

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

marked
another
date

Name of Representative Beresheim, John Senator _____

Represented Pottawattamie County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 8 Feb 1830 Pfals, Germany

2. Marriage (s) date place
Ernestine Fisher 27 Sept 1860 Council Bluffs, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business President of the Council Bluffs Savings Bank; vice president and manager of Council Bluffs Savings Bank

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Banker; merchant

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 13th, 14th General Assemblies 1870, 1872

6. Public Offices

A. Local _____

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 5 Nov 1909 Council Bluffs, Iowa; buried Walnut Hill Cemetery, Council Bluffs, Iowa

8. Children Julia (Mrs. Keelina); August

9. Names of parents _____

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

- He came to America in 1853 staying in New York and then to Council Bluffs, Iowa in 1856
- After marriage he was engaged in general merchandising with his partner Ferdinand Kees
- Eventually he sold his mercantile business and was appointed receiver for the hardware firm of E. J. Hurford
- He then became associated with G. M. Dodge and the Pacific National Bank
- Some years later the Pacific National Bank ceased business and so he joined N. P. Dodge and Caleb Baldwin in the Council Bluffs Savings Bank and stayed in this establishment until his death.

THE WEATHER.

Council Bluffs and Vicinity: Fair Saturday and Sunday.
Iowa and Nebraska: Fair Saturday and Sunday.

Yesterday's Temperature.



At Council Bluffs:	
Hrs.	Temp.
5 a. m.	50
6 a. m.	51
7 a. m.	52
8 a. m.	55
9 a. m.	57
10 a. m.	62
11 a. m.	67
12 m.	71
1 p. m.	73
2 p. m.	77
3 p. m.	77
4 p. m.	75
5 p. m.	73
6 p. m.	71
7 p. m.	68
8 p. m.	66

Boston, 42-45; Boston, 46-48; Chicago, 56-58; Detroit, 44-50; Helena, 54-66; New Orleans, 70-76; New York, 44-49; San Francisco, 56-59; St. Paul, 54-58; Winnipeg, 40-42;

Fair weather prevails this morning in all portions, except that light snow is falling in northern New England and rains and snows in the extreme northwest. Temperatures are higher in the lake region, and west to the Missouri river. They are decidedly lower in the Ohio valley and throughout the eastern states, and are generally lower on the northern Rocky mountain slope; elsewhere, the changes have been slight and unimportant. The barometric pressure is high over the Rocky mountain districts, and from the lake region south over the Ohio valley in southern states, with relative areas of low pressure on the upper Atlantic coast, and in the extreme northwest. The weather will continue fair in this vicinity tonight and probably Saturday with no important change in temperature.

THE COMMISSION PLAN FOR BLUFFS

MOVEMENT WILL BE LAUNCHED
BY FEDERATED CLUBS OF
THE CITY.

MEETING SATURDAY NIGHT

Initial Steps Will Then Be Taken for
Change in City's Government—
W. H. Killpack Will Deliver
Address.

A movement for the adoption of the
Council Bluffs will be launched at a
called meeting of the Federated Improv-

JOHN BERESHEIM DIES SUDDENLY

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL BLUFFS
SAVINGS BANK SUCCEUMS
TO HEART DISEASE.

FUNERAL SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Was Pioneer Resident of City—Served
One Term in State Legislature
—Leaves Wife and Two
Children.

John Bereshelm, president of the Council Bluffs Savings bank and pioneer resident of the city, died suddenly of heart disease at 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon at his home, 241 Frank street. He had been confined to his room since the first of the week, and while it was realized that his condition was critical death was not expected so soon. Yesterday afternoon he was seized with a fainting spell and died within a few minutes.

Mr. Bereshelm is survived by his wife, two children, Mrs. Julia Keeling and August Bereshelm, and two grand children, John Keeling and Theda Bereshelm.

The funeral, which will be public, will be held from the family residence at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Rev. T. J. Mackey of Omaha officiating. The burial, which will be private, will take place in Walnut Hill cemetery.

Came Here in 1853.

John Bereshelm was born at Pfals, Germany in 1830. He came to America in 1853 and to Council Bluffs from New York three years later. He was married here to Ernestine Fisher, September 27, 1860, setting up housekeeping on the same lot where the Bereshelm home now stands. Mr. Bereshelm was for a number of years engaged in general merchandising on the northwest corner of First street and Broadway in company with Ferdinand Wies, who until a few years ago was one of the leading implement men of the city, but who removed to Des Moines.

Enters Banking Business.

Eventually Mr. Bereshelm sold out his mercantile interests and was later appointed receiver for the hardware firm of E. J. Hurford. Pending the termination

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quarterback;

Address.

A movement for the adoption of the commission plan of government by Council Bluffs will be launched at a called meeting of the Federated Improvement clubs of the city this evening. The meeting was called by Dr. L. L. ... about a week ago. It is to be held in the city council chamber, at the city hall on Bryant street. The meeting will begin at 8 o'clock.

Three important subjects connected with municipal affairs are to be considered at the meeting. Commission government is one of these. The others are the street waterworks situation and the Indian creek problem.

Three Speakers.

Each of these topics is to be presented in an address. President Poston has invited Attorney W. H. Killpack to speak on the subject of commission form of government. Alderman Carl A. Morgan is to have the subject of Indian creek improvement, and Alderman J. Chris Jensen will speak on the waterworks situation.

The movement for commission government will be definitely started at tonight's meeting. The advisability of such a move has been talked among those who advocate it for some time past. They believe it is now time to start the ball rolling if the matter is to be brought to a conclusion before the city election in March. The purpose in starting now is to have the commission plan voted on by the electors of the city before the city election, so that a mayor and four councilmen, instead of the present list of city officials, may be elected at the city election next spring.

In order to bring about an election on the commission plan, it will be necessary to secure a petition signed by electors to a number equal to 25 per cent of the total number of votes cast for all candidates for mayor at the last preceding city election.

Thomas Maloney received 2,844 votes, and R. B. Wallace, 2,309, at the city election in March, 1908. It will therefore be necessary to secure about 1,300 signers to such a petition in this city.

When the petition is filed with the mayor, he is required to call a special election at some specified date within two months from the date of filing the petition. If the commission plan receives a majority of the votes cast, the officials provided under it will be elected at the ensuing city election.

Waterworks Question.

The speakers on waterworks and Indian creek have been asked to present these subjects, President Poston said Friday morning, in order to bring the information of members of the federated clubs up to date on these subjects, and to give a comprehensive knowledge of the present situation. One or both are likely

the leading implement men of the city, but who removed to Des Moines.

Enters Banking Business.

Eventually Mr. Beresheim sold out his mercantile interests and was later appointed receiver for the hardware firm of E. J. Hurford. Pending the termination of the receivership, the Pacific National bank had been established by Gen. G. M. Dodge and others, and Mr. Beresheim became associated with them. In the same year he was elected state representative from this county and served until 1872. N. P. Dodge and Caleb Baldwin, who had established a private banking business, which was later merged into the Council Bluffs Savings bank, and doing business on the corner of Main street and Broadway, where the First National bank is now located, and eventually Mr. Beresheim, when the Pacific National ceased business, became associated with the Council Bluffs Savings. He retained this connection to the time of his death, and for a number of years before his death was president of the institution.

Man of Much Ability.

In speaking of Mr. Beresheim, with whom he has been closely associated, N. P. Dodge said last evening:

"Mr. John Beresheim's death is a great personal loss to me. I have known him for more than fifty years. When I organized the Council Bluffs Savings bank in 1870, I selected him as one of my partners because of his well known ability and integrity of character. We have been associated together in its management ever since and have been always close friends.

"In the earlier years Mr. Beresheim took an active part in public affairs. He represented this county in the state legislature when William B. Allison was elected senator for the first time and was his active supporter. During the last twenty years and more he has devoted his time and energy to building up the business of the Council Bluffs Savings bank. When not there he would be found at his home. He commanded the loyalty and devotion of the men who worked with him to a remarkable degree. Some of them have been associated with him in the bank for twenty-five years.

Modest and Unassuming.

"Mr. Beresheim was a modest, unassuming man. I had evidence of this when some years ago I asked him to take my place as president of the bank, he at that time being its vice president and active manager. He said, 'No, we have held our respective positions so many years that I want no change until one of us is taken away.' It was only by repeated solicitations that he was induced to accept that office.

"Mr. Beresheim was a sociable and companionable man, one who enjoyed his friends, although his circle was not large, and was likewise fond of music and

Mt. Vernon Has Commission.

NEW YORK, Nov. 3.—Mount Vernon,

LESHIP

NORTH DAW-BLOWING BE.

PEED TEST

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Nov. 5.—As the sta was comnce run today,

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THE AUGUST BERESHEIM HOUSE

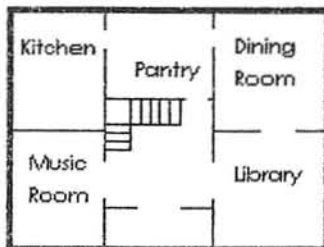
Built in 1899, the August Beresheim is the spacious home of a well-to-do Council Bluffs family who had close associations with General Dodge and his businesses.

John Beresheim, August's father, came to Council Bluffs from Bavaria in 1855. After working in several mercantile and hardware businesses, he joined the Pacific National Bank which merged with Baldwin and Dodge banking office in 1870 into the Council Bluffs Savings Bank. Nathan P. Dodge was the first president until 1902, when John Beresheim was appointed to the post. On the death of his father in 1909, August was appointed and served until his own death in 1916 at the age of 53. August was born in Council Bluffs and spent his entire business career at the bank beginning as a teen-ager.

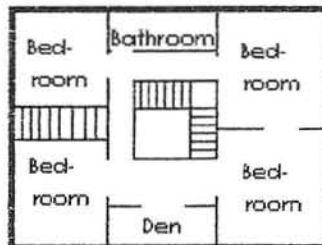
August Beresheim married Miss Clara Teal in 1889 and they had one child, Theda, who never married. Stebbins A. Teal, Beresheim's father-in-law, was closely associated with the building of the house and designed the main staircase along with other interior features. He also helped with the purchase of the land which at that time was not owned by Grenville Dodge. General Dodge owned the land from 1868 until 1875. Teal was a gentleman, farmer, draftsman, and master mechanic for the Council Bluffs Iron Works where General Dodge was on the Board of Directors.

The original uses of the room are as follows:

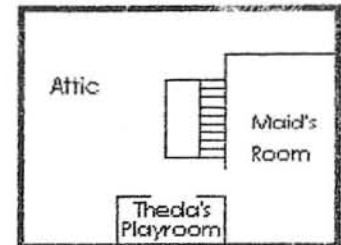
First Floor



Second Floor



Third Floor



The original light fixtures in the house are the chandelier in the second floor den and the brackets by the south door, first floor and by the third floor door at the head of the staircase. These brackets were originally gas and have been recently electrified.

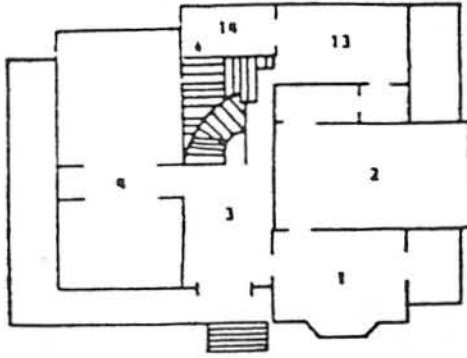
In 1954, Theda Beresheim sold the house and it became a nursing home and in the last years was a dormitory for the Iowa Western Community College. In 1974 it was purchased by the City of Council Bluffs as an orientation center for the Dodge House.

During these intervening years, much of the white oak staircase had been removed and it was entirely enclosed. For restoration, two newel posts and four sections of railings and balusters had to be replaced along with two carved newel post caps and three carved hanging pendants which was done by a wood sculptor. The staircase and most of the first floor and second floor hallway was then refinished.

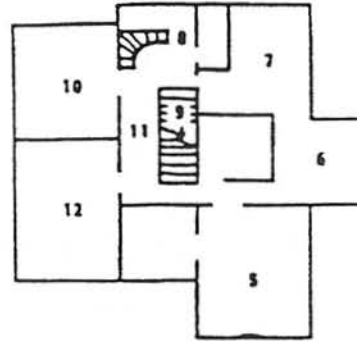
HISTORIC GENERAL DODGE HOUSE

605 Third Street
Council Bluffs, Iowa

FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



1. LIBRARY

The most authentic room in the house, the library is furnished with the original black walnut and butternut bookcases and secretary. The large portrait over the mantel introduces you to the man who built the home, General Grenville Mellen Dodge. Other personal possessions in the room are the crossed sabers over the portrait and door, ornate clock and bison horn candlesticks on the mantle, Tiffany bronze inkwell on the secretary, and the family Bible on the center table. The Winchester Saddle-ring carbine, model 1866, was presented to Dodge by the Union Pacific Railroad.

- The solarium on the south houses plants and cabinets for additional china storage.

2. DINING ROOM

Many distinguished persons have been entertained in this impressive and historic room. Allegedly, five former U.S. Presidents including Grant, McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Harding and Generals Sherman, Black and Logan have dined here. The lovely silver service was a gift from the General to his daughter, Lettie, when she married. Hanging above the Italian marble mantle is a game still life by Burchi, for which Dodge had a great affection, and the four large candlesticks in the room came from his private railroad dining car.

- Opening off the dining room is the small butlery or china closet with a marble topped sink, china storage cupboards, and a pass-through to the kitchen

3. ENTRANCE HALL

The gracious entrance hall is typical of a well-designed Victorian home. The paper-mache etagere on the south wall is inlaid with mother-of-pearl and is in its original location. It was a favorite piece of Mrs. Dodge. The lamp on the newel post and the hall chandelier are original light fixtures. The round oak pedestal table, at the base of the stairway, is an original Dodge item. The Simon Willard Banjo clock was always kept in the staircase niche by the Dodge family.

4. PARLORS

Of special note here are the original pier mirrors on the front and back walls, which give a breathtaking reflection of the crystal chandeliers. The parquet flooring was laid with square nails. Also note the lovely Brussels lace curtains, reproductions made in Switzerland especially for these rooms.

- The front parlor, the more formal of the two, is furnished with a Louis XVI Revival set, upholstered with original crimson damask draperies. The white marble fireplace is graced with Mrs. Dodge's Old Paris ear vases and to the right of the fireplace is an Italian oil painting that belonged to the Dodges. On the elaborately inlaid fruitwood table, in the center of the room, rests a fine amethyst Mary Gregory vase that belonged to the Dodge family.
- In the less formal back parlor, hang portraits of General and Mrs. Dodge as they looked in the late 1860's. The six-piece set of Victorian parlor chairs (Louis XV) is original, as is the French painting over the fireplace, a presentation piece to the General for his work on their railroad system.

PLEASE PROCEED UP THE STAIRS AND TURN SLIGHTLY LEFT TO...

5. THE GENERAL'S DEN

The masculine atmosphere of this cozy room, with its bedroom alcove, is comparable with General Dodge's tastes. The furnishings are all of local provenance, complimented by personal belongings – his vest, razors, walking stick, and a book of congratulatory telegrams and cards received on his 75th birthday. The paintings are done by George Simons, an American primitive painter, who worked as a cook for Dodge's railroad surveying crew.