Mrs. Louise Henely Dies Suddenly

Life Of Many Activities Reaches Its Close Saturday Morning

Mrs. Louise Henely died as she had lived, busily and happily engaged in the varied activities which had engrossed her for so many years. She was found sitting at her desk Saturday noon by Wilford S. Smiley, who had gone to her home on a neighborly mission to take her a dish which Mrs. Smiley had prepared for her luncheon. Death had been instantaneous and without a struggle. She was 77 years old.

Funeral Thursday

Funeral services in charge of Rev. W. F. Overhulser will be held Thursday at 2:30 p.m. at the Methodist church. Burial will be in Hazelwood cemetery beside her husband, who was for many years the beloved and successful superintendent of the Grinnell schools. Friends may call at the Smith funeral home.

A woman of abounding vitality and brilliant mind, a ready and witty speaker and an able writer, Mrs. Henely had won for herself a statewide reputation for her many varied activities in women's organizations. To each organization in which she became interested she brought a distinct contribution which was recognized by the many important offices which she had held.

Her life may be considered as divided into two sections, first as the housewife and mother, devoted in her care for her husband and two daughters and the period following Mr. Henely's death, during which she became increasingly concerned in club activities.

She was Indomitable

Mrs. Henely's health had been failing since she was seriously injured when struck by an automobile two years ago and a few months ago she spent some time in the hospital as a result of a heart condition, but with indomitable determination she left the hospital to preside in Des Moines at the convention of the Iowa Daughters of the American Revolution of which she was the retiring state regent. She had returned only last week from Washington, D.C., where she had attended the Continental Congress of the DAR.

Gave Keynote Address

Mrs. Henely took an active and constructive interest in politics and in 1944 was chosen to deliver the keynote address and to be temporary chairman of the state Republican convention, the
Mrs. Henely --

(Continued from page 1)

first time that honor had ever been conferred upon a woman. The speech which she made on that occasion was highly praised; in fact, every speech that Mrs. Henely made was highly praised. She was at ease on any occasion and her services were much in demand. A few years ago she went to South America as one of a group on a goodwill tour and later visited Mexico, and was so popular as a speaker on her experiences that sometimes it seemed that Mrs. Henely spent more time out of Grinnell filling her club engagements that she did at home. Within recent months she had also made a European tour.

Club Activities

Besides her association with the DAR, Mrs. Henely was a past president of the Iowa Federation of Women's clubs, of the Daughters of 1912, of the Iowa P. E. O. Sisterhood and of the National Society of Parliamentarians. She was national secretary of American Pen Women, was a lifetime trustee of Carley college, the P. E. O. educational project, and also found time to belong to the Iowa Press Women, Des Moines Business and Professional Women's club and the Eastern Star.

War Services

During World War I she was Poweshiek county chairman of the woman's division of the Council of National Defense and vice chairman of the county Red Cross. She had been a trustee of Stewart library since 1928, taking her husband's place after his death and was past director of the Community hospital and of the Social Service league.

Her main hobby was the collection of antiques, of which her home contained many beautiful specimens.

A Busy Life

Mrs. Henely was born near North Liberty, the daughter of Lt. Col. Alex J. Miller and Mary Louise McCollum Miller. As she approached womanhood she taught school and also worked for the Oxford Journal, of which her father was publisher, acquiring a facility in expression which was to stand her in good stead in later life. In 1892, just as she was entering Iowa University, she was married to Eugene M. Henely, whose devoted wife she was until his death in 1928. In addition to her studies at Iowa, she also attended classes in Grinnell college and in the School of Social Research in New York, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Henely had two daughters, Inez Louise, for a number of years a member of the college library staff in Grinnell, and Margaret Kirkley Black, who lived in Mountain Lake, N. J. Both daughters preceded their mother in death.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Laura Metcalf of Sioux City, a brother, Oliver H. Miller of Des Moines and three grandchildren.