

Elizabeth Fisher Was A Great Lady

H-R July 28, 1950
Descendant of the

Pioneers Died of Heart

Attack, Aged 83 Years
died July 25, 1950

Miss Elizabeth Annette Fisher, 83 years old, beloved teacher of Grinnell children for many years and a very great lady, died at 1:05 a. m. Tuesday in a local hospital, where she had been a patient since she suffered a severe heart attack Friday.

Funeral services conducted by Rev. Leland W. Mann, her pastor, were held this afternoon at the James funeral home. Appropriate music was rendered by Mrs. Lester Hendrickson and



Elizabeth Fisher

Mrs. Harlan Darc, who were accompanied by Mrs. Pat Brock. Pall bearers were Glenn Anderson, Ross Coutts, Carl E. Child, Cecil Myers, Eldon Olds and Croft Pilgrim. Interment was in the Chester cemetery.

Family of Pioneers

Miss Fisher belonged to a family which had an intimate connection with the early days in Chester township, where her parents, Edward and Mary Ellen Davis Fisher, were pioneer settlers. The Fisher family, with its wide ramifications, has had a close connection with the development of Poweshick county. Born on Sept. 14, 1866, she grew to womanhood in the Chester neighborhood, attended the Grinnell college academy and graduated from college with

the class of 1888. Later in life she was honored by election as a member of Phi Beta Kappa, honorary scholastic fraternity.

Her Life Work

Immediately after graduation she took up her life work as a teacher. She taught in Chester until 1891, in Villisca from 1891 through 1893 and in the fall of that year began her long connection with the Grinnell school which was to continue for 38 years until her retirement in 1931 without interruption except one period of 2½ years when she was on leave of absence. She taught first in the basement of Center school, then in South, now called Davis school, moved to Cooper school when that building was erected and for 25 consecutive years taught Latin, history and algebra in the high school.

In "Hall of Fame"

In recognition of her achievements as a teacher, Miss Fisher was listed in the Hall of Fame in the 1949 Grinnellian, high school annual. The annual re-

fers to her as "beloved teacher and friend of countless young people" and says also of her, quoting from an old annual, "She teaches history with a zeal which makes the ancients seem quite real."

Since her retirement Miss Fisher has lived quietly in Grinnell, occupied with many helpful and worthwhile activities. Although she retained her membership in the Chester Congregational church, of which her parents had been charter members, she was constant and devoted in her attendance at the Congregational church in Grinnell, even up to the Sunday preceding her last illness. She was a useful member of the D. A. R. and the Drummond and Searchlight clubs.

Miss Fisher was the last surviving member of a family of five children. A brother and sister, Alfred, the oldest, and Ruth, the youngest, died at an early age of diphtheria. A sister, Fannie O. Fisher and a brother, Eugene Warren Fisher, also preceded her in death.

Survivors

Surviving are two nieces, Ruth Fisher Martin of Wheat Ridge, Colo., and Miss Dorothy Fisher, now employed in Denver, Colo. C. E. Fisher, Grinnell college graduate in 1899 and well known as an athlete and former director of athletics

for the college, now living in Berkeley, Calif., is a cousin and there are countless other cousins, two grand nieces and one grand nephew. One niece, Esther Fisher Raffely, died in 1929.

Up to the last, Miss Fisher retained all her faculties and her mental alertness. She loved people and was actively interested in many worthy causes. Retirement with her did not mean stagnation and failing health did not put a stop to her activities. On the day before her fatal seizure she had made seven calls on her neighbors. Throughout her long life she exemplified the principles of uprightness and sturdy common sense which she had inherited from her pioneer ancestors. She was a lady whose example may well be emulated and whose memory will be cherished.