

## Mrs. Stephen Epler Nominated As — Mother Of The Year

Mrs. Stephen J. Epler of 1811 Eighth Ave. has not only received the honor of being nominated as Mother of the Year by the Grinnell Council of United Church Women, but by being one of the sixteen who received Certificates of Merit by the American Mothers Committee, Inc. Mrs. Robert Armstrong of Cedar Rapids was chosen State Mother of the Year.

Mrs. Epler was invited to the reception for Mrs. Armstrong Sunday, May 1, held at the Roosevelt Hotel in Cedar Rapids where she received her award. A proclamation was read by the representative sent by Gov. Hershell Loveless.

The wife of Rev. Stephen Jules Epler, a retired minister, Mrs. Epler was born in Saunders County, Nebraska, and was a graduate of Cotner College, Lincoln, Neb., and the Christian Bible College, Denver, Colo. The Eplers have served churches in Brooklyn, West Liberty, and Madison, Iowa; Fairfield, Neb.; Alliance, Neb.; Norton, Kans.; Hominy and Bonner Springs, Okla.

Her many activities include P.E.O., Eastern Star, Rebekah Lodge, Community Hospital Auxiliary, vice president, WCTU, and board of managers of the United Church Council. She has also been a Sunday school teacher and an active leader in all church activities of the Christian church.

Mr. and Mrs. Epler celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary this year. They have four children to whom Mrs. Epler has been a successful mother. Robin Bruce, the eldest son, attended West Point Military Academy. He was a Colonel in World War II and Deputy Commander of Elgin Field in Florida when killed in a plane crash.



Mrs. Stephen J. Epler

Stephen Edward is president of Reedley Junior college in Reedley, Calif. Irene, Mrs. Marion Vickers, is a teacher and wife of a teacher. She has been superintendent of schools at Watonga, Okla. Dr. Paul Epler is now specializing in anesthesiology in San Francisco. The Eplers have nine grandchildren and one great grandchild.

## Grinnell Rites For Mrs. Stephen Epler

Mrs. Claudia Blanch Epler, wife of the Rev. Stephen J. Epler of Grinnell and former pastor of the Madison Church of Christ, died Wednesday, Jan. 22, at a Des Moines hospital where she had been admitted about a week previously. Mrs. Epler was 76 years old.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at the Grinnell Christian church with the Rev. Roy Coop officiating. Organist was Sue Ryan.

Interment was in Hazelwood cemetery with Herbert Kleiss, Don Larsen, Verner Bolen, James Lang, Burdette Abel and Melvin Doty serving as pallbearers. Elders of the Grinnell Christian church

were honorary pallbearers. Flower attendants were Mrs. Joe Shimp, Mrs. Lyle Wiley and Mrs. Corrine Stevenson. A Claudia Epler memorial fund was established at the Grinnell Christian church.

She was born June 17, 1887, at Yutan, Neb., the daughter of George and Lilliebelle Gris-ham Paramenter. She attended high school at Ashland, Neb. and college at Cotner College, Lincoln, Neb., later receiving a B.S.L. degree from Colorado Christian Bible College at Denver, Colo. In 1928 she received her ordination in the ministry at Norton, Kan.

On Sept. 12, 1906, she was married to Stephen J. Epler at Lincoln, Neb. Three sons and one daughter were born to the couple. They are Col. Robin Bruce Epler, a West Point graduate who was killed in an aircraft accident in 1944; Dr. Stephen Edward Epler, president of the College of Martin, Kentfield, Calif.; Dr. Paul G. Epler, an anesthesiologist of San Diego, Calif. and Mrs. M.M. (Irene) Vickers of Midwest City, Okla.

In addition to her husband and three children, Mrs. Epler is survived by 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The Rev. and Mrs. Epler moved from the Madison community to Grinnell about seven years ago when the Rev. Mr. Epler retired from the ministry. They had lived in the Madison community for 11 years. Previous to serving the Madison church, they were located in various places including Brooklyn at which time a Christian church was located here.

Mrs. Epler was a member of the Grinnell Christian church, P.E.O., Eastern Star and Rebekah Lodge, of which she held the office of past chaplain of the Kansas Grand Lodge. She was vice president of the Grinnell W.C.T.U. and a few years ago was named Grinnell's "Mother of the Year."

Thursday, January 23, 1964

## Saturday Rites Slated Here For Mrs. Claudia Epler

Mrs. Claudia Blanch Epler, wife of the Rev. Stephen J. Epler of Grinnell, died shortly before noon Wednesday at a Des Moines hospital.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday from the Grinnell Christian church with the Rev. Roy Coop. pastor, officiating. Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home until 10 a.m. Saturday.

Organ music at the services will be provided by Miss Sue Ryan. Pallbearers will be Herbert Kleiss, Don Larsen, Verner Bolen, James Lang, Burdette Abel, and Melvin Doty. Elders will be honorary pallbearers.

Flower bearers will be Mrs. Joe Shimp, Mrs. Lyle Wiley, and Mrs. Corrine Stevenson.

Interment will be in Hazelwood cemetery. A Claudia Epler memorial fund has been established at the local Christian church.

She was born June 17th, 1887, at Yutan, Neb., the daughter of George and Lilliebelle Grisham Paramenter. She attended high school at Ashland, Neb., and college at Cotner College, Lincoln, Neb. She received a B.S.L. degree from Colorado Christian Bible College at Denver.

In 1928, she received her ordination in the ministry at Norton, Kan.

On Sept. 12th, 1906, at Lincoln, Neb., she was united in marriage with Stephen J. Epler. To this union were born three sons and one daughter: Col. Robin Bruce Epler, a West Point graduate, who was killed in an aircraft accident in 1944; Dr. Stephen Edward Epler, president of the College of Marin, Kentfield, Calif.; Dr. Paul G. Epler, anesthesiologist, of San Diego, Calif.; and Mrs. M. M. (Irene) Vickers of Midwest City, Okla.

In addition to her husband and three children, Mrs. Epler is survived by 11 grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Following her graduation from college, Mrs. Epler had lived in Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Iowa.

She was a member of the Grinnell Christian church, P.E.O., Eastern Star, Rebekah Lodge, of which she held the office of past chaplain of the Kansas Grand Lodge. She was vice-president of the Grinnell W. C. T. U. and a few years ago had been a candidate as Grinnell "Mother of the Year."