Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Mead, Francis Dana Senator _____

Represented Howard County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 8 Aug 1870 Cresco, Iowa in Howard County

2. Marriage (s) date place

(1) Alice M. Frost 12 Nov 1895

(2) Pearl L. Buchanan 2 May 1901

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Secretary of the Howard County Agricultural Association; he was with The Cresco Plain Dealer nearly 46 years.

B. Civic responsibilities Knights of the Maccabees; Woodmen Circle and Ancient Order of United Workmen; IOOF; Mason

C. Profession Newspaper editor of "The Cresco Plain Dealer"; Assy Iowa Clerk

4. Church membership Episcopal

5. Sessions served 44th General Assembly 1931

6. Public Offices

A. Local Cresco postmaster 8 years; member of Board of Education of the Independent School District of Cresco; secretary of the Howard County Fair

B. State Treasurer of the Iowa State Fair Managers Association

C. National

7. Death 16 Nov 1932 Cresco Iowa; buried Oak Lawn Cemetery, Cresco Iowa

8. Children Donald; George

9. Names of parents Francis J. and Cynthia (Ballard) Mead

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

Mead, Francis Lane

10. Education Educated in the Creston public schools graduating with honors at age 16 in 1885.

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- His entire life was spent at Creston, Iowa.
- After graduating from high school he worked as a clerk in the drug store owned by Dr. H. C. Price for a short time.
- Then he began working as a co-partner with his father in editing and publishing of the Creston Plain Dealer newspaper in 1905.
- With the exception of 8 years as postmaster he worked at the newspaper until his death.
- His first wife, Alice M. died May 1900.

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

Mikkle, Charles Mark

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- Obituary - The Howard County Times, Cresco, Iowa, Thu. Nov 23, 1932, p 1, col 4-5			
- Iowa Official Register 1931-1932, p 250			
- Annals of Iowa, Vol 18, 1931-1933, p. 557-558			
- The History of Howard County Iowa 1989, p31			

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

Sudden Summons To Cresco Editor

This community received a severe shock about 5 o'clock last Wednesday afternoon when the word passed around that F. D. Mead, editor of the Cresco Plain Dealer, had died.

Mr. Mead had been attending to his regular work at his office during the day, but to friends he had said he was feeling badly. About 4 o'clock he decided to quit work for the day and went to Dr. Offlighter's office in the E. R Thompson building. While there he was stricken with a heart attack. Dr. Kessel was summoned, but Mr. Mead was dead when the doctor arrived.

Mr. Mead's family and friends were wholly unprepared for the shock as he was a man of strong physique and apparently in robust health. What appeared to him to be a slight indisposition, however, proved to be a very serious ailment and finally resulted fatally.

Mr. Mead was reared and spent all of his adult years in the printing business. Soon after his graduation from Cresco high school he entered the Plain Dealer office, learned the printing trade under the direction of his father and uncle who were then owners of the business. Upon the death of his uncle and on account of the advanced age of his father he took over the management of the paper and performed the exacting duties of that job for many years. During the past few years part of the office work had been passed on to his two sons and he gave his attention more to community activities, serving a president of the Commercial Club and on a committee for local poor relief; also Secretary of the county fair. His friendly aid was always at the call of those in need and The Times office has on various occasions been the beneficiary of his timely assistance. The following sketch was read at the funeral:

Francis Dana Mead was born at Cresco, Howard County, Iowa, on August 8, 1870, and departed this life in Cresco Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 16, 1932, at the age of 62 years, 3 months and 8 days. He was the eldest son of Francis J. and Cynthia Ballard Mead, and his entire life was spent in this was united in marriage with Pearl L. Buchanan on May 2, 1901, and to this union two sons, Donald and George, were born. They with the wife survive to mourn the loss of a loving and devoted father and husband. Also surviving of his immediate family are his brother, Will J., his sister, Charlotte Scholz, and a nephew, Francis Scholz. Other surviving near relatives are two cousins, C. B. Mead of Geneva, Ill., and Ellie Mead Dissmore of Kamiah, Idaho.

He has always been an active participant in all the affairs relating to the welfare of his city and county. On January 8, 1925, he was elected Secretary of the Howard County Agricultural Association, and during the seven years of his guidance the Fair has become one of the outstanding organizations of the state. In recognition of his ability along this line he was chosen Treasurer of the Iowa State Fair Managers Association, which position he held until his death.

In 1930 he was elected state representative from Howard county and the able manner in which he represented his constituents was attested by his re-election on November 8th of this year.

He served as President of the Cresco Community Club, was a charter member of the Kiwanis, and a valued member of the Board of Education of the Independent School District of Cresco.

Always a sincere Fraternalist, he was largely instrumental in the organization of the local Woodmen of the World, the Woodmen Circle and Ancient Order of United Workmen. He was also a respected member of the I. O. O. F. and Masonic lodges.

Although not a member of the G. A. R. it was his unfailing custom to participate with them in their Memorial Day exercises.

His religious affiliation was with the Grace Episcopal Church, he contributing unstintingly of his time, counsel and musical talent. For many years he was also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church choir.

In spite of all these duties and obligations he was always ready and

Funeral services w afternoon at the ho G. A. Ingle, pastor tional church, offic and at the M. E Rev. Allen Burchen Episcopal churches Cresco, officiated a W. H. Mitchell, pa church. A choir co H. Allen, Mrs. Edw Patterson and C. C funeral hymns with the organ.

H. G. Addie, D. Walsh and E. L. W co. Fred Biermann A. Marshall of Chica ers. Burial was in

Relatives and f tance attending the B. Mead of Geneva lotte Scholz and so Paul: Mr. and Mrs. R Royal of Nevada, Io of Ossian, Iowa, Mr. Whimpey and son M Mr. and Mrs. W. B. apolis, Judge Taylor, Henry Eldridge of W Kunes of Osage, C Chicago.

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CRESCO DEANER CONVENE IN

On Sunday, Novemb the Cresco Deanery U C. W. wil hold its fall ing in the new gym tivin. The deanery guests of the Alter an of Holy Trinity Parish

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

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His early education was obtained in the Cresco public school, he graduating with honors at the age of 16 years, as a member of the class of 1886.

After his graduation from high school he spent a short time as a clerk in the drug store owned by Dr. H. C. Price. Following this he began the work which became his life vocation, actively assisting in the various details pertaining to the publishing of a country newspaper, and in this way acquiring the knowledge and building the foundation which enabled him upon the death of his uncle, W. R. Mead, to successfully become the co-partner with his father in the editing and publishing of the Cresco Plain Dealer. With the exception of eight years spent as postmaster he continued this work until the time of his death.

On Nov. 12, 1895, he was united in marriage with Alice M. Frost of Cresco, who passed away in March 1900. He

1937.

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In spite of all these duties and obligations he was always ready and willing to help a friend or the needy in times of distress.

To the sons whose lot it has fallen to write this record of the life of their father, the association of years from boys to men has been full of happiness and sympathy and pleasant memories of a father whose accomplishments for his children and wife were measured by his circumstances and not by his endeavors. He was thoroughly unselfish, kind and patient to all with whom he associated and was a man who had the courage of his convictions. In closing we can do no better than again quote the words of our father, who on a similar occasion wrote: "He had nearly 46 years of country newspaper life. What a rich life of experiences and intimacies with his neighbors. But now the Grand Foreman has called 'Thirty' on Dad's work, has 'closed the forms' on the last printed page of his open book of life, his work is finished and printed clear, without a blur and fair to read."

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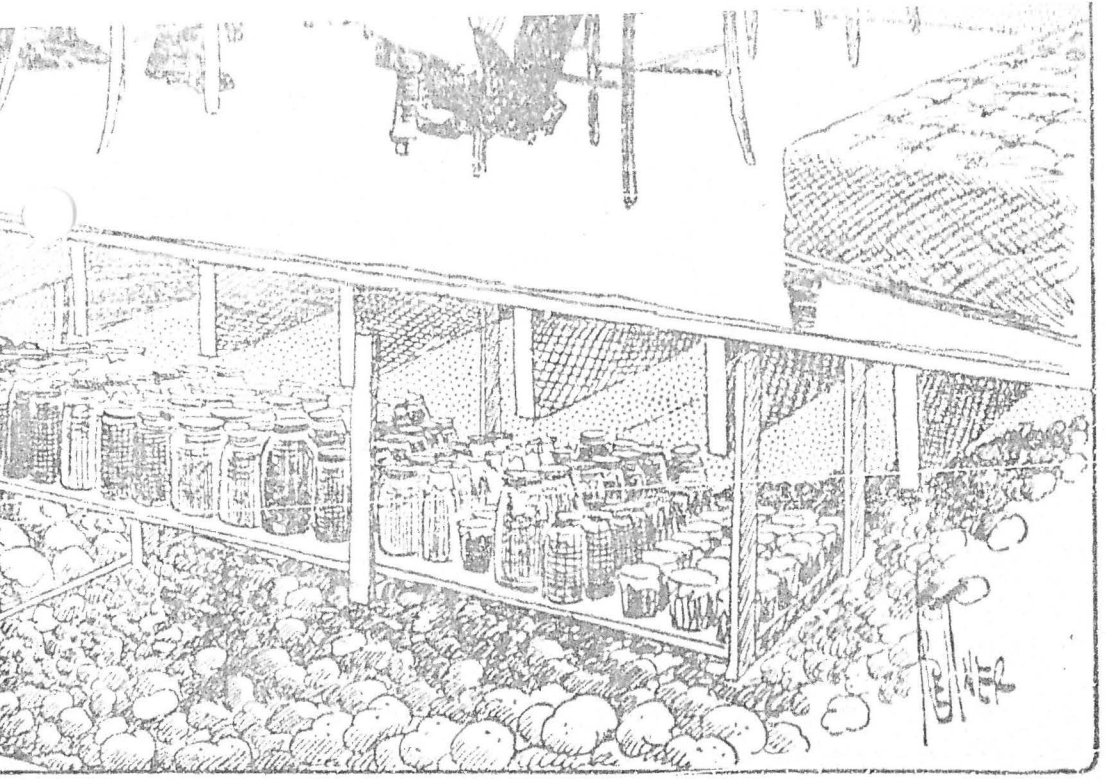
Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.



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ɔo Editor

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In 1930 he was elected state representative from Howard county and the able [illegible] his constituents was attested by his [illegible]

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at the home where the Rev. G. A. Ingle, pastor of the Congregational church, officiated with prayer, and at the M. E. church where the Rev. Allen Burchenough, pastor of the Episcopal churches of Decorah and Cresco, officiated assisted by the Rev. W. H. Mitchell, pastor of the M. E. church. A choir composed of Mrs. E. H. Allen, Mrs. Edward Loughrey, Will Patterson and C. C. Nichols sang the funeral hymns with J. H. Burgess at the organ.

H. G. Addie, D. J. Robbins, L. J. Walsh and E. L. Weaklen, all of Cresco, Fred Biermann of Decorah and C. A. Marshall of Chicago were pall bearers. Burial was in Oaklawn cemetery.

Relatives and friends from a distance attending the funeral were C. B. Mead of Geneva, Ill., Mrs. Charlotte Scholz and son Francis of St. Paul; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Nash and son Royal of Nevada, Iowa, W. F. Scholz of Ossian, Iowa, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Whimpey and son Miles of Alpha, Ill., Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Strait of Minneapolis, Judge Taylor, E. F. Medary and Henry Eldridge of Waukon; Wm. G. Kunes of Osage, C. A. Marshall of Chicago.

PORTABLE BLACKSMITH SHOP.

When the blacksmith business waned with the coming of the automobile, J. E. Rennard, Alliance, O., blacksmith, made an investigation and found there were as many horses as ever [illegible]

the shift in the two creamerie brings a new man to Cresco places a Cresco young man in position in our neighboring town New Era article follows:

A. N. Berkes, for four and on years buttermaker at the Elma operative Creamery, handed resignation early this week to the position as buttermaker and ager of the Farmers Creamer Cresco. At a meeting of the of directors of the local cream Tuesday afternoon of this week Reis Palmer of Cresco was from a field of six applicants the vacancy.

Mr. Berkes graduated from State college in 1927, and was diately assigned to the butter tory at the college, an honor ac ed to one graduate in each cla was employed in a Ringsted, creamery, for six months after he came to take charge of the creamery. During his residence Mr. Berkes was very active in a lic affairs, was an active memb the Lions Club the Catholic Or Foresters and the I. C. Church has a great many friends wh sorry to see him leave the co nity, but are happy that an op nity such as he is embracing ca "plus" and wish him a great d success in his new field.

Mr. Palmer comes to Elma highly recommended and we ar will be an asset to the comm He graduated from Cresco high and attended Iowa State colle 1929 and 1930, taking the dairy c He worked for six months in York State creamery after his ation from Ames after whic worked in a creamery at Glen Iowa, until about a month ago experience and qualifications very satisfactory to the board, employed him on Tuesday He gan work here Wednesday mo Mr. Berkes going to Cresco the lowing day.

CELEBRATE FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERS

The Golden wedding anniversa Mr. and Mrs. James E. Lewis of co was the incentive for a large [illegible] Knights of Columbus hall [illegible]

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

THE ANNALS OF IOWA

A HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

VOLUME EIGHTEEN—THIRD SERIES

EDITED BY

EDGAR R. HARLAN
CURATOR

37180

PUBLISHED BY THE
HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT OF IOWA
DES MOINES
1931-1933

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

mayor. In 1888 he was elected county attorney of Harrison County and served two years. He was city attorney several years and achieved a large general practice. From 1884 until 1923, thirty-nine years, he was secretary of the Missouri Valley School Board. He had several important business connections, one being with the State Savings Bank, of which he was president several years. He was prominent in the Republican party, and was a delegate to the National Convention of 1908. His ability and high character led to his appointment by Governor Kendall October 17, 1923, as a judge of the Fifteenth Judicial District to succeed Judge George W. Cullison, deceased. He was elected for the balance of the term at the next general election, 1924, and was reelected in 1926 and again in 1930, and was serving in that position at the time of his death.

Edwin R. Jackson was born at Avoca, Iowa, March 27, 1881, and died in Council Bluffs October 7, 1932. Burial was in Walnut Hill Cemetery, Council Bluffs. His parents were John F. and Lydia Bradshaw Jackson. He attended public school in Avoca, was a student for a time at Tabor College, and was graduated in liberal arts from the State University of Iowa in 1904 as president of his class. For the next two years he was superintendent of the schools of Oakland, Pottawattamie County, was elected county superintendent in 1906 and reelected in 1908, but in 1909 resigned to go to Washington, D. C., to take a position in the Forestry Department. While in Washington he attended law school at George Washington University, and when he returned to Council Bluffs in 1913, was admitted to the bar. From 1915 to 1918 he was assistant county attorney, but in 1918 resigned and became trust officer of the Council Bluffs Savings Bank. In that work he had a large share of the management of the $3,500,000 estate of the late General Grenville M. Dodge. He was for a time president of the school board of Council Bluffs, and was a leader in many activities of social service, and in civic affairs. In going through the effects of General Dodge he brought to light many items of historical interest and thus became able to generously share the information with Council Bluffs people and with the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa. A notable service of Mr. Jackson to historical literature was his effective aid to Jacob Randolph Perkins in his *Trails, Rails and War*, a biography of General Dodge, Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1929. This was in compliance by the trustees of the Dodge estate with a testamentary provision of General Dodge and under the auspices of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department, as directed in General Dodge's last will and testament. (See Annals of Iowa, Vol. XVI, p. 628.)

Francis Dana Mead was born in Cresco, Iowa, August 8, 1870, and died in Cresco November 16, 1932. His parents were Francis J. and Cynthia Ballard Mead. He was educated in the public schools of

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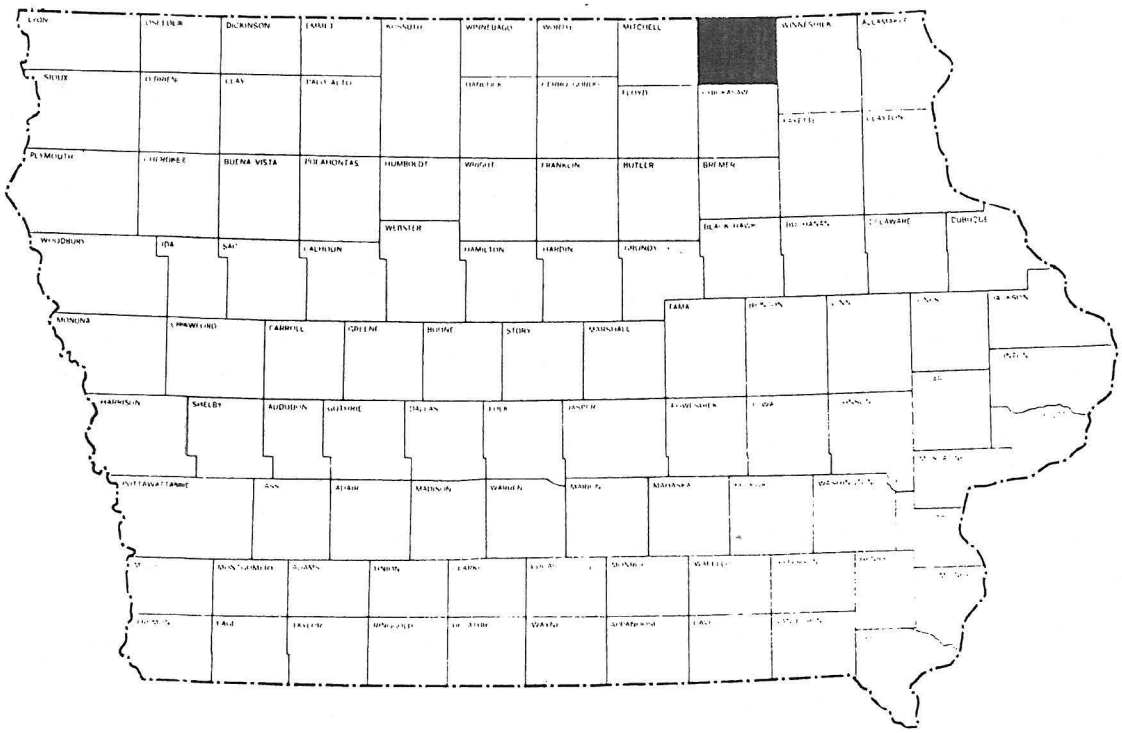
Cresco, being graduated in 1886. For a short time he worked as a clerk in a drug store, but soon entered the printing office of the *Cresco Plain Dealer,* owned by his father and his father's brother, W. R. Mead, where he learned the printing and publishing business. In 1904 he purchased the interest of W. R. Mead in the business, and in 1905, assumed the editorship. On his father's death in 1922 he became both editor and publisher. During recent years his two sons, Donald and George, have taken over much of the detail labor of editing and publishing. Their newspaper has the unique distinction of being the only one in the state founded before the Civil War and having been owned and published continuously by the same family. It was founded in 1859 at New Oregon, then the principal town of the county, situated about two miles south of the location of the present city of Cresco. The paper was removed to Cresco in 1867. The town of New Oregon was long ago abandoned. F. D. Mead was a Democrat in politics, was postmaster at Cresco from 1915 to 1923, was elected representative in 1930, served in the Fortieth General Assembly, was re-elected in 1932, but died soon thereafter. He was a member of the School Board, president of the Community Club and was a most useful and helpful servant of his community.

Andrew C. Ripley was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, February 11, 1849, and died in a hospital in Mason City, Iowa, July 20, 1932. Burial was in Concord Cemetery, at Garner. He attended common school and at the age of sixteen years enlisted in Company C of the One Hundred and Eighty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry and served to the end of the war. Returning home he attended Mount Sterling Seminary for one year, and then entered Harlem Springs College from which he was graduated in 1869. From 1869 to 1871 he taught school in Ohio and in 1871 removed to Iowa and taught at Postville, and later at Claremont and at Rockford. During his teaching he had been reading law and in 1877 went to Mason City, continued reading and was admitted to the bar late that year and located in practice at Garner. He was elected county superintendent of Hancock County in 1880 and served one term. He also served two terms as a member of the Board of Supervisors. He soon secured a large general law practice in which he continued for thirty years, or until 1907 when he retired because of failing health, after which he devoted himself for a few years principally to farming and stock raising, although he was interested in several other important business lines. In 1908 he was elected representative and was re-eleted in 1910, and served in the Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth general assemblies. In 1914 he removed to Long Beach, California, where he continued to reside, but returned each summer to look after his interests and visit his friends. It was during such a visit that his death occurred.

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

THE HISTORY
OF
HOWARD COUNTY, IOWA



by
Howard County Historical Society
Cresco, Iowa
1989

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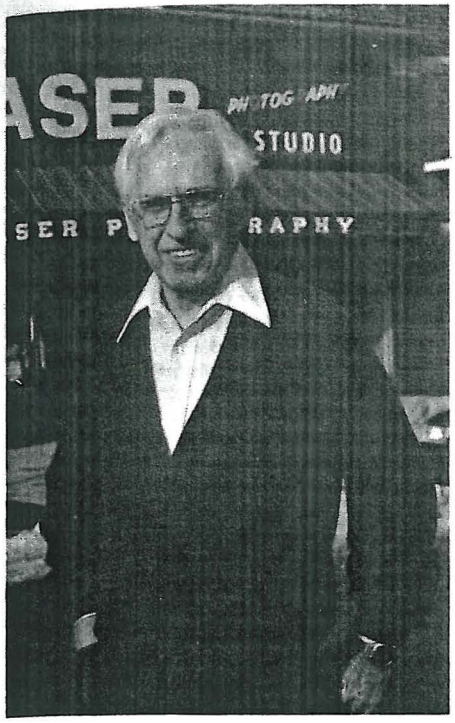

Dick Fraser standing in front Fraser Studio

Lakes on an ore boat after graduation, I decided to attend school in New York City at the same school from which I had earlier taken the correspondence course. This was in 1943 and 1944. I studied portrait photography, also commercial and motion picture photography. Even before I finished my studies, I felt that portrait photography was the field I liked best. After graduating from this school in 1944, I worked for several months at Millard-Berg studio in Superior. After serving more than two years in the Merchant Marine during and after World War II, mostly on tankers carrying high octane fuel and then on a troop ship, I returned to Superior and worked at Millard-Berg's studio till early May of 1947. Then I joined the staff at Russell studio in Mason City. I worked there until January of 1954 when Darlene and I and our little family moved to Cresco, buying the Reliable Studio from Al Rucker. While working at Russell studio in Mason City I met my wife-to-be Darlene Quinn. She was working there as a retoucher and colorist. She had learned her photography skills earlier in South Bend, Indiana working at the Priddy-Tompsett studio for almost 2 years.

The Reliable Studio was located above and to the rear of Harrison's Variety Store when I purchased it. I then moved the studio to the Kellow Building (next to Hoines Drug) on 7-1-56 and then I moved the studio to the lower level of my home on Highway 9 east on 7-1-65. I purchased the Frank Strathman studio on 3-13-73 which is located at 224 North Elm Street where my studio is still located.

My wife, Darlene, assisted me in the studio as colorist, retoucher, and receptionist. Later, all my children worked in the studio after school – Cindy, Jeff, Trish and Janet. James Zahasky joined our staff 6-1-78 to learn all facets of our color photography studio operation. He has since become quite proficient in most areas of the operation.

Prior to the early 1960's, most of our photographs were black and white or sepia or hand oil colored. The sepia was produced by putting the black or white print in a series of chemical baths to get the desired brown town (sepia). The hand oil portraits were first sepia toned and then hand oiled by my wife, Darlene. It took about 1½ to 2 hours to color one 8X10 portrait. In the early 1960's, color photography (color films and color paper prints) started to be in ever increasing demand, so that in the course of the next ten years or so, 90% of our photographs were natural color; 10% only were black and white. We stopped making hand oil colored portraits in 1972. We can still make black and white photos from color negatives in our darkroom, however to keep up with everything in studio portrait photography, we will attend convnentions, seminars, lectures and week-long classes on various new improvements and techniques in photography.

My service to the community includes: Cresco Chamber of Commerce – Board of Directors 1976-1979; Kiwanis Board of Directors – two 3 year terms; active in Notre Dame Home School as Secretary, Vice President and President; also one of the first presidents of Joint School Board; and active in some of the earlier plays put on by the Cresco Community Theater group, vaudeville minstrel, "Importance of Being Earnest" and one-act play (Kathy Haner).

by Richard (Dick) Fraser

TIMES-PLAIN DEALER

B16

Newspapering in Howard county began at New Oregon. The first issue of the Plain Dealer, printed August 20, 1859. H. Lick was the publisher and W.R. Mead served as editor. F.J. Mead purchased Mr. Lick's interest shortly after the paper started and a long family relationship continued through until 1946 with the Meads.

The Plain Dealer was actually a replacement for the Howard County Sentinel, which was destroyed by fire earlier that year. The Meads operated the Plain Dealer at New Oregon until May 26, 1867, when the plant was moved to the new town of Cresco. The paper was issued on Friday of each week and was Democrat in politics.

W.R. Mead continued as editor of the Plain Dealer until his death in January 1905, at the age of 80 years. At that time his nephew, F.D. Mead, took over management of the paper. F.J. Mead, the owner, died in November, 1922, at the age of 88 years.

F.D. Mead died in 1932 at which time his two sons, George and Donald took over the operation of the newspaper. Donald Mead was appointed postmaster in 1935 and left the business management to George. George continued operations until 1945, at which time the Plain Dealer was purchased by L.P. Barth and sons and consolidated with the Howard County Times, closing the book on the Plain Dealer and Mead family operations that had continued for 86 years.

January 4, 1867 was the date of the first issue of the Cresco Times. Although the firm changed ownership many times in the early years of its life, it remains the oldest business in Cresco.

When Cresco was born the summer of 1866, there was a growing demand for a Republican newspaper. Mr. Wood and Mr. Mix established the Times in the rear of a small frame building on Market Street.

During the first year, the business moved four times and several other moved remained in its early history, until 1898. The Times moved into the basement of the Berg Block building where it remained for 48 years. The Times moved into the Plain Dealer building upon the two newspapers consolidation in 1946.

A steady succession of editors and publishers continued through the early years beginning with a W.N. Burdick in 1870 who took over from I.A. Hoxie who had assumed ownership roles after the death of Frank Mix, who had bought the interest of Mr. Wood. Burdick two years later sold to Fogo and White, then Fogo sold to L.E. Smith in 1873. Smith and White continued with the paper until October when Smith bought White's interest and became sole proprietor. He continued as editor publisher for nearly 20 years until selling to J.C. and Irene Adams in 1893. J.G. McCormick and L.P. Barth purchased the Times in February of 1904 and Barth bought McCormick's interest in October.

L.P. Barth began the printers trade with L.E. Smith in 1886 and was in the newspaper and printing business for more than 60 years. In October of 1945 he and his sons, Burton and Harry purchased the Cresco Plain Dealer and consolidated the two into one. L.P. Barth died in May, 1963, at the age of 92 years.

Maurice Jones purchased the newspaper in 1947 from L.P. Barth and Sons. Jones died in February of 1966, which left the ownership to two partial owners, Jackson Baty and Bruce Turvold. Turvold was named publisher, he had purchased part ownership in the paper in 1963. Baty an employee, had purchased part ownership in 1952.

Harry and Burton Barth continued as employees of the Times-Plain Dealer after the sale to Jones. Although Burton retired in 1972, Harry continued his association with the newspaper until 1986. Burton Barth died in 1984.

Bruce Turvold continued as editor-publisher with the aid of his three sons, Phil, Jim and David and wife Virginia until April of 1982 when they sold the business to H. Denis Moore and his wife Jean. Bruce and Virginia retired to live in Northfield, MN. Phil is an owner/manager of Leutholds Clothiers in Austin, MN. Son Jim is editor of the Red Wing, Mn. Eagle and David continues as production manager of the Times-Plain Dealer in Crisco. H. Denis Moore continues as Editor-Publisher of the Times-Plain Dealer today.

by H. Denis Moore

TELEPHONES

B17

In 1898 a young Albion township farmer moved to Cresco after his father told him "If you're too lazy to do one job right, you'd better find another job."

Thus began a long career and fruitful relationship for both man and community. Herbert Guy Addie was born on a farm near

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