Bruce married Gussie Wilcox, of Green County, Wisconsin. They have one daughter, Mrs. J. D. Kent, whose husband is manager of the Des Moines Grain & Elevator Company at Des Moines. Mr. and Mrs. Kent have two children: Donna Jean and J. Dolliver.