

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative **COLBERT, WILLIAM J.** Senator \_\_\_\_\_

*Represented Union County, Iowa*

1. Birthday and place 16 October 1869, Grinnell, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Phoebe C. Rogers (1871-1 Feb. 1944), 23 March 1898, Dixon, Illinois

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Farming; teaching

B. Civic responsibilities \_\_\_\_\_

C. Profession \_\_\_\_\_

4. Church membership Congregational

5. Sessions served 39th & 40th GA, 1921-1924, house, Union Co.

6. Public Offices

A. Local school board

B. State \_\_\_\_\_

C. National \_\_\_\_\_

7. Death 15 May 1948, Creston, Iowa; bur Maple Hill (or Cromwell) Cem, Cromwell, Ia

8. Children (1) Robert A. (c. 1901 - ); (2) Helen J. (c.1905 - 1943)  
(3) Harold R. (c. 1908 - )

9. Names of parents Robert Colbert (Ireland 17 Mar 1842-Ia 11 Jan 1919)  
Ellen Moore (Canada 28 June 1845 - Ia 9 Feb. 1935) m. Kewanee Ill  
He to Canada 1862, Phila Pa 1864, Ill. 1866, to Grinnell, Ia, 30 Dec. 1868  
after marriage, to Union Co. 1870, acquiring 240 acres there.

10. Education Cromwell, Ia, public schools

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11. Degrees

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12. Other applicable information finishing school, he taught school for 2 yrs; then farmed on same section of land on which his parents had homesteaded. Operated farm until 1925 when he retired and moved to Creston.

Bd Dir Farmers Cooperative Co. Helped organize Farmers and Merchants Bank; was dir and vp. Member Bd of Greater Community Hospital in Creston; Rotary; Boy Scout Council. Member minor farm organizations of co. Emeritus deacon of church.

Survived by two sons and two sisters.

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WASHINGTON, May 17. (AP)—Senator Taft (R-Ohio) came out today for a cut in what is for most members a price election— the federal fund for rivers, harbors and flood control projects.

Taft, who wants to be president, told reporters:

"I think the bill is much too large. Now is the time when public works should be toned down." The bill carries \$708,586,666 as reported by the senate appropriations committee. That group added more than \$100,000,000 to the total proved by the house.

Taft said the house had added a portion of the funds that President Truman asked. He said Mr. Truman asked too much in the first place.

A fight to cut off \$200,000,000 has been organized by Senator Reed (R-Kan.), who calls the big bill "pork barrel," and senators Ferguson (R-Mich.) and Bridges (R-H). They seek to force the army groups of engineers to decide which of the many projects scattered throughout most states could well be delayed.

Taft said the large public works during this period amount to "government competition with private industry for scarce labor and materials."

"That tends to force prices higher," he said. "Public works should be held back during such a period and then pushed when private industry relaxes."

Senator Gurney (R-SD), floor manager for the bill, said he is confident the senate will uphold the appropriations committee's figure.

## 21 from Union Co. At Demo Convention

There were 21 persons from Union county at the democratic state convention in Des Moines Saturday, Fred Luce, chairman of the county democratic central committee, reports. Luce was chairman of the credentials committee for the convention and read its report.

Besides Luce, others who attended with Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Daugherty and daughters Marye and Mary Catherine, Mary Kelly, Mr. and

## W. J. Colbert, 78, Former Legislator, Dies on Saturday

William J. Colbert, 78, who represented Union county in the Iowa state legislature from 1921 to 1925, died at his home, 217 Myrtle street, here, at 6:20 p. m. Saturday. He had been in poor health for several months.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p. m. Tuesday at the First Congregational church. Rev. E. L. Baker will officiate. Burial will be in the Cromwell cemetery. His body will remain at McGregor Brothers and Coen's funeral home until 2 p. m. Tuesday and will lie in state at the church from 2 p. m. until time of the services.

William J. Colbert was born at Grinnell, Ia., October 16, 1869. He was the son of Robert and Ellen Moore Colbert.

After completing his schooling in Cromwell, he taught for two years and then engaged in farming on the same section of land his parents had homesteaded. He was married at Dixon, Ill., March 23, 1898, to Phoebe C. Rogers, who preceded him in death February 1, 1944.

Mr. Colbert continued to operate his Union county farm until 1925, when he retired and moved to Creston. At that time he was elected to the lower house of the state legislature where he served four years.

Surviving are two sons, Robert A. Colbert of Chicago and Harold R. Colbert of St. Louis, Mo.; and two sisters, Mrs. Mary E. Cherrington and Mrs. Charles E. Ours, both of Creston. A daughter, Helen J. Colbert, died in 1943.

Mr. Colbert was very active in the affairs of the Congregational church and at the time of his death was emeritus deacon of the church. In his more active days he served on the board of the Greater Community hospital and in the Farmers Cooperative board of directors. He had been a member of the Creston Rotary club. He had

## LILIENTHAL ATOLL

### Tests "A Milestone" In Atom Progress Lilienthal Reports

WASHINGTON, May 17 (AP)—The White House said today that tests involving three atomic weapons of improved design proved successful in all respects recently at Eniwetok atoll in the Pacific.

The statement was made after the atomic energy commission gave President Truman an official report saying the results "indicate very substantial progress."

Chairman David E. Lilienthal and the four other commissioners reported orally to Mr. Truman that

LAKE SUCCESS, May 17 (AP) — The United Nations atomic energy commission decided today to end its two-year effort to agree on world atomic control. The vote was 9 to 2.

Russia and the Soviet Ukraine voted against the suspension, which was proposed originally by the United States, Britain and France.

The move came after the western powers concluded it was useless to continue the talks any longer in view of the deadlock between Russia and the commission majority.

the "present stages of the commission's tests of atomic weapons is now concluded.

Lilienthal called the tests "a milestone in atomic development."

The White House statement about the report follows:

"The president today received from the United States atomic energy commission a report on tests of atomic weapons conducted at the commission's proving ground at Eniwetok atoll in the Marshall islands. The tests were held pursuant to approval of the president given in June, 1947. The first series of the tests are now completed."

Lilienthal said about 10,000 men were involved in the test, including military personnel, engineers, scientists and others.

Meanwhile, the senate-house atomic energy committee approved a bill which would limit to 23 months the new terms for Lilienthal and the four other commissioners.

The vote was 11-5.

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## Boys Will be Boys

OKLAHOMA CITY, May 17

(AP)—Boys will be boys.

With a few exceptions, state law officers got the following

here, at 6:20 p. m. Saturday. He had been in poor health for several months.

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## Driver Fined for Leaving Accident

Harley F. Adams of Corning was fined \$15 and costs this morning on a charge of failing to stop at the scene of an accident. He was fined by Justice of the Peace George C. Figgins on complaint of state

Adams was arrested by highway patrol police, reported

port saying the results indicate very substantial progress."

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## Two Autos Damaged In Crash on Sunday

Slight damage to two automobiles was caused in a collision at Fremont and south division streets here at 10:30 a. m., Sunday, police said. Richard Eugene Brotherton, 21, 422 New York avenue, was going east on Fremont street and Harold Dalton of Des Moines was going west when they collided. No

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sent to assist Father Lyons, pastor of St. Malachy's, at Creston, Iowa, where he remained for two years, and also attended the missions of Afton, Thayer, Murray, Orient, Greenfield and other places. His next service was as assistant in the cathedral at Davenport and after a short stay there he was given two parishes by Bishop Cosgrove, one near Lacona and the other near Milo. Following a stay of two years in that work, he was again sent to Davenport and given the chaplaincy of Mercy hospital. Two years later he was appointed pastor of St. Peter's church at Council Bluffs, and after serving this church he labored for one year in Colorado, and in 1894 returned to Union county to reside permanently at Afton. For four years he labored here, improving the church, purchasing lots and erecting a parsonage. He also attended the missions of Thayer, Orient and Greenfield, besides assisting at various times at St. Malachy's. In 1898 he was assigned to and assumed the chaplaincy of Mercy hospital at Des Moines and two years later was again sent back to Afton, where he still presides. With the generous help of good people at both places, churches have been built at Orient and Greenfield. St. Mark's at Orient now has a membership of fifteen families and St. Johns at Greenfield of eighteen families. St. Edwards' church, at Afton, was erected in 1878 and has a membership of thirty families, drawn largely from the farming community. Thus briefly is recorded the life record and the faithfully performed duties of one whose aim is the uplifting of his fellowmen and who is accomplishing much good in the parishes where he labors, the work of the different churches being well systematized and carefully conducted.

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#### ROBERT COLBERT.

Robert Colbert owns a farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 5, Douglas township, and is one of the substantial agriculturists of the community, for his place is well improved and valuable and brings to him a good financial return. He has lived in Iowa since 1868 and dates his residence in Union county from 1870. From Ireland, the land of his birth, he came to the new world in 1862, locating first in Canada, where he spent two years upon a farm. In 1864 he went to Philadelphia and there worked in a lead factory for about two years. On the expiration of that period he made his way westward to Illinois, settling at Kewanee, Henry county, where he was employed in nursery business for about two years. His next removal took him to Grinnell, Iowa, where he aided in establishing a nursery and also spent two years.

While at Kewanee, Illinois, Mr. Colbert was married there on the 30th of December, 1868, to Miss Ellen Moore, who was born in Canada but was reared in the state of New York and later removed to Illinois. They began their domestic life in Grinnell, Iowa, where they lived until 1870, coming thence to Union county, where Mr. Colbert purchased eighty acres of raw land, constituting a part of his present farm. This he broke and improved,

fenced the fields and opened up the farm, to which he added from time to time by additional purchase until he is now the owner of an excellent property comprising two hundred and forty acres of very rich and valuable land. He has erected here a good two story residence, also two substantial barns and other outbuildings which furnish ample shelter for grain and

stock. He has also planted an orchard and shade trees and made the farm what it is today. He likewise owns a farm a mile to the south comprising one hundred and sixty acres, now all in cultivation. He commenced life, however, empty handed but a spirit of determination has enabled him to overcome all difficulties and obstacles in his path and eventually he has reached the goal of success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Colbert have been born four children. W. J. is married and is a prosperous agriculturist, owning and operating one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 5, Douglas township. He has three children, Robert A., Helen J. and an infant. Emma W. Colbert became the wife of C. E. Ours, who also has a farm in Douglas township, and they have three children: Ethel R., Florence V. and Carl Colbert Ours. Mary E. is the second wife of Frank D. Cherington, a farmer of Adams county, who by a former marriage had one child, while by his present wife there is one son, Loren. Frank Robert Colbert, the youngest member of the family, holds a position in an office in Seattle, Washington.

Politically Mr. Colbert is a republican. He cast his first presidential ballot for General Grant in 1868 and has supported each presidential nominee of the republican party since that time, his last vote being cast for Theodore Roosevelt. He was elected and served for a number of years in different offices of honor and trust. He served as road supervisor for over sixteen years and has been identified with the school interests. He has also been a delegate to county and state conventions. In 1892 he was elected by the legislature as a trustee for the Industrial Home for the Blind at Knoxville, Iowa, and by re-election was continued in the office for two years longer. Both he and his wife are members of the Congregational church at Cromwell. Mr. Colbert has been a resident of Iowa for forty years and has not only witnessed the growth and development of this part of the state but has helped to improve and make the county what it is today. His life has been one of industry and he is a man of tried integrity and worth, whose substantial qualities have gained for him the unqualified respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

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#### SCHUYLER MONROE BEEBE.

When the call to arms sounded and the nation became involved in one of the greatest civil wars of all history, men from every walk of life flocked to the standard of the nation. They came from the workshops, the fields, the counting-houses and the offices, all actuated by one common purpose of preserving the Union intact. Among the number who donned the blue uni-