

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Davidson Freeman Co Senator _____

Represented Palo Alto County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 3 Mar 1871 Brooklyn, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Edna Crawford 25 Sept 1900 Newcastle, Pennsylvania

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was admitted to the bar in Jan 1899

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Attorney

4. Church membership Methodist Episcopal / later Congregational?

5. Sessions served 33rd General Assembly 1909

6. Public Offices

A. Local District Court Judge for 20 years; Palo Alto County attorney
from 1902-1906

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 17 Apr 1949 Phoenix, Arizona; Rural Evergreen Cemetery, Emmetsburg, Iowa

8. Children Maurice; Myron (Mrs. Harold Hetsman); Ina (Mrs. David
Ames); Kenneth (killed in WWI); another daughter preceded his father's
death

9. Names of parents Robert and Nancy Jane Davidson

Davidson, Freeman C.

10. Education Education in the public schools of Brooklyn, Iowa

11. Degrees B.A. from University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa in 1891.
graduate of Drake University Law School, Des Moines, Iowa

12. Other applicable information Republican

- After graduating from law school he was employed as a law clerk in Des Moines for some time. He then moved to Emmetburg where he joined the Sopars law firm. A short time later he joined the E. O. Masling and J. H. Masling firm later with his name added to the firm. They became one of the best known firms in the area.
- Later he entered practice with A. J. Burt. He was the senior partner of Davidson and Burt until he became district judge in 1922
- His parents came to Iowa in 1853, settling first in Iowa County and later in Pocahontas County at Brooklyn, Iowa.
- He taught school a year after graduating. He taught at Grinnell, Iowa High School and then was deputy clerk of Pocahontas County for 4 years



Judge F. C. Davidson

Plan Rites For Retired Jurist Here Thursday

Judge F. C. Davidson, 78, veteran Emmetsburg jurist who retired from the bench a few years ago, died in Phoenix, Ariz. Sunday night following several weeks of serious illness. He had gone to Phoenix to spend the winter months with his elder daughter, Mrs. Harold Stetson, and family, but was hoping to return to Emmetsburg as soon as his health permitted.

When word came Sunday of his critical condition, another daughter, Mrs. David Amspoker was taken by car to Kansas City, Mo. by Mr. Amspoker and she boarded a plane for Phoenix Sunday evening, arriving there at midnight. Her father's death occurred just a few hours before she reached Phoenix, however.

Funeral rites are planned for Thursday afternoon at the First Congregational church, with the Foy Funeral home in charge. Judge Davidson's two daughters are to arrive Wednesday. The body of their father will be brought from Mason City in the Foy funeral car Thursday morning and will be at the funeral home until the rites at 2 p. m.

Judge Davidson had been suffering from an asthmatic condition for a number of years and had gone west in hopes that the climate would aid him. He had enjoyed visiting his daughter there and had been given every care and attention by his devoted family. Mrs. Amspoker had visited him there a few months ago, returning here when her father's health seemed temporarily improved. A few days ago he became more seriously ill and was taken to a hospital for special treatment.

One of the best liked and best known residents of Emmetsburg, Judge Davidson

Lockjaw Fatal To Willard Reeves; Funeral Is Held

Funeral services were held at Estherville Monday afternoon for Willard (Dugan) Reeves, 20, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Reeves of Estherville, who died Saturday in Holy Family hospital at Estherville from lockjaw.

THE YOUNG MAN, former resident of Grætinger and well known in Palo Alto county, ran a silver into his arm as he was working in his barn near Estherville last week. Although he was given anti-tetanus shots, an infection developed rapidly, his arm and neck swelling.

At first his illness was diagnosed as a case of mumps but when his condition became aggravated, it was pronounced lockjaw. The day on which he was taken to the hospital, his wife was released as a patient. Mother of an infant a few weeks old, she had not regained her strength and was hospitalized for special treatment. She had been given a transfusion of her husband's blood before he developed the infection. Since then, she has been under medical surveillance in case she should re-

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Willard has only recently moved with his family to the Estherville farm. His death was a shock to his family as well as to his many friends. He was a brother of Kenneth Reeves here. His widow and young child survive with his parents, several brothers and sisters.

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One of the best liked and best known residents of Emmetsburg, Judge Davidson was a leader in northwest Iowa legal circles. He became a District court judge in 1927, serving 20 years. Before going on the bench, he was a law partner with A. J. Burt. Besides his daughters, he leaves a son, Dr. Maurice Davidson of and several grandchildren. Dr. Davidson is en route here, from Milton Mass. Mrs. Davidson's death in recent years and the death of their elder son, Kenneth, who died while serving overseas in World War II, brought deep grief to Judge Davidson and his health failed noticeably from then on. A complete story of his life will appear later.

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son, president of lege, will be the speaker at Curlew 12.

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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. 500. They are thinking about a school large enough to offer

chool Students



es of these two Palo Alto county war heroes were recently to Mallard where funeral services were held. Both were the European theatre during World War II. At left is hard George Eckert and at right is Pvt. Theodore C. Her-

Emmetsburg Loses Leading Citizen In Judge's Death

Friends from northwest Iowa including lawyers' delegation from Spencer, Algona, Estherville, Pocahontas and other cities joined Emmetsburg and Palo Alto county residents in paying their last respects to Judge F. C. Davidson, local retired jurist whose death occurred April 17 in Phoenix, Ariz. Judge Davidson, who served on the district bench for 20 years, had spent several months in Arizona at the home of his elder daughter, Mrs. Harold Stetson, in the interests of his health. The change of climate benefited his condition temporarily but in recent weeks, his health failed rapidly and death came at a Phoenix hospital.



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THE REV. Methodist mih ed at the fune assisted by the of St. Paul, A Mr. Allen is mentsburg your a close friend The Foy Fun in charge of and burial wa cemetery. A

FUNERAL SERVICES were held at the Congregational church Thursday afternoon with the Rev. Paul Johnson, Methodist pastor, officiating. Pallbearers were Carl Spies, Milton Morling, Arthur Smith, Lon Helgen, Joseph P. Hand and Leslie Prichard. The Foy Funeral home was in charge. Burial was in Evergreen cemetery. The Masonic lodge, of which Judge Davidson was a member, was represented at the last rites.

Born in Brooklyn, Iowa on March 3, 1871, Freeman Crawford Davidson was the son of Robert and Nancy Jane Davidson. After completing his schooling in his home community he entered the University of Iowa where he received his bachelor of arts degree in 1891. Then he went to Des Moines where he began the study (Continued on page 2)

Magician Has Many Old And New Acts For Show Fri

Men Look In Relays

Ed Cisler's track squad first test of the season at the Twentieth Anthonas Relays, and the undermen handled them all in the face of a strong sixteen other team enemy Hoffmann and Jim paced the local runners Hoffmann figuring in four and Schmidt in three.

FORMER, a long-sophomore, running hurdles for the first competition, rambled the low stick to win place. He then tied for in the broad jump and the two Emmetsburg relay teams that placed. His mates on the team were Schmidt, P takes, and Jim an. Hoffmann's 880 nions were Schmidt, an and Eldon Martini. Schmidt, Tom Pitcher, n Dammen sparked the alle relay quartet to a place spot behind Albert ne team. The locals won

State Appointment Fought By Algona, Odebolt Factions

To the disappointment of his many friends in Palo Alto county, Leo D. Frederickson, local insurance man and farmer, failed to receive senate confirmation late last week for his appointment to the Iowa Conservation commis-

ANOTHER APPOINTEE to the same board, Charles Martin of Des Moines, also failed to receive confirmation. The vote on confirming the two men was taken by secret ballot.

It was nothing in Leo's character, qualifications or background that contributed to his lack of support in the senate, it was learned, but factions which favored another man and interests in another county.

Friends of Frank Matter of Odebolt, who was seeking reappointment, worked against Frederickson's confirmation. It was reported, as well as a delegation from Algona which is seeking the establishment of an artificial lake near Irvington.

The Algona faction lobbied at

Bridge Club
Mrs. W. C. Huxtable entertained her bridge club at a 1:30 desert luncheon at her home Thursday afternoon. Cards were played with Mrs. Huxtable winning high score. Mrs. George Godden winning second high and Mrs. Elmer Schmidt winning low. Mrs. Godden and Mrs. Schmidt were non-member guests.

Mrs. Ryan Is Winner

Mrs. Joseph Ryan won high score and Miss Ruth Clasen won second high when Mrs. James Conway was hostess to her bridge club at her home Thursday evening. Mrs. Francis Hood was a special guest of the club. A lunch was served at the close of the evening.

Foursome At Beebe's

Mrs. Earle M. Beebe entertained her bridge foursome Friday evening at her home where desert was enjoyed preceding the evening of cards. Mrs. F. X. Cretzmeier won the high score award.

Wide Awake Club Meets

The Wide Awake club of Emmetsburg township met at the home of Mrs. Chris Larson Tuesday afternoon, April 12th.

In the absence of Mrs. Charles Larson, president, Mrs. C. Hoffert acted in her place.

Reports were given by Mrs. Estelle Hanson, librarian, and Mrs. Chris Larson, international relationship chairman.

Mrs. L. H. Thoreson led the study on Norway and brought many interesting souvenirs, to enliven her lesson on that country.

Mrs. Vera Rice will talk on Australia at the next meeting.

The women enjoyed the lessons received at each meeting, as they serve as an excellent guide.

Easter decorations were used to help make the lunch served most decorative and appetizing. Mrs. Larson was assisted by Mrs. Malm, Mrs. H. Dobbins and Mrs. L. H. Thoreson.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. L. H. Thoreson Tuesday afternoon, May 10, with Mrs. Chris Larson assisting hostess. Mrs. L. Zeigler and Mrs. L. ... committee.

Davidson—

(Continued from page 1)

of law at Drake university. Graduating from the law college there he was employed as a law clerk in Des Moines for some time before coming to Emmetsburg 59 years ago. The young lawyer at first was in the Soper law firm here and a short time later he entered the firm of E. A. Morling and W. H. Morling here, the firm becoming known as Morling and Davidson, one of the best known legal firms in this locality. A few years later, he entered into practice with A. J. Burt, and was the senior partner in the firm of Davidson and Burt until he became district judge in 1922.

Recognized as a brilliant lawyer, his record on the bench was an enviable one. Impartial, kindly and experienced, he lent an air of dignity and wisdom to the courtrooms in which he served, and his decisions were widely noted. As a young man, he was married to Miss Edna Crawford at Newcastle, Penn. Their marriage took place on Sept. 25, 1906 and the young attorney brought his bride to Emmetsburg to establish their home.

Five children were born to them, two of whom preceded their parents in death. Their oldest son, Kenneth, died while serving overseas with the army, and a little daughter died a number of years ago in the west, where her parents had taken her in the hope that the climate would aid her. The three children who survive are Mrs. Stetson, the former Myrna Davidson; Mrs. David Amstoker, the former Frances Davidson, of Emmetsburg; and Lieut. Col. Maurice Davidson of the army medical corps, who lives at Milton, Mass. and is now taking a special medical course at Harvard university. All were here for the last services, Maurice making the trip by plane. Mrs. Amstoker had flown to her father's bedside at Arizona last week when news came of his critical condition. His death occurred a few hours before her arrival; however, she and Mrs. Stetson returned to Emmetsburg with the body of their father. There are four grandchildren who also survive. Mrs.

David Weise, Edward Cisler, Richard Freud, Eugene Peterson, George Newland, Kermit Vandervelde, Charles Lawrence. Knights of Columbus—Thomas Neillauer, William Kerwick, Freddy Beschorner, John Nolan, Bernard Carpenter, Chris Van Osbree, Harold Drew Murice Drew, James Conway, Raymond Beatty, Will-

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—Club Reporter

McPherson Male Quartette

The McPherson college male quartet will give a concert of vocal music at the Prairie View church of the Brethren Friday evening at 8 o'clock. The public is welcome to attend the concert.

Stillman Reunion

The annual gathering of the Stillman clan was held at the All Vet Club House in Clear Lake on Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Stillman of Clear Lake as hosts.

Forty-five members of the family gathered for a 1 o'clock luncheon at the club house. Talks were given by various members of the family. Capt. Francis Ellison, who recently returned from three years military service in Guatemala, South America and other points, gave the outstanding talk of the afternoon.

The observance was within a few days of C. J. Stillman, Sr.'s birthday and his brothers and sisters presented him with a gift. Pictures were taken of the group.

Then the family adjourned to the home of the host and hostess where visiting was enjoyed. Moving pictures of the gathering were taken at this time.

At 5 o'clock a lunch was served at the club house.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Stillman, Sr., Mrs. W. H. Morling, Milton Morling, Mrs. W. R. Schroeder, Mrs. Charles Morling, Peggy and Patty Morling, J. C. Schroeder, Mr. and Mrs. William Stillman, Misses

Verone and Ruth Stillman, Emmetsburg; Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Stillman, Mrs. Edward Rich, Clear Lake; L. P. Stillman, Mr. and Mrs. James Stillman, Dolliver; Judge and Mrs. Gerald Stillman and Mrs. of Algona; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Ellison, Eugene and Prof. Ellison, Elbow Lake, Minn.

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JUDGE DAVIDSON was one of Emmetsburg's best known and liked residents. Despite many honors accorded him in his profession, he never lost the "common touch" nor was too busy to visit with a friend. One of his many fine characteristics was his quiet sense of humor. In his busy schedule in the courtrooms throughout north-west Iowa the judge could enjoy with the attorneys a chuckle now and then over the comical incidents that often arise in a trial. Yet, his refined, fairminded attitude was reassuring to all those who were associated with him in his long years in the practise of law and as a jurist.

A tragic event in his life was the death of his son, Kenneth, who was a young Emmetsburg attorney when he entered the army. Kenneth and his father were closely associated both in family and professional ties and the son's sudden death overseas took its toll in grief, his parents quietly accepting the shock but showing the strain of the loss of their son. In 1944, the judge retired from the bench.

Judge and Mrs. Davidson were among Emmetsburg's most hospitable couples, their large home on West Main street often becoming the gathering place for pleasant social and civic events. Both were longtime and faithful members of the Methodist church and were leaders in its activities. They were devoted parents, providing excellent advantages for their children and sharing their companionship and devotion throughout the years. With the death of Judge Davidson, Emmetsburg loses one of its most outstanding citizens.

Reporter and Democrat

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