

H-12
Thursday, October 19, 1967

Mrs. Saunders Dies In Grinnell Hospital

Mrs. Mae Sheppard Saunders, 81, of 1202 Main St., in Grinnell, died Monday afternoon at Community Hospital.

The daughter of James and Mary M. Sheppard Wilbert, Mrs. Saunders was born May 10, 1886, at Minnewaukan, N. Dak. She graduated from high school at Pierre, S. Dak., and received her college education at the University of South Dakota and the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago.

Mrs. Saunders had performed with the Chicago Metropolitan Opera Company and also with the Chautauqua. She taught music at Emporia State Teachers College in Emporia, Kan.

It was at Emporia that she was united in marriage with Oliver S. Saunders, who was athletic coach for the college. Later they moved to Chicago where Mrs. Saunders returned to the American Conservatory of Music as dean of women. She held this position for 38 years.

Mr. Saunders died eight years ago and in 1963 Mrs. Saunders moved to Grinnell to be near her sister, Mrs. Pauline Crawford.

Mrs. Saunders was a member of the First Church of Christ, Scientist of Grinnell and Sigma Alpha Iota, musical fraternity of which she had been a national vice president.

Survivors include her sister, Mrs. Crawford; three nieces —

Mrs. Albert E. (Mary K.) Eisenman of Grinnell, Mrs. Howell (Ruth) Fuller of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., and Miss Eleanor Payne of Chicago; and two nephews, James Crawford of Des Moines, and Coe Crawford of Buffalo, N. Y.

Mrs. Saunders was preceded in death by her husband and one sister, Mrs. Iwae Payne.

A memorial service for Mrs. Saunders was held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Smith Funeral Home. Mrs. Irma Anderson, first reader for the First Church of Christ, Scientist, officiated and Mrs. Russell Otcheck was organist.

Following cremation, her ashes will be taken to Chicago.

Oliver S.