

**IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION**

(Office located on ground floor Capitol Building)

**ROBERT E. ECKMAN, Des Moines, Director****ECKMAN, Robert E.****Polk County****Director Iowa Real Estate Commission**

Born Oct. 22, 1909, son of August R. and Rhoda A. Eckman. Educated in Des Moines public schools, graduated from North High School. Married Lillie B. Butcher of Des Moines, 1941. Father of a daughter, Marilyn, age 13. Member of National Guard, 1927, and called to active duty with the 34th Infantry Division February, 1941. Served overseas in WWII from April, 1942 to June, 1945. Taken prisoner by Germans in Tunisia, North Africa, Feb. 17, 1943. Liberated by American forces at Moosburg, Germany, April 28, 1945. Retired from active duty as lieutenant colonel, October, 1954.

**MELVIN D. SYNHORST, Secretary of State and Chairman.****GEORGE L. TOWNE, Des Moines; term ending June 30, 1965.****ALTON H. SANDERS, Charles City; term ending June 30, 1965.****STEPHEN G. DARLING, Iowa City; term ending June 30, 1967.****GERY M. MARTIN, Sioux City; term ending June 30, 1967.**

The first real estate license law was enacted by the 43rd General Assembly and became effective Jan. 1, 1930. The law was administered by the secretary of state, who was designated as real estate commissioner. This law was amended and revised by the 51st General Assembly to provide, among other things, that as of January 1, 1946, the law would be administered by a five-member commission composed of the secretary of state as chairman and four additional members appointed by the governor with the approval of the senate.

During the past 17 years it has been the administrative policy of the Real Estate Department to correct most of the evils in the real estate brokerage business which had developed over many years of uncontrolled practice. This has resulted in elevating the real estate business to a professional status and has tended to encourage men and women in all walks of life to enter this business where income is based on intelligence, initiative and hard work.

While the present law requires a rather complete and comprehensive written examination for all applicants it has not tended to deter or discourage the many people who are endeavoring to get into this business. The examinations are held once a month at a specific time and place set by the commission.

The fees for a broker's and salesman's examination are \$10.00 and \$5.00 respectively. The same amount is charged each year for renewal of the license, which expires on Dec. 31 of the year of issuance.

The department prepares and distributes free to the citizens of Iowa a Real Estate Primer which is a basis for the qualifying examination and which has been accepted and used as a textbook by many high schools, colleges and universities in Iowa and many other states. This primer and the educational institutes held over the state each year have

contributed materially in reducing law violations to a minimum and have facilitated the economical and efficient operation of the department.

The department is also charged with the responsibility of regulating and investigating the business conduct of all real estate licensees in their relationship with the public, and holds hearings on formal complaints which contain evidence which would indicate a violation of the law.

### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

(Office located on fourth floor, State Office Building)

Appointed by Governor; term six years.

LAWRENCE PUTNEY, Tama County, Republican, Chairman; term expires June 30, 1967.

MARSHALL C. JEWELL, Monona County, Republican; term expires June 30, 1965.

MRS. IRENE M. SMITH, Wapello County, Democrat; term expires June 30, 1969.

R. H. WHITLATCH, Marion County, Secretary.

The Board of Social Welfare is vested with the authority to administer state and federal funds appropriated by the federal social security law and the Iowa legislature for old age assistance, aid to the blind, aid to dependent children, aid to disabled, emergency relief, and child welfare services.

Medical assistance for the aged (M.A.A.) was approved for the state, with an appropriation of \$2,000,000, effective July, 1963.

Under the terms of the law, county boards of social welfare, also bipartisan, are appointed annually by the county boards of supervisors. The county welfare boards receive applications for assistance from needy aged, children, blind, and disabled in the various counties and make recommendations for assistance grants. The county boards also cooperate with the state board in giving protective services to children.

The State Board of Social Welfare is required to cooperate with the federal government, according to the provisions of the federal social

#### PUTNEY, Lawrence, Tama County

Republican

Chairman, State Board of Social Welfare

Born Nov. 3, 1899, Grundy Center, Iowa. Educated in the Cedar Falls public schools, State College of Iowa, and Iowa State University. Married Geneva Eldridge; they are parents of four children, Mark, Des Moines; Mrs. Dick Secor, Omaha, Neb.; Mrs. David Tews, Lincoln, Neb., and Johnny, attending University of Nebraska. Active in civic affairs; former mayor, councilman, chairman library board, and other activities. Retired from business in 1955. Now owns and operates several farms; active in production of registered Aberdeen Angus cattle. Member American Legion, Elks, I.O.O.F., A.F. & A.M., Iowa Consistory, El Kahir Shrine, Phi Sigma Epsilon, Methodist Church Elected in 1944 as Tama County state representative. Re-elected in 1946, 1948, 1950 and 1952. Speaker pro tempore 54th General Assembly. Elected to the senate 1954, 1958.

