

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Courtright,  
Orlando Billings - Represented Black Hawk and Grundy Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 11 Nov 1849 De Kalb County, Illinois,  
Law Grove near Rockford, Illinois

2. Marriage (s) date place  
① Clara J. Whitney 27 Nov 1872 Red Cloud, Nebraska  
② Mrs. Grace Williams 21 Apr 1910 Waterloo, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He practiced law for 53 years; he was admitted to  
the Iowa bar in 1877

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

C. Profession Attorney; farmer; newspaper man

4. Church membership Methodist Episcopal

5. Sessions served 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> General Assemblies 1902, 1904, 1906

6. Public Offices

A. Local Judge of the Waterloo municipal court

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

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

7. Death 13 Jan 1930 Waterloo, Iowa; buried Oak Hill Cemetery, Parkersburg, Iowa

8. Children Dale (predeceased his father in death)

9. Names of parents Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Courtright

10. Education He was educated in the country school of  
Grundy County. He then attended the Rockford Academy  
at Rockford, Illinois from 1868 to 1870

11. Degrees \_\_\_\_\_

12. Other applicable information \_\_\_\_\_

- At age 9, he came with his parents to Grundy County, Iowa  
settling on a farm near Parkersburg, Iowa.
- After attending the academy he went to Nebraska where he  
farmed for 2 years.
- After marriage, he went to Ackley, Iowa and purchased the  
Ackley Enterprise newspaper. He was the editor of the paper  
for 2 years and associated with it for 5 more years.
- While working as a newspaper man he read law.
- He practiced law at Parkersburg for several years. He then formed  
a partnership with M. J. Edwards. In 1880 the partnership  
dissolved and he formed a firm at Parkersburg with J. H.  
Arbuckle.
- He moved to Waterloo, Iowa in 1894. Mr. Arbuckle came 4 years  
later. Their partnership lasted until 1919 when he was  
appointed to a Waterloo municipal bench to fill a vacancy. This  
appointment lasted until 1924.
- He then returned to practicing law.
- His first wife, Clara, died in 1909.

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- <u>Obituary</u>	-	-	<u>The Parkersburg Eclispe, Parkersburg, Iowa</u> <u>Thurs. Jan. 16, 1930, p. 1, col 6</u>
- <u>Articles</u>	-	-	<u>The Waterloo Daily Courier Waterloo Iowa</u> <u>Tues. Jan. 14, 1930, p. 1, col. 7 and Wed. Jan 15, 1930,</u> <u>p. 2, col. 8</u>

# Patterson For Combined Taxes

MEMBER OF TAX COMMISSION WOULD TAX BOTH INCOMES AND PROPERTIES

Iowa farmers, as a class, are not opposed to industry in the state in the proposed tax revision scheme, declared Senator George W. Patterson of Kossuth county at the taxation meeting of the Third district Farm Bureau held in Waterloo last week Wednesday afternoon. Patterson, a farmer and member of the joint legislative tax committee of Iowa, outlined the findings of the commission to the farmers present.

Although the commission was formed for the purpose of studying taxation methods to take the place of the present property tax for state and local government, Patterson indicated that the commission would recommend to the state legislature a combined income and property tax.

Referring to the stand of some of the industrial interests on the proposed income tax, Patterson said: "Taxation does not hurt when levied against a net income, but when levied against industries that do not have a profit, and are forced to draw on their capital to meet the taxes, it becomes a burden. Statistics prove that from 1916 to 1926 over 30 per cent of the corporations of the state did not make a cent. Under a combined income and property tax these industries would be helped, rather than hurt, by a change in taxation."

Iowa farmers are vitally interested in industries in the state that make use of the products from their farms, and wish to see them fostered, Patterson said. So far meat products and cereal industries have been the most prominent. The next field of development in the light of chemical engineering work at Ames would indicate that farm wastes such as

# O. B. Courtright Dies In Waterloo

END COMES EARLY MONDAY AFTER SHORT ILLNESS; BURIAL TO BE HERE

(Waterloo Courier)

Hon. O. B. Courtright, 80, former state senator and judge of the Waterloo municipal court from 1919 to 1924, died at his home, 1151 Independence avenue, at 5:10 a. m. Monday, 10 minutes after he had suffered a paralytic stroke.

Mr. Courtright, despite his advanced years, had been actively engaged in the practice of law until last Friday, when he was stricken by a severe attack of indigestion. He grew steadily weaker until the stroke came at 5 a. m. Monday.

Death of "Judge" Courtright, as he was known even after his retirement from the bench, ended a brilliant career as attorney, jurist, legislator, newspaper man and orator. At the time he died he had been engaged in the practice of law for 53 years, making him easily the dean of the Waterloo bar. As a member of the legislature his name was connected with many of the prominent measures before the senate between the years 1902 and 1908.

Orlando Billings Courtright was born in Pawgrove, near Rockford, Ill., November 11, 1849, the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Courtright. When he was 9 years old, he came with his parents to Grundy county and settled on a farm near Parkersburg. At that time the Courtright home was the only house between Parkersburg and Grundy Center.

Judge Courtright received his primary education in the country schools of Grundy county, after which he attended the Rockford academy at Rockford, Ill., from 1868 to 1870. He then went to Nebraska

...icate that farm wastes such as cornstalks and straw, may be of great value, he continued. If Iowa really wishes to foster such industries a taxing system that took from them only on the basis of a percentage of their earnings, would help them during their first years, the Kossuth farmer said.

Patterson told of investigations made by the commission in Wisconsin, where on income and property tax has been in use since 1911. "Statistics show," he said, "that in the ten years from 1916 to 1926 Iowa has lost over 500 corporations, while Wisconsin has gained over 2,000. Evidently the income tax has not ruined industry in Wisconsin." However, he believes that taxation either way had little to do with the gain or loss in industries, although he believes the Wisconsin system more equitable.

Turning to the farm tax burden, Patterson said that in 1924 out of 213,000 farmers in Iowa only six per cent had to file reports for income tax, and of this number considerably fewer actually paid a tax on their earnings. These same farmers, along with other real estate and property owners of the state bear 90 per cent of the tax burden.

### PHEASANT HUNTERS FINED

Fines of \$100 and costs each were assessed against L. M. Freerksen and W. A. Freekrsen, both of Eldora, on pleas of guilty to illegal hunting, when their cases were heard before Mayor Harold K. Wilson at Grundy Center. They were arrested by Deputy Game Warden Fred Riant of Wellsburg, while in possession of two pheasants.

### MARRIAGE RECORD FOR FAMOUS CHURCH

"The little brown church in the vale," famed in song and midwest history, set a new record for itself in 1929. Matrimonial vows were taken in the little church by 640 couples in the last year, an all-time record. It was an increase of 48 over the previous year. Forty thousand visitors registered at the church, the custodian said.

to 1870. He then went to Nebraska and spent two years there as a pioneer farmer. He married Miss Clara Whiting at Red Cloud, Neb., November 27, 1872, and soon thereafter came to Ackley, Iowa, and purchased a newspaper, the Ackley Enterprise.

He was editor of the paper for two years and associated with it for five years more. While working as a newspaper man he read law and was admitted to the Iowa bar in 1877. He practiced law at Parkersburg for several years and then became associated with M. F. Edwards, now a judge of the Twelfth judicial district. In 1890 the partnership with Judge Edwards was dissolved and Mr. Courtright formed a firm at Parkersburg with J. W. Arbuckle, now of Arbuckle & Arbuckle, Waterloo.

Mr. Courtright came to Waterloo in 1894 and his partner, Mr. Arbuckle, came here four years later. The partnership existed nominally until 1919, when Mr. Courtright was appointed to the Waterloo municipal bench to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of W. N. Birdsall. He was elected to succeed himself in 1920, and continued as judge until 1924. He then re-entered the practice of law and devoted much of his time to straightening up the legal affairs of the Waterloo Bank & Trust Co., he being attorney for the receiver.

Following the death of his first wife in 1909, Mr. Courtright married Mrs. Grace Williams, St. Paul, Minn., April 21, 1910, in Waterloo.

He is survived by the widow, two stepdaughters, Mrs. J. H. Groh, St. Paul, Minn., and Mrs. Esther Jordan, Waterloo; two grandchildren, Misses Anita B. Courtright and Betty Ruth Jordan, Waterloo; two brothers, James, of Colorado, and Guy, Ruthven, Iowa, and one sister, Mrs. H. F. Taylor, 502 Courtlandt street. A son, Dale Courtright, and a stepson, Harry E. Courtright, preceded him in death.

The body was taken to the O'Keefe & Towne mortuary. Funeral services probably will be in Waterloo on Wednesday at a place not yet determined and burial will be in the Parkersburg cemetery.

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### Gilda Gray Gets Her Divorce Decree

Fort Washington, Wis.—(AP)—Gilda Gray, who shimmied to fame from a Milwaukee night club, was freed Wednesday from the last ties of matrimony when her divorce decree from Gil Boag became final.

Boag, who also was the dancer's manager as well as her husband, was drunk continuously, she charged, and struck her frequently, leaving marks that her dancing public could see. Boag received their house on Long Island, said to be valued at \$20,000, in the settlement and waived all right to money she received from stage and screen engagements.

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## COUNCIL MANAGER PLAN IS ADVISED FOR WASHINGTON

### Institute for Government Recommends Change from Commission Form.

Washington, D. C.—The council-manager plan of government for the national capital is recommended in a report on "The Government and Administration of the District of Columbia" issued by the Institute for Government Research here recently.

The report was written by W. F. Willoughby, director of the institute, and Laurence F. Schmeckebier. Under the present form of government here, the report says, the board of commissioners for the District of Columbia makes regulations and determines policies and then administers these same policies thru its own membership.

"The objections to this procedure are manifest," the report states. "Sitting as a board, the commissioners perform the duties of a municipal council; and, acting severally, they have the duties of executive officers. There is a tendency for the board to approve perfunctorily the recommendations of a particular commissioner relating to work under his direction and there is a natural disinclination on the part of each commissioner to make any suggestions regarding work under the direction of another commissioner. The community thus does not obtain the benefit of the collective wisdom of the board but is ruled by a single person."  
"This is not the place to enter into any extended argument in favor

## TRIBUTE IS PAID TO COURTRIGHT AS PIONEER, BUILDER

### Bar Members Attend Funeral of Former State Senator and Municipal Judge.

"Everybody testifies to Demetrius and so does the truth," John 11:12, was the text of the funeral sermon preached for O. B. Courtright, former state senator and municipal judge, Wednesday afternoon at Grace Methodist Episcopal church by Rev. Harvey C. Travis, pastor of the church.

There was a large audience, including members of the Black Hawk County Bar association.

"This is one of the finest tributes that we can pay to any man and we can pay it to Orlando B. Courtright—he was testified to by the truth and by friends," Rev. Mr. Travis continued. "God alone is great. Man goeth, God remains; but we know what manner of man O. B. Courtright was, what words he said, what deeds he did, what the quality of soul was his. He was a noble man. Our sorrow that he has gone is tempered by the thought that God counted us worthy to have him so long."

The pastor spoke of the life of Judge Courtright in three respects:

"He was a pioneer and builder—one who laid foundations. He labored and we have entered into his labor. What we must do today is keep the pioneer spirit and services in our generation and not become a generation of mollicoddies. Men like O. B. Courtright were builders.

"He was a business man and public servant. There is praise for a sound business. A good business is a divine vocation—a sound business is a school of morals. In these days we hear much about the best way to build men. O. B. Courtright's character tells us what kind of man is produced by the free school, the church, the open market place and the christian home. He began without a tool and with his own hands built his own instrument.

"He was a christian man—the doer and builder of real character." Following the service the body was taken to Parkersburg for burial in Oak Hill cemetery.

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a fox that their dogs brought to and during the season for taking raccoon, which closed Dec. 1, they captured 15 of these furbearers. The season on opossum ended on the same date. Mink, muskrat, red fox and skunk may be taken until Jan. 15.

These dates apply to the northern zone of Iowa, which includes the upper half from a line drawn east and west across the state on the southerly border of the first tier of counties below Black Hawk.

## Accuses Husband of Striking Son, Burning Her Coat

### Court Grants Order Restraining George De Rousse from Molesting Wife.

Asking that her husband, George DeRousse, on Jan. 10 struck their son, Kenneth, 3, burned her coat and threatened her life, Mrs. Winifred Ardella DeRousse late Monday filed a petition for divorce and was granted a temporary injunction by Judge P. W. Hasner to restrain her husband from molesting her at the family home in highview addition, Cedar Heights. The couple was married Jan. 25, 1922.

Mrs. DeRousse asks the custody of the two children, the other child being Lyle Robert, 7, and \$75 a month alimony.

Judge Hasner late Monday granted a temporary injunction on application of Mrs. Effie Hall, who alleges cruel treatment on the part of her husband, Thomas Hall, whom she is suing for divorce. They were married at Austin, Minn., Oct. 4, 1928. The injunction is to restrain the defendant from molesting his wife.

## Waterloosan Leads Ben Hur Managers in Member Drive

E. H. McCarty, Iowa state manager for the Ben Hur lodge, led all her managers in the United States in obtaining new members for his lodge, an article in The Gaiety, a Ben Hur publication reveals. Once during 1929, he was in second post-

## O. B. COURTRIGHT RITES WEDNESDAY AT GRACE CHURCH

### Burial to Be at Parkersburg; Waterloo Attorneys Are Pallbearers.

Funeral services for the late O. B. Courtright, former state senator and municipal judge, who died Monday morning at his home, 1151 Independence avenue, will be Wednesday at 1:30 p. m. at Grace Methodist Episcopal church following a short service at his home at 1 p. m.

Municipal and district court offices will be closed all Wednesday afternoon in his honor.

A. B. Lovejoy, president of the Black Hawk County Bar association, has requested that members of the bar meet at Hotel Ellis at 1:15 p. m. Wednesday to attend the funeral services.

Mrs. H. C. Wilbur will have charge of special music at the church funeral.

Honorary pallbearers will be W. T. Evans, George W. Dawson, J. S. Tuthill, Alfred Longley, J. T. Sullivan and Judge George W. Wood. Active pallbearers will be M. C. Arbuckle, John W. Gwynne, Ben G. Howrey, Harry M. Reed, Roger P. Birdsall and Leo Cohrt. All honorary and active pallbearers are Waterloo attorneys. The pallbearers will accompany the body to Oak Hill cemetery, Parkersburg, for burial.

The body was to be taken from the mortuary to the home Tuesday afternoon.

### GRANTS EXTRADITION.

Denver. — (AP) — Extradition of Thomas W. Walker, Clark county, Ia., wanted on a larceny charge, was granted by Governor Adams.

## Christ Episcopal Church Reports Financial Gains

### Building Debt Is Reduced \$2,000; Vestry for 1930 Elected.

A building fund debt reduction of approximately \$2,000, a bequest of \$1,000 and net earnings of the Ladies Guild the largest in its history were the outstanding items of encouragement in reports submitted at the annual parish meeting of Christ Episcopal church Monday night.

The Ladies' Guild, composed of five circles, reported combined earnings of \$1,783, a balance of \$850 of which remained in the treasury. This was a gain of \$150 over the year 1928.

Other departments submitting encouraging reports were the Woman's auxiliary to the Board of Missions, Choir guild, Sunday school, Boys' Athletic club and Junior Brotherhood of St. Andrew, the latter having been organized during the year.

Members of the vestry for 1930 were elected by ballot as follows: C. A. Mills, Dr. E. F. Stevenson, Arch W. McFarlane, Stephen Brown, M. B. Cleveland, Frank M. Collord, jr., Roger I. Crowell, J. E. Currie, J. A. Gury, Albert J. Greeley, Earl C. Glasson, John W. Gwynne, Fred L. Northey, J. S. Parrott and Harry Schultz.

The vestrymen will elect wardens and other officers at a called meeting within a few days. The business meeting was preceded by a picnic supper.

### WOMAN AND SON DIE.

Hollywood, Cal.—(INS)—Mrs. Betty Cole, 38, and her 8-year-old son, Fred J. Olson, jr., were found dead by asphyxiation early Tuesday in a north Hollywood hotel room. A former husband, Fred J. Olson, was reported to live in Muskegon, Mich.

—during the year 1930