

Monday, August 8, 1960

8/5/60
**Funeral Services
Held Today For
Alice Johnson, 89**

Mrs. Alice Johnson, 89, Grinnell died Friday night following an extended illness.

Funeral services were held this afternoon (Monday) from the James-Schalinske Funeral Home with Dr. Leland Mann and Dr. Judson E. Fiebiger officiating. Organist was Mrs. Kathleen Heffner.

Pallbearers were Carl Flanagan, Elmer Galt, Croft Pilgrim, W. C. Oelke, Ralph Beebe and Victor Keiser. Interment will be in Hazelwood cemetery.

The daughter of Charles and Emalie Johnson Piper, she was born on Dec. 20th, 1870 at Royalston, Mass. As a young child she moved to Tabor, Iowa, where she attended the Tabor schools and Tabor College.

On Oct. 20th, 1893, she was united in marriage with P. A. Johnson. They lived in Minnesota a few years and then moved to Ottumwa, Iowa, where Mr. Johnson served as pastor of the Congregational church. In 1907, they moved to Grinnell and Mr. Johnson served as superintendent of the Congregational Conference.

She had made her home in Grinnell since that time. She was a member of the First Congregational church and the Elizabeth Earle Magoun club.

Mrs. Johnson is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Theodore Thomas of Cedar Rapids and Mrs. S. E. Guyan of Monticello; four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, who died in 1949; two children, who died in infancy; and one sister.

Congregational Iowa Oct 1960

Tribute to Mrs. P. Adelstein Johnson

THOSE WHO KNEW HER during her husband's long service in Iowa will be saddened to learn of the death of Alice Piper Johnson, widow of Dr. Peter Adelstein Johnson, superintendent of the Iowa Conference from 1907 until his retirement in 1939.

Mrs. Johnson died in the Mayflower Home infirmary on August 6, 1960, after an illness of several weeks. She was born December 20, 1870, in Royalston, Massachusetts. She attended Tabor College in Iowa, where she met and later married (on October 20, 1893) P. A. Johnson, recently graduated from Yale Divinity School. The first pastorate was in Montevideo, Minnesota. In 1900 they came to First Church, Ottumwa, from which Dr. Johnson was called in 1907 to his post as superintendent of the Iowa Conference, a post he filled for 31 years with great distinction. He died on March 24, 1949. She is survived by two daughters, Helen (Mrs. S. E. Guyan of Monticello) and Dorothy (Mrs. Theodore Thomas of Cedar Rapids), as well as four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Johnson was a member of the Grinnell Church for almost fifty-three years, and a member of the historic Elizabeth Earle Magoun Club in Grinnell. Through these two organizations she channeled much of her community helpfulness, as well as through the local and state Fellowship of Congregational Christian women. In the latter she was given several assignments of responsibility in which she rendered capable service.

She cooperated happily with her husband as hostess to many visitors coming to the home on Conference business. At the Annual Minister's Fellowship Conference in Grinnell, after the Gates lecture each evening, groups of newer ministers enjoyed

the hospitality of the Johnson home.

My acquaintance with the P. A. Johnson family dates back to 1912 when I first came to Iowa. Seven years later I became an associate of Dr. Johnson on the Iowa Conference staff, a relationship which continued for 16 years when I became his successor as superintendent of the Conference. He was my beloved friend and counselor until his death in 1949. During all these years I have been often in the Johnson home and thus came to know and appreciate Mrs. Johnson also. My debt to these dear friends is much beyond my poor power to evaluate or compensate. In my collection of memories, Peter Adelstein Johnson and his gracious wife, Alice Piper Johnson, often have a distinctive radiance.

In thinking of Mrs. Johnson's useful life in her home and in the local Congregational Church and in the Conference, plus her satisfactions from membership in the Elizabeth Earle Magoun Club, we can the more readily see why Dr. Johnson in reviewing the blessings connected with his Tabor College days would always emphasize that the crowning blessing of those happy days was the coming into his life of Alice Earle Piper. She fitted so well into his commitments to high purpose and their realization. Just as he dedicated his book, "The First Century of Congregationalism in Iowa" to "My wife whose encouragement and cooperation have made this book possible," he would also give much credit to the beloved companion for the outstanding contribution which Dr. Johnson made to our denominational progress in Iowa, the nation and throughout the world. We link them together in our loving and grateful remembrance.

—Royal J. Montgomery