

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Dwelle, Lemuel Senator Dwelle, Lemuel
Lemuel - Represented Emmet, Humboldt, Hancock, Polk, Wm. Worth, Howard, Minnesota, Cerro Gordo, Wright and Franklin Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 16 Aug 1824 Greenwich, Washington County, New York

2. Marriage (s) date place
Matthie Edwards 30 Dec 1875 Troy, WI

3. Significant events for example:
A. Business An organizer of the North County State Bank

B. Civic responsibilities Mason

C. Profession Miller; farmer; real estate

4. Church membership Baptist

5. Sessions served 15th General Assembly 1866 - House of Representatives

6. Public Offices 16th, 17th General Assemblies 1876, 1878 - Senate

A. Local North County Board of Supervisors; town council

B. State

C. National

7. Death 8 Feb 1917 Northwood, Iowa; buried Sunset Rest Cemetery, Northwood, Iowa

8. Children An infant daughter born/died 28 Apr 1877

9. Names of parents Alphonse and Elizabeth (Jeff) Dwelle

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

Republican

- Helped his parents on the farm as a boy in Washington County, New York
- He later learned to do carpentry and many houses, barns and other buildings in the area of Greenwich, New York are his works.
- In early 1857, the lure of the West, drew him to Northwood, Iowa where he purchased 80 A. and laid out a large portion of the city of Northwood.
- In 1860 he and his brother A. J. Duvell created a large flour mill and lumber mill.
- In 1881 he organized the North County State Bank.
- Wife, Hattie A., born 1842, died 10 May 1923, also buried in Sunset Rest Cemetery, Northwood, Iowa
- The land for Sunset Rest Cemetery at Northwood was a gift to Northwood by Lemuel and his brother Albert J. Duvell in 1879.

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source Non Applicable Applicable Information obtained

- Obituary - The North County Index, Northwood, Iowa, Thurs. Feb 15, 1917, p. 1, col 3-5
- North County Heritage 1853-1976, p. 331
- North County Grave Records - WPA, p. 15
- Biographical Dictionary 1878 Iowa Volume p. 56-57

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THE LIFE AND DEATH OF HON. LEMUEL DWELLE

Northwood's Oldest, Best, Best-Known And Best Loved Citizen A Grand Old Man Gone To His Reward

y of Lincoln Memorial Uni- is begun at Cumberland Gap, ee.—A \$4,000,000 munitions irns at Pittsburg.

AY, 12.—Our administration of- and wisely—declines to have ley with Berlin as to the sub- program until Germany re- he sent ruthless policy and -and keeps—her pledges to this —Germany is detaining 72 i Americans as "hostages" for rned sailors.—The tonnage de- by the U-boat activities of the "ska" to 8,000 tons—four British and one Greek neutral. All but the latter's crew are drowned, erman order for Americans to of Belgium and North France stop to American participation relief work which is keeping up- of 1,000,000 famine sufferers —A Minneapolis fire-trap, the d "hotel," burns with known wo and probable loss of at least lives. Searchers are drilling usses of debris and ice for bodies ictims.—The 108th anniversary irth of Lincoln is observed.

DAY, 13.—Families of members Austro-Hungarian embassy ar- to leave the U. S. with Bern- which Washington takes as in- of a probable break with —The White Star steamer 2,000 tons burden, and one of rest victims of sub-sea activity, by a German U-boat. At least rsons, probably more, perish e ship.

ESP... 14.—Berlin asserts that see y stands.—London as- hat will not stand long.— hit the west line hard and make rains.—The government at gton is worrying over a Cuban which may call for intervention. new naval bill, carrying \$396- passes the National House 353

SDAY, 15.—This morning's daily say a U. S. vessel was sunk by arine, Monday. The crew is safe. vernment is "seeking official in- ion."

ounded by all his children and children (with the exception of ler son Dr. T. N. Kjerland and of Webster, S. D.,) Mr. N. T. and most fittingly and pleasantly fed his ninetieth birthday Sun- t. Mr. and Mrs. Kjerland upon return from church found their invaded by loving relatives and s who had prepared a royal feast gorgeous birthday cake aglow 0 candles. Many loving messages he distant friends and visits from d-time friends here helped to the day a very happy one for quest of honor." Mr. Kjerland ed a very busy, useful life, and ow the oldest citizen of North- he retains much of his old- ig desire for usefulness.

On Thursday forenoon, February 8, 1917, Hon. Lemuel Dwelle, the Father of Northwood, surrounded by loving relatives, his work well done, passed peacefully from earthly life to that of immortality. Born near Greenwich, Washington county, N. Y., August 16, 1824, he had exceeded by upwards of two decades the allotted term of three score years and ten. His last—almost his only—illness was of but a week's duration, and at no time during those days of languishing, had he suffered much pain—only weariness, of which he never complained. Gentle, serene, composed, he died as he had lived, a sweet-spirited, kindly Christian gentleman. Almost his last distinguishable words were, "IT'S ALL RIGHT." A physician who was in the sick room in consultation with "Uncle Lem's" nephew physician till the patient lapsed into unconsciousness a few hours before his death, tells us: "Mr. Dwelle just simply got done, and quit. I never saw anything more beautiful than his passing, or the harmonious, systematic, loving care with which he was surrounded." "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Dwelle who had been gathering at their beautiful home on the 16th of August for decades past, could hardly see that the passing years were robbing him of any good thing, and hoped the grand old gentleman might live to round the century mark and continue to bless the city with his presence. It was not to be, but a beautiful life and beautiful death like Mr. Dwelle's leave nothing for regret.

Our departed friend was the eldest child of sturdy Puritan parents, Alphonso and Elizabeth (Tefft) Dwelle. He was born on the beautiful home- stead on which his grandfather Abner Dwelle had settled in 1790. It was part of an old Revolutionary battle field and is surrounded by historic grounds. Lemuel was well born, well

1875 he was elected state senator for the forty-sixth senatorial district of Iowa, which position he filled with ability and credit. On the 30th of December, 1875, Mr. Dwelle was married to Hattie Edwards. They were married at Troy, Walworth county, Wis. Mrs. Dwelle is a lady of fine accomplish- ments, highly esteemed by all who know her, and is always ready to second her husband in everything that tends to the welfare of their town and so- ciety."

The following tributes to one of whom it is impossible to say too much are the work of loving hands.

In 1867 the voters of Worth county sent him to the lower house of the legislature, and in 1876 and 1878 made him their representative in the upper house. While there Mr. Dwelle did good service as chairman of the manufacturing and agricultural committees, and as member of the horticultural committee.

In 1881 in company with his brother, Albert J. Dwelle, Wm. F. Andrews, B. H. Beckett and H. T. Toye, Mr. Dwelle organized the Worth County State Bank, which is still doing business in this city. From 1903 Mr. Dwelle was president of this institution, but impaired health forced his resignation in 1905. He continued his loan and real estate business, managing it from his home though his years were more in number than fall to the lot of most men. He was married to Miss Hattie Edwards, of East Troy, Wisconsin, the 30th of December, 1875. Their only child, born April 28, 1877, died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Dwelle have made their home here and have endeared themselves to an entire community, the history of which is replete with their activities. The door of their home swung readily to the lightest touch of a friendly or needy hand.

The deceased became a member of the Masonic order in Osage in 1865 and was a charter member of the

His advanced age aggravated the case and though his years of clean and careful living caused moments of rallying they could not conquer. All the skill of man could do was done, but he left us. Mr. Dwelle was ninety-two years old the sixteenth of last August. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Hattie Dwelle, who has been constantly by his side. He also leaves a brother, Horace V. Dwelle, of this place. Other relatives are: Horton A., Dr. Elmer, H. and Charles H. Dwelle, Leighton Dwelle Beckett and Alice White Dwelle, all of Northwood, besides relatives in New York and in Minneapolis and Lake City, Minn. His nephew, W. G. White, of New York, was present at the funeral. Mrs. Dwelle's brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Richards, of Eagle, Wis., and her nephew, Frank E. Kneeland, of New York City, were present at the funeral to help as much as they could in this time of sorrow.

As a Man: Mr. Dwelle was in a class by himself, the soul of honor. A man of unusual character, sterling qualities, loving disposition, eminently sociable, courteous and obliging to all, endowed with lofty ideals and purposes, with untiring energy, always conscientious, attentive to his duties, loyal to his friends and with a firm determination to do justice to all. He has left a good name. His private and public life is a book that has no blot upon its pages. His domestic life has been a beautiful example to all who knew him well. His neighbors loved him. They believed in him and trusted him. Their confidence and faith were never betrayed. It is hard to part with a friend like this. In the death of Mr. Dwelle we can faithfully and truly say that personally each of us have lost our very best friend. The churches have lost their most true and faithful supporter, as well as Northwood's largest contributor to their cause. The fraternal interests of this community have lost a brother that always assisted and encouraged them in every good and worthy cause and honored them with his membership, and his counsel. And the city and community as a whole has lost its most honored and public spirited citizen, the one man in the town that has lived for Northwood. He made his money here. He made it honestly, and he spent it here for the good of the town and for the good of every man and woman and child alike. Opportunities for him imposed obligations that he never shirked nor tried to evade. The needs of those about him impressed him as his own. His devotion to the interests of all alike was inspiring and beautiful in this age of desire for sordid gain. Neither has it ever been said of him that he ever took advantage of the necessities of another to advance his own profit or possession.

As a Christian: It is a beautiful tribute in this day when christianity means so little, to say of our departed brother, that he was what the name Christian implies in its highest and noblest sense: He honored his Creator. He lived up to the teachings of his Master, and his life was a beautiful and inspiring example in this day when religion means so little.

As a Citizen: Mr. Dwelle is best represented by what the town has lost is no exaggeration; his ideas, his designs, his hopes and his wishes have gradually expanded and grown and



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st. Mr. and Mrs. Kjerland upon return from church found their invaded by loving relatives and is who had prepared a royal feast a gorgeous birthday cake aglow 90 candles. Many loving messages the distant friends and visits from old-time friends here helped to th "ay a very happy one for gu / honor." Mr. Kjerland ved a very busy, useful life, and now the oldest citizen of North- he still retains much of his old- vigor and desire for usefulness.



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Iowa

T. S. HANSON, Cashier
C. H. DWELLE, Ass't Cashier
C. W. ALLANSON, Teller

bred and well educated. As a boy he helped till the beautiful but rocky farm. Later he learned carpentry and it is said that very many houses, barns and other buildings of the old home section are the work of his skillful, diligent hands. Early in 1857 "the lure of the West" drew him to Northwood, where his subsequent life was an open book with no unsullied page or line. From the History of Worth County, published in 1884, we reprint the following sketch which all old citizens will recognize as being beautifully modest, concise and just:

"On coming to Northwood Mr. Dwelle purchased eighty acres of land from Mr. Egbert platting it the same year and laying out a large portion of the town site of Northwood. In 1860, in company with his brother, A. J. Dwelle, he bought the water power and saw-mill adjoining the town and erected thereon a large flouring mill. Mr. Dwelle is an extensive dealer in real estate, being himself a large land owner. No man has been more closely identified with the interests of Northwood than he, or has done more to build up the town. He has been very successful in all his business undertakings and noted far and wide for his enterprise and liberality. He is always ready to contribute generously to every thing that tends to the best interests of the town, county or state. He has been a member of the board of supervisors for fifteen years, since the organization of that body. In 1866 he was elected to the legislature from this district which was then composed of Worth, Winnebago, Hancock and Kossuth counties. In the legislature he did credit to himself and his constituents. He was elected one of the first town council of the incorporated town of Northwood in 1875. In

Northern Light Lodge No. 266 A. F. & A. M. He was the third oldest Mason in the state of Iowa. During the present local campaign for a new temple he contributed an excellent lot valued at two thousand dollars. In like manner he had helped the local churches in their time of need, Presbyterian, Methodist and Lutheran as well as his own church.

Mr. Dwelle was a charter member of the Northwood Baptist church, being closely identified with its work and progress. It was but yesterday he laid aside the office of deacon and the office of trustee. He had for years considered his share of the financial burden of the local church as approximately one-third. Of late he seldom stirred from his home and though he had seen the outward form of the church he had never entered its doors. His earthly eye may never have seen nor his earthly hand have felt its furnishings, yet his spirit was present continually. A man may be lavish in his bestowal of sympathy, he may pour out many words of praise and promise, but where his treasure goes his heart is sure to follow. The first twenty dollars our departed brother ever earned were given toward the erection of the Baptist church in Greenwich, New York.

No lodge, nor yet even a church, can exhaust the influence of a good man. Mr. Dwelle has been called the "father of Northwood" and nowhere can a public benefaction be pointed out but somewhere lies the treasure of a hand departed. The city park, the court house were both largely possible through his help. He has gone before but his works do follow after.

He had been confined to his home for several years, rarely venturing out though he continued to manage his affairs to the very last. About two weeks ago he contracted a cold

pressed him as his own. His devotion to the interests of all alike was inspiring and beautiful in this age of desire for sordid gain. Neither has it ever been said of him that he ever took advantage of the necessities of another to advance his own profit or possession.

As a Christian: It is a beautiful tribute in this day when christianity means so little, to say of our departed brother, that he was what the name Christian implies in its highest and noblest sense: He honored his Creator. He lived up to the teachings of his Master, and his life was a beautiful and inspiring example in this day when religion means so little.

As a Citizen: Mr. Dwelle is best represented by what the town is. This is no exaggeration; his ideas, his designs, his hopes and his wishes have gradually expanded and grown and taken material and physical form until we see our beautiful little city as it is, the outgrowth of the design and the development of the inspiration in Mr. Dwelle's mind.

As a Contributor: Here again Mr. Dwelle stands alone. He has given away more than most of us will ever have. But he has been blessed in his giving. Apparently the more he gave, the more he had to give. He never gave ostentatiously, but quietly, yet wisely. He gave as he thought the needs of a thing and its importance required. Yet he always gave something. No man, woman or child ever went from him empty-handed away.

As a Friend and Loved One: Here is where we mourn. How we will miss his friendly greeting, his hand-clasp, his sympathetic inquiry after our families' health and our own, and his council, his advice. Who will think and plan for us now? Who will take his place? If human hand could arrest the messenger of death, then our friend had never died. We exhaust every means within our power to stay the hand of the destroyer, but all in vain. We also confess our helplessness at a time like this to express our sorrow at the loss of this departed friend and equal helplessness in paying a fitting tribute to his memory. We may strew flowers upon his grave and utter words of praise and commendation of his noble life and deeds, but we can not call him back. When a good man dies, not only his family and friends suffer loss, but his community, his state and his nation as well. The wealth of a nation does not consist alone in its property and natural resources, but principally in the life, character, nobility, intelligence and fidelity of its citizens. His death means more than a vacant chair, more than the absence of a familiar