

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Stepanek, William Henry Senator _____
Represented Linn County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 8 May 1868 Johnson County, Iowa at
Switzer, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Josephine Castek 11 June 1891 Cedar Rapids, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Treasurer of the Lutheran Hospital

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Chamber of Commerce; Rotary;
Grange; Elks Lodge; I.O.O.F.; Western Bohemian Fraternal Association

C. Profession Hardware merchant

4. Church membership Peoples Church

5. Sessions served 41st, 42nd General Assemblies 1925, 1927

6. Public Offices

A. Local Cedar Rapids city Councilman 1906, 1910-1912 Cedar Rapids Second
Board of Commerce; Mayor of Cedar Rapids 1932-1934; Board of Education; Cedar
Rapids city auditor

B. State

C. National

7. Death 10 Feb 1941 Cedar Rapids, Iowa; buried Bohemian National Cemetery, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

8. Children Leo Hallman

9. Names of parents Joseph and Anna (Serbousch) Stepanek

10. Education *He was educated at Ely, Iowa graduating from Ely, Iowa High School*

11. Degrees *Attended college in Western ^{College} and later at Cedar Rapids Business College*

12. Other applicable information

- *His boyhood was spent in Ely, Iowa in Johnson County, Iowa, where his father was a blacksmith.*
- *He wanted to be a farmer, so his father bought a farm, but as he read he found his interests were in other fields.*
- *He moved westward at age 21, worked at Chadron, Nebraska, then Omaha, but within a year he returned to Cedar Rapids working as a bookkeeper for C. W. Swab and Company for 5 years.*
- *In his spare time he operated a bicycle shop.*
- *He started a hardware store in 1896 with A. H. Vondracek.*
- *His wife, Josephine, died in 1939.*

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W. H. Stepanek, Former Mayor Of City, Dies

Cedar Rapids News—

William Henry "Bill" Stepanek, 72, civic promoter, city official and state legislator in a 28-year period of public life, died at his home, 116 Twelfth street NW, at 5:30 p.m. Monday following a lingering illness.

Starting his career as a councilman in 1906, Mr. Stepanek brought it to a close as mayor of Cedar Rapids from 1932 to 1934.

In intervening years, he was instrumental in construction of the \$900,000 Memorial building and the \$700,000 courthouse.

For two years, from 1925 to 1927, he served as state representative from Linn county, authoring an act relating to the annexation of cities and towns which is said to have effected a considerable savings in Cedar Rapids.

As a Cedar Rapids public servant, he was chairman of a committee instrumental in moving the county seat from Marion to Cedar Rapids; was treasurer for the good roads campaign at the time the first paving bonds were voted in Linn county; was a charter member of the Cedar Rapids plan commission and chairman of the river front improvement commission.

Active In Chamber Of Commerce.

With the organization of the old Commercial club 30 years ago, Mr. Stepanek was one of the first directors. He served as a director and president of the Chamber of Commerce, successor of the Commercial club, and for nine years was chairman of the mercantile bureau.

He had been a member of the board of education, was treasurer of the Lutheran hospital association drive, a charter member of the Rotary club, and a national director of the Western Bohemian Fraternal association and held

head of the western European division of the Russian secret police, a director of Soviet spies and assassins, was so well documented and detailed that few doubted it. He was found with a bullet in his head in his room in a Washington hotel Monday.

All evidence pointed to suicide, but Krivitsky himself had described the methods of OGPU assassins who had often made their victims appear to be suicides. And only last week he saw in New York City a man he recognized, through previous associations, as one of the OGPU'S most clever assassins. That man was trailing him.

This information came from Krivitsky's attorney, Louis Waldman, of New York City.

Lived In Fear.

Krivitsky's wife insisted he had been assassinated. So did Boris Shub, his interpreter. They all said that for more than a year Krivitsky had lived in daily fear of his life.

Washington police had written the case off as a suicide, but reopened their investigation. They asked Charlottesville, Va., authorities to find a man named "Dobertoff," who, according to one of the notes found in Krivitsky's room in Krivitsky's handwriting, provided him with the revolver that ended his life.

The door to Krivitsky's fifth floor hotel room was locked, but anyone with a pass key could have opened it. A chambermaid did so when she received no response to her knock. She called hotel officials after finding the body.

Other means of access to the room were discounted. There was no ledge on the outside of the building along which an assassin could have crept to enter the window. Nor is there a fire escape. The possibility of anyone having descended to the window by a rope from a room above was not believed likely.

Dies Witness.

Krivitsky, born Samuel Ginsberg, became prominent in this country in 1939 when he told the Dies committee investigating un-American activities that he had broken a 20-year conspiracy

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His Third Presidency.

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ccceeded Dr. John A. Mar- re. Because of his record der in educational fields,

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He had been a member of the board of education, was treasurer of the Lutheran hospital association drive, a charter member of the Rotary club, and a national director of the Western Bohemian Fraternal association and held membership in the Masonic lodge, El Kahir temple of the Shrine, the Consistory and the Elks club. He was treasurer of the Peoples church for 11 years, and was a member of Jan Hus lodge No. 51, I.O.O.F.

In the summer of 1928, when Herbert Hoover made Cedar Rapids a two-day midwest campaign headquarters, Mr. Stepanek headed the committee to defray expenses of his reception. Later, he

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 8.)

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Krivitsky, born Samuel Ginsberg, became prominent in this country in 1939 when he told the Dies committee investigating un-American activities that he had broken a 20-year association with Josef Stalin in 1937 after the Soviet purge and, in consequence, feared assassination by OGPU agents. He had written a series of articles for the Saturday Evening Post purporting to expose world-wide communist intrigues.

J. B. Matthews, special investigator for Dies, who knew Krivitsky well and identified the body said Trotzky had told him before his death that he feared that both he and Krivitsky would be assassinated.

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Source: Iowa Official and Statistical Reports, 1910, p. 100. Digitized by Google

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(Continued from Page 1.)

headed a committee for fund-
to send the Coe college military
band to Washington, D. C., for
President Hoover's inaugural.

Reared On Farm.

Mr. Stepanek was born May 8,
1868, to Joseph and Anna Stepa-
nek, natives of Bohemia, on a
Johnson county farm. His boyhood
was spent in Ely where Joseph
Stepanek was a blacksmith. His
boyhood ambition was to be a
farmer and he persuaded his
father to buy a farm.

But while he plowed, with a
book in his pocket, he found his
interests were in other fields. Dur-
ing winter months, he attended
college in Western and, later, the
Cedar Rapids Business college,
where he became an outstanding
student in accounting.

He struck out westward at the
age of 21, worked at Chadron,
Neb., then Omaha. But within a
year, he returned to Cedar Rap-
ids to work as a bookkeeper for
C. H. Swab and company for
five years. In his spare time, he
operated a bicycle business as a
sideline when the vehicle was be-
ing introduced in this city.

Profits from the business—up
to \$1,800 a year—made it possible
for him to start a hardware store
in 1896 in partnership with A. W.
Vondracek at Third avenue and
First street W, then in the Dows
building for 19 years, and later
at 212 Third avenue SE.

Mr. Stepanek was elected a
member of the city council in
1906, filling the vacancy caused
by the resignation of L. W. Ander-
son.

From 1910 to 1912, he served
as the city's second finance com-
missioner following adoption of
the commission form of govern-
ment in 1908. He inaugurated the
city's perpetual inventory and
planned and executed the system

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* * * George (D), Ga., said mmittee would start of amendments to dnesday, and would asure to the floor for e end of the week. approved amendments life of the legislation and restricting the United States defense hich may be shipped s year were expected mmittee approval.

Committee Stands.

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on K. Wheeler (D), enate opposition, dministration reports votes would be cast against the bill and the opposition had chance" to write in that would prohibit of American soldiers.

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Profits from the business—up to \$1,800 a year—made it possible for him to start a hardware store in 1896 in partnership with A. W. Vondracek at Third avenue and First street W, then in the Dows building for 19 years, and later at 212 Third avenue SE.

Mr. Stepanek was elected a member of the city council in 1906, filling the vacancy caused by the resignation of L. W. Anderson.

From 1910 to 1912, he served as the city's second finance commissioner following adoption of the commission form of government in 1908. He inaugurated the city's perpetual inventory and planned and executed the system of accounting at the city hall.

In 1892, Mr. Stepanek was married to Josephine Castek.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Beatty chapel. Crescent lodge, A.F. and A.M., will be in charge. Burial will be in the family lot at the Bohemian National cemetery.

Survivors include one son, Leo W. of Cedar Rapids; one brother, Joseph of Cedar Rapids; and five sisters, Mrs. Frank Bys, Mrs. Herbert Ritchley, Mrs. Edward C. Zbanek, and Mrs. Edward Misak, all of Cedar Rapids, and Mrs. Joseph Chalupsky of Garrison; and one grandchild. His wife preceded him in death in 1939.

All Masons are asked to meet at the Masonic hall at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday to attend the services in a body.

U. S. Envoy Protests Bulgarian Action

State Legation has been filled with Bulgarian officials and staff at the



You searched for **W. H. Stepanek** in **Iowa**

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	W H Stepanek	
Birth Year:	abt 1871	
Birth Place:	Iowa	
Gender:	Male	
Race:	White	
Marital Status:	Married	
Census Date:	1 Jan 1925	
Residence State:	Iowa	
Residence County:	Linn	
Locality:	Cedar Rapids Ward 16	
Relation to Head:	Head	
Mother:	Nk	
Mother's Birth Year:	abt 1849	
Mother's Birthplace:	Bohemia	
Father:	Joe Stepanek	
Father's Birthplace:	Bohemia	
Marriage Place:	United States	
Spouse Name:	Josephine Stepanek	
Roll:	IA1925_1810	
Line:	27	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	W H Stepanek	54
	Josephine Stepanek	53

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.

Original data: Microfilm of Iowa State Censuses, 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925 as well various special censuses from 1836-1897 obtained from the State Historical Society of Iowa via Heritage Quest.

Description:

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

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