

Orpha Gorsch (ALBERT)

BC February 22, 1995

Orpha E. Gorsch of Cedar Rapids, passed away Feb. 14 following a lengthy illness. Services were Feb. 17 at Turner Chapel East. Burial was at Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery. Dr. Jerry Springston of First Baptist Church officiated the services.

The eldest of three children born to Orson and Stella Shedenhelm Slaymaker near Ladora, on Jan. 2, 1902, she attended Brush College, Ladora, and Marengo schools, graduating as valedictorian.

She was a homemaker, but taught school briefly before her marriage to Albert E. Gorsch on Dec. 25, 1923, in Marengo. She later taught genealogy for a short time in the Marengo Adult School, a subject in which she had intense interest.

In 1955, Orpha and her husband moved from Cedar Rapids to Ladora, where they made their home until his death in 1973.

Orpha was a member of Daughters of the American Revolution, American Legion Auxiliary, Methodist Women's Society of Ladora and Iowa County Historical Society.

Her husband, Albert, two brothers Clarence and Merritt Slaymaker, her parents, and eldest son, Orrin, preceded her in death. Orrin died in 1955.

Surviving is her son, Rawson and his wife, Alice, with whom Orpha made her home the last years. She also leaves two grandchildren, Steven and wife Karen of Monticello, Bernard and wife Rebecca of Marion; one great-grandson, Steven Raymond Gorsch of Monticello; two sisters-in-law, Dorothy Slaymaker and Elsa Schumann, both of Marengo; and many nieces and nephews.