

Register

CEMBER 27, 1951

NO. 78



Charles E. Dexter

County Clerk C. E. Dexter Is Summoned

Former Grinnellian Died
In Montezuma This
Morning After Long Illness

Charles E. Dexter, for the past 13 years clerk of the district court of Poweshiek county, died at his home in Montezuma early this morning. He had been brought home a few days previously from the Methodist hospital in Des Moines. Mr. Dexter had been ill for a long time and had not been able to be in his office for many weeks. He was 67 years old.

Funeral Plans Incomplete

Funeral plans are incomplete at time of going to press.

Surviving are his wife and four children, Mrs. Bernice Saffris of Des Moines, Everett of Chicago, Mrs. Ruth Wilcox of Sacramento, Calif., and Cecil Charles, also of Sacramento.

Former Grinnellian

Mr. Dexter was a former Grinnell resident, having made his home here prior to his election as county clerk, after which he moved to Montezuma. While here he was associated with the George & Hoyt hardware store. He also wrote insurance and served for a time as city assessor.

A Good Public Servant

Mr. Dexter was a good public servant. Callers in his office were always courteously treated and efficiently served and he had a wide acquaintance all over the county. His was a genial and friendly personality and he will be greatly missed.

Appointment of a successor, until a new clerk can be elected, is in the hands of the board of supervisors. During Mr. Dexter's illness, the office has been operated efficiently by his deputy, Mrs. Edith Knap.

Funeral Services For Chas. E. Dexter

Friends from all over the county attended funeral services for County Clerk Chas. E. Dexter in the Steffy funeral home in Montezuma Sunday afternoon. The service was conducted by Rev. Wm. Welsh, who had performed the marriage ceremony for Mr. and Mrs. Dexter. Piano selections were played by Miss Alice Underwood. 12-31-51

Active pall bearers were Carl E. Child, Chas. P. Vogel, and F. W. Tomasek of Grinnell and R. J. Smith, E. W. McNeil and Norman McFarlin of Montezuma.

Honorary pall bearers, chosen from Mr. Dexter's close friends in the court house, were O. C. Mason, county auditor, R. J. McDonald, county treasurer, Fred Cochran, sheriff, Carl Olson, county engineer, Kelley Davis, county assessor, and the members of the board of supervisors, Clifford Braley, Clem DeMeulenaere and Harry Miller.

Burial was in the Jackson township cemetery.

Charles Edward Dexter, son of Harry and Margaret Bell Dexter, was born in Chicago, Ill., on Oct. 30, 1884, and passed away at his home in Montezuma on Dec. 27, 1951. He was one of a family of nine children, six sons and three daughters.

After spending his early years near Shelby, Mo., he located in Sheridan township where he was married to Lucy Blanche McFate, on Feb. 20, 1907.

To this union four children were born, two sons and two daughters; Everett of Chicago, Ill.; (Ruth) Mrs. R. T. Wilcox, of Sacramento, Calif.; (Bernice) Mrs. W. E. Saffris, of Des Moines, and Charles Cecil, of Sacramento, Calif.

The Dexters moved to Grinnell in 1918 and lived there for twenty years. All of their children graduated from Grinnell high school.

Mr. Dexter has served as county clerk of Poweshiek county since Jan. 1, 1939.

He was a good father, a general, kindly man, and will be missed by a large circle of friends. Four brothers preceded Mr. Dexter in death, Franklin, Robert Truman, Merritt Waller, and Walter Friar. He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife, four children, four grandchildren, Judith and Richard Wilcox, Charles and Richard Saffris; three sisters, Mrs. Ernest Erwin, Mrs. Georgena Blackford, and Mrs. Edith Long, all of Shelby, Mo.; and his brother, Joe Dexter, of Grinnell.