

H-R December 1, 1983

Fran Dempster dies Tuesday

Fran Dempster, 75, wife of Keith Dempster, Rte. 1, Grinnell, died Tuesday night, Nov. 29, in the emergency room at Grinnell General Hospital of a coronary condition.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Smith Funeral Home with burial in Chester Cemetery.

She was born Nov. 30, 1907, in Gilman, the daughter of Willard and Pansy Carney Seager. She attended Gilman schools, graduating with the class of 1925. She attended

Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls, and graduated from the University of Wyoming. She later did advanced work at Colorado State College, Greeley. She taught in the Gilman schools prior to her marriage.

She was married to Keith Dempster at Gilman Aug. 13, 1930, and the couple farmed in the Grinnell area.

After her marriage and the birth of her children, she returned to teaching, teaching in the Chester Center, Sheridan Township and Rock Creek Township rural schools for a number of years.

In the spring of 1958 she became associated with the Grinnell-Newburg schools as an elementary teacher. From 1964 to 1972 she was a special-education teacher in the Grinnell-Newburg school system and as such was one of the first five special-education teachers in Iowa and became recognized for her work in that field. For a short time she also taught courses in special education at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. She retired from teaching in 1972.

In 1973 she received a professional award as an Outstanding Teacher from the Iowa Association of Retarded Children.

She also was a member of the Iowa State Historical Association and Delta Kappa Gamma professional teachers' sorority.

She is survived by her husband; two children, Keith W. Dempster, Iowa City, and Rita F. Dempster, Des Moines; a granddaughter; a brother, Louis Johnson, Canoga Park, Calif., and a sister, Myra Pease, LaFeria, Texas.

H-R
December 5, 1983

Fran Dempster services held

Funeral services for Fran S. Dempster, 75, of Rte. 1, who died Nov. 29 at Grinnell General Hospital, were conducted at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Smith Funeral Home.

The Rev. Philip J. Ramstad, pastor of the Grinnell United Church of Christ-Congregational, officiated. Organist was Kathleen Heffner. Pallbearers were Moshen Aghamirzai, Dave Benson, Worthin Gratten, Francis Graves, Robert Renaud, Lavern Weaver, Bill Weeks and Willard Wells.

Burial was at Chester Cemetery north of Grinnell.

Donations to the Fran Dempster Memorial may be left at the Smith Funeral Home.