

# MRS. TRUMAN O. DOUGLASS PASSES AWAY

1937  
Her Life Was Closely  
Identified With  
Early Grinnell.

One of the noble women whose lives were closely identified with the up building of early Grinnell has crossed "over the river" and rests "in the shade of the trees." Mrs. Maria Greene Douglass, widow of the late Rev. T. O. Douglass, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Abott C. Page, in Claremont, California, on May 3, after a long period of febleness. She was born Sept. 10, 1843 and would have been 94 years old on her next birthday.

Dr. and Mrs. Douglass were for many years prominent figures in the Congregational history of Iowa. Their influence was far reaching and helpful wherever it touched. Mrs. Douglas reared her large family in Grinnell. She was a woman of strong convictions, of fine Christian nature and of instinctive refinement.

Surviving children are H. Paul of Upper Montclair, New Jersey; T. O., Jr. of Claremont, Calif.; M. Hole of Eugene, Oregon; Faith (Mrs. A. C. Page) of Claremont, California; Grace, (Mrs. H. W. Orr) of Lincoln, Nebraska and an adopted daughter, Agnes (Mrs. W. B. Pinkerton) of Los Angeles, California. Fourteen grand-children and six great grand-children also survive her. Winfred H., a fourth son, died in an accident near Des Moines in 1924. Her husband, the Rev. Truman O. Douglass, for many years Superintendent for Home Missions in Iowa and Trustee of Grinnell College, died in 1925.

She was the next to the youngest of ten children and spent her childhood on her father's farm near Honeoye, Ontario County, New York. The father, Benoni Greene, a farmer-teacher, was an out-spoken Abolitionist and was one of a considerable group who withdrew from the Protestant Methodist church of Honeoye to become charter members of an Independent Church where they would be free to express their anti-slavery sentiments.

At the age of twelve she moved with her family to Platteville, Wis., and later attended the Platteville Academy from which she was graduated in 1861. She also graduated from the State Normal School of Albany, N. Y. and took a special course in "Kindergarten Training" in Oswego. From 1865-1867 she taught in a Quaker school in Philadelphia, the Miss Susan Hayhurst Seminary for Young Ladies and Kindergarten for children.

She was married June 25, 1868 to Truman O. Douglass, then recently established in his first and only parish at Osage, Iowa. Here they lived fourteen years and here all of their children were born. Coming to Grinnell in 1882 they moved into the house at 914 East Street (alho it bore no number in those days) which was only slightly disturbed by the cyclone a few weeks before. This was the family home until the removal of Dr. and Mrs. Douglass to Claremont, California.

During the years of her residence in Grinnell, Mrs. Douglass was active in the religious and civic interests of the community and in the missionary organizations of the state. From 1886 to 1896 she was president of the Iowa Woman's Home Missionary Union (Congregational) during which decade the women gave through the Union over \$50,000 to the "Home-land" societies. In 1907 she started the Women's Clubs Endowment Fund by donating a wedding fee which came into her hands, which Fund at the close of the campaign netted \$1,430.55 to the college. To the Elizabeth Earle Magoun Club, of which she was a member, she suggested the desirability of united effort on the part of the women for city betterment. Out of this suggestion came the Civic League of which she was the first chairman.

Services will be held in Claremont on Monday, May 10th; interment in Hazelwood at a later date not yet determined.

## Burial Services Are Held For Mrs. T. O. Douglass

H-R 6-7-37

A group of friends gathered at Hazelwood cemetery Saturday morning to attend brief interment services for the late Mrs. T. O. Douglass, whose death in California was announced a few weeks ago. The services were conducted by Rev. P. A. Johnson, with whom Dr. Douglass was associated for 30 many years in conference work. Dr. Johnson read from the Scriptures, and after an eloquent prayer by Dr. E. A. Steiner read two excerpts which Dr. Douglass had written in tribute to the noble woman who shared his life. The children present were Rev. Paul Douglas of Upper Montclair, N. J., and Mrs. Grace Douglass Orr of Lincoln, Neb. Mrs. Charles DeVore of Ames, with her son Winfred Douglass, a grandson of Mrs. Douglass, was also present.

Burial services for the late Mrs. T. O. Douglass, who passed away a few weeks ago at the home of her daughter, Mrs. A. C. Page in Claremont, Calif., will be held in Hazelwood cemetery next Saturday morning at 9:30 o'clock, conducted by Rev. P. A. Johnson. Mrs. Grace Douglass Orr of Lincoln, Neb., Rev. Paul Douglass of Upper Montclair, N. J., and Mrs. Charles DeVore, with her son Winfred Douglas of Ames will be present. Mr. and Mrs. Page had their reservations made for the trip east but were forced to cancel them when Mr. Page suffered a heart attack. Rev. Paul Douglass is sailing for Europe July 3. Rev. Orville Douglas, who has retired from active preaching, and his wife, now live in Claremont.

6-8-1937