

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Eschen, Charles, Jr. Senator _____

Represented Shelby County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 4 Sept 1872 Anna County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Myrtle Ryan 1894

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Farmer, breeder of Aberdeen Angus cattle

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 34th General Assembly 1911

6. Public Offices

A. Local Shelby County Board of supervisors 1908-1911

B. State Member of the State Board of Agriculture

C. National _____

7. Death 10 Aug 1925 near Dotson, Iowa; buried Harlow Cemetery, Harlow, Iowa

8. Children No children

9. Names of parents Charles

10. Education Attended country school in Lincoln Township
of Shelby County and graduated from Harlan Iowa
High School

11. Degrees Attended Cornell College, Mt Vernon, Iowa for 1 1/2 years

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- He came with his parents to Shelby County Iowa in
Spring 1876 and grew up there.
- In Spring 1892 he formed a partnership with his father in farming
and breeding Aberdeen Angus cattle on their 600 acre ranch
in Jefferson Township which was in both Shelby County and
Auburn County
- The partnership was dissolved in 1903 when the father retired so
a partnership was formed with Earl Ryan, his brother-in-law

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- Obituary			- <u>The Harlan Republic, Harlan, Iowa,</u> Thurs. Aug. 13, 1925, p. 1, col. 1
- Iowa Official Register			1911-1912, p. 615

CHAS. ESCHER, JR., HAS PASSED AWAY

Died Monday Night After Long Illness—He Was a Cancer Victim

Chas. Escher, Jr., died at his home on Long Branch Stock Farm near Botna Monday night of this week. His death followed an illness of several weeks, during the last of which weeks his death was momentarily expected. He had been afflicted with cancer for some years.

The funeral was held Wednesday, the principal service at the home and a short service at the cemetery in Harlan, where burial was made. The pall bearers at the funeral were men who had been his friends and associates through his many years of active life, in which he attained reputation excelled by none as a live stock and farm expert, and especially as a breeder of purebred Aberdeen Angus cattle.

Deceased was born in Iowa county, this state, Sept. 4, 1872, wherefore he lacked but a few days of being fifty-three years of age. He came with his parents to this county in 1876, and grew up here. The family in the early days lived in the northwest corner of Lincoln township. He attended country school, graduated from the Harlan high school, the family moving to Harlan meantime, and took a year and a half of schooling in Cornell College at Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

In the spring of 1892 himself and father, Charles Escher, a well known pioneer resident of the county, formed a partnership and began the business of farming and breeding Aberdeen Angus cattle at Longbranch, a 600 acre ranch, partly in Jefferson township, this county, and partly in Audubon county. They started with about 100 head of common bred cattle, and their success, at the start, was very moderate indeed. Their first sale, held at Manning, was almost a complete failure. The firm was also hard pushed during the drouth year of 1894.

The father was full of grit, however, and the son no doubt was equally sanguine. They learned early in the game that, if they were to attain the success they hoped for, they would have to increase the quality of their herd. So the elder Escher made four separate voyages to Scotland where he bought liberally of the best animals he could find in that home of the Aberdeen Angus breed. Whether the son accompanied the father on these trips, we are not informed.

The result of this policy on the part of the Eschers was that ultimately they came to have as large and fine a herd of their breed as the country afforded. In truth, this writer has always felt it was the largest and best herd of its kind in the world. A list of their winnings in the show rings of America would fill a large volume. The annual sales they made amounted to as much as a quarter of a million dollars for

RAIN OF LAST WEEK HEAVY FURTHER EAST

Iowa was visited by a wonderfully timely rain Thursday of last week which arrived about 15 minutes before it was everlastingly too late. Pastures and the growing corn crop needed the moisture to prevent their complete destruction.

The fall at Harlan was officially reported as 2.36 inches. The rain fell gently, unaccompanied by wind, and much of the fall entered the ground rather than flowing into the streams. Some few fields of corn were reported to have fallen down to some extent, but generally the rain was all to the good with no harm.

The rainfall was reported to be near six inches at Atlantic and Guthrie Center. John W. Foster of the latter place said it was the largest rainfall he had ever seen in his sixty-five years of residence there. The Botna river overflowed its banks at Atlantic, and roads across the valley were in bad condition for several days afterward.

Seeks Permit for Boxing Exhibition

Jimmie Marshall, who was married to Miss Dixie Harlan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Harlan, on July 6th, is in this locality.

Mr. Marshall is seeking to obtain a permit to put on a boxing exhibition in Harlan. He has himself been in the fight game for nine years. He would himself appear on the program if he were able to get permission to stage it. He weighs in at 133 pounds.

Other men he has in mind for this event are Sailor Lisson, weight 148, and Joe Corbett of New York, weight 143.

Marshall intimated that after he had filled the engagements now scheduled, he was planning on quitting the ring. There is a probability that he will locate in Harlan, as he likes the town very much, and he says that Mrs. Marshall thinks it's about the best town ever.

Southwest Iowa Lady Golfers Here Next Week

The Southwest Iowa Women's Golf tournament will be held at Harlan next week, Tuesday to Friday. Attendants are expected from the clubs at Audubon, Carroll, Corning, Council Bluffs, Creston, Clarinda, Denison, Harlan, Malvern, Missouri Valley, Indianola, Logan, Red Oak, Shenandoah, and Villisca.

Playing will be done in the forenoons, and the afternoons will be devoted to social matters, under the leadership of Mrs. A. C. Clapp, president of the association, assisted by committees composed of local women golfers.

A delegation of lady golfers from Red Oak visited Harlan during the week, and went home carrying with them the short end of the score made.

Kimballton Having
Home Talent Chautauqua

PETER HAMMER DIED SUICIDALLY AT CLEVELAND

Word came by wire from his brother, O. R. Hammer, the death of Peter Hammer, son of his daughter, Willis, in Cleveland, Ohio. Particulars have not been given in the week.

Local relatives have been informed and will be taken to Cleveland for burial.

Peter Hammer was born in Stein, Germany, and lived in the home for fifteen years of good education.

Coming to America his way to Iowa at first, his first employment was on a farm. His son of this, he entered the employ of the Bros., old-time being 1883.

We do not have entrance into the firm on his own, but came to Harlan in sidered the leading firm of Sonneland the firm members land, Peter Hammer

Business change the old days, and Hammer became business, which was the firm name of It continued as such the business was removed to which had been The writer met Billings five years he was in the room

Mr. Hammer was Jan Oct. 25, 1886, the son of Mr. and Mrs. pioneer residents. Five sons and five daughters were born to them all. These are: Fred and Harold, Herbert and Kermit and Willis of Cleveland center of Billings.

Mr. Hammer had health some months did not seem his ailment, or, if did not tell the truth. They went to the daughter in Cleveland, and there it was he was afflicted with stomach and advanced stage of disease. Estimated he could weeks, and the es

Residents of the great Mr. Hammer's in business here appreciated as a philanthropist. He had a family and a wide acquaintance.

Willis Knight
Splendid Perf

formed. The result of this policy on the part of the Eschers was that ultimately they came to have as large and fine a herd of their breed as the country afforded. In truth, this writer has always felt it was the largest and best herd of its kind in the world. A list of their winnings in the show rings of America would fill this newspaper page. And the sales they made amounted to as much as a quarter of a million dollars for a two day sale.

The firm of Escher & Son was dissolved about 1903, the father retiring because of advanced years. Whereat the younger man formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Earl Ryan, and the firm has continued in business since. It was quite as successful, apparently, as the original firm, maybe more so, especially in the volume of business transacted. They added a buying and selling feature to their breeding ventures which added to their volume.

The son began buying farms on his own even while he was associated with his father, and possibly bought other farms later. In any event, he ultimately became one of the large land owners of this and other counties. We do not have particulars about his holdings, but know that they were large. The fact that he lost out on the most of these, when the slump came in 1920 and continued, is a matter about which we have insufficient information to go into detail. It happened to men in his calling pretty generally. He also made some unsuccessful investments in Sioux City, where he moved for a time.

He was recognized as one of the leading farmers in the state. Represented this county in the house of the 34th general assembly, and while in that place succeeded in getting a small appropriation for the encouragement of live stock production and marketing. Afterward was chosen president of the State Meat Producers Association which followed. He was for one term Ninth district director of the state fair association. Represented the state at the meetings of the National Live Stock Association, in 1901 and 1905, by appointment of Govs. Shaw and Cummins. Was for many years a director of the National Aberdeen Association, and an expert judge at many big fairs.

He was married in 1894 to Myrtle Ryan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Ryan of Irwin. She was quite as much interested in his operations as was her husband, and helped him in many ways. She survives him, as do two brothers and two sisters.

This writer always had a high opinion of the Eschers, father and son, and considers them to have been quite wonderful men in their calling. The son developed to where he was perhaps a better worker, in many lines, than his father. It grieves us that he was not permitted to live out the allotted time of man. He would have come back, as we verily believe, and have become again an appreciated worker in the state's principal occupations, farming and stock-growing.

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Kimballton Having Home Talent Chautauqua

W. T. Shepherd went to Kimballton Sunday evening and made the principal address at the opening of a home talent chautauqua which is being held there a few days or all of this week.

Besides the address, the program consisted of vocal and instrumental music, and occasional selections by the band, which is said to be a good one. Some children also gave a number of folk dances which were much appreciated.

The program is being held in the city park, which is a pretty place seated for the occasion.

Home talent chautauquas are being held in a number of places throughout the state. There is enough talent in any locality, if it is concentrated, trained and prepared, to put on a worth while program.

A nominal admission fee is charged to defray expenses, and, perhaps for local improvement purposes. No charge is made by those who furnish instruction and amusement.

Hauling Explosive Costs Almost Young Fortune

Glancing over the claims allowed by the board of supervisors we note that the freight on 30,000 pounds of pyrotol was over \$483. If our arithmetic is correct, this amounts to \$1.61 per 100 pounds in carload lots. Probably worth it. We don't know what danger accompanies such shipments, but if such a car should explode, it would require a large amount to fill the crater.

The inspection of this explosive also costs a good sum. So that laid down it is rather expensive. The reimbursement comes in when it is possible to blow a hole for 50 cents which would cost several times that amount when dug by hand.

Miss Mae Smith arrived home the fore part of the week from a trip of two weeks to Ohio. She accompanied a cousin, Miss Anna Lauritzen of Audubon. They went to Sandusky and to Cleveland. At the latter place they visited the family of Dr. and Mrs. Willis. Mrs. Willis was Clara Hammer, formerly of Harlan, before her marriage. The late Peter Hammer passed away at the Willis home. Miss Smith had a short visit with him. He was, of course, bedfast at the time, and the doctor in attendance believed he would live for three weeks more. His life was cut short one week from the doctor's estimate. Miss Smith also met George Petersen, son of Mrs. P. L. Petersen, in Cleveland. She drove home with her uncle, N. P. Lauritzen, a former resident of the Extra neighborhood.

Residents of this town greet Mr. Hammer's pa in business here for so appreciated as a neighborly and a wide circle acquaintances.

Willys-Knight Six Splendid Performer

D. D. Johnson of the Harlan branch from Friday after Willys-Knight Six to be turned loose with

People who want automobiles should not investigation of that first built two years on the market this

It is so smooth the speeds, with the car must look at the to observe that the The car is a bear and took the worst easily in high gear hour.

The finish is of the four-wheel mechanic lion tires and Watson car is easily handle smooth car to ride in Motor Co. will sell remainder of the products.

LOUIS NEMMER PROVED HOG

The McLean Co. growing hogs is in the houses located ground, preferably a good stand of And then the pigs are turpity on the same never taken near bar grounds which have become infected by age places for dome

A necessary adjunct is a supply of individual suitable to the system is local agent for the chicken houses and the Economy Housing Iowa. These houses by local farmers and

There is an advertisement which tells stove, not mentioning, goes with the extra charge. Mr. N sample houses at Harlan fairs.

Mr. and Mrs. C. sons, Arthur, Victor parted Saturday through Nebraska They planned to Mrs. Stofferon in sister of Mr. Stoffer kota, and other states, and they couple of weeks. To report in both had the most won that Mr. Stofferon his forty-four years us.