

Clara Beeler *H-R*
Russell *Sept. 6, 1990*

Clara Beeler Russell, 89, of Newton, formerly of rural Grinnell, died Saturday at Embassy Manor in Newton.

Claude
Funeral services were conducted Wednesday at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. John Epperson of the Grinnell Christian Church, officiating. Organist was Alice Renaud. Pallbearers were her great-grandchildren, Dan, Todd, William, Roger, Robert, Rodney, Andrea, Kimberly and Troy Beeler. Burial was in Lower Blue Point Cemetery.

She was the daughter of Edward and Annie Estella Thompson and was born March 24, 1901, on the family farm south of Grinnell. She attended Washington Township School No. 1 and graduated from Grinnell High School. She received her teaching certificate from Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls and taught school in Madison and Washington townships.

She was married to William Jennings Beeler Oct. 7, 1919, in Montezuma. The couple farmed in the Jacob Switch area south of Grinnell. Following the death of her husband in 1962, she moved to Grinnell. She was married to Claude Russell Nov. 7, 1964, and the couple moved to Des Moines. Following Mr. Russell's death, she returned to Grinnell in 1972.

She was a member of the United Methodist Church, the Rebekah Lodge and Pythian Sisters of Grinnell, the Sweet Briar Rebekah Lodge and Excelsior Temple No. 23 of Des Moines, and the Blue Point Grange, of which she was a charter member.

Surviving are a son, Lyle Beeler of Grinnell; three grandsons; nine great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husbands; two daughters, Doris Mae Harter and Dorthea Estella Beeler; one grandson; and two brothers, Fred and Bert Thompson.

Memorials may be made to the Heritage Park Foundation.