

Editor A. L. Frisbie Dies Here Friday



LONG CAREER ENDED—A. L. Frisbie, prominent Iowa newsman and retired editor of the Herald-Register, is pictured in this familiar pose taken only a few days prior to his death Friday. Funeral services for Mr. Frisbie were held today at the First Congregational church.

HERALD-REGISTER OFFICE CLOSED DURING SERVICES

The Herald-Register offices were closed today from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in respect to the memory of A. L. Frisbie, and to permit Herald-Register employees to attend the funeral services.

He Served Grinnell Over Half Century

Stricken With Heart
Attack Thurs. Afternoon;
Dies At Hospital Friday

Editor A. L. Frisbie, 80, died here Friday afternoon.

Stricken by a heart attack at his home shortly after noon Thursday, he was taken to a local hospital where death came just about 24 hours after the initial attack.

Lowrie Frisbie was a Grinnell institution.

Over 50 Years

For more than 50 years, he has faithfully chronicled the news of Grinnell and the surrounding area and adopted the position of Grinnell's number one standard bearer.

He was the principal ambassador for both town and gown in constantly striving to improve town-gown relationships.

Lowrie Frisbie was a man of many interests, but primarily, his interests lay in helping to make a better Grinnell.

Accorded Honor

Perhaps it was best stated in the Iowa Master Editor-Publisher award which he received in 1953 . . . "he worked hard, lived honorably, thought carefully and influenced unselfishly". These things Grinnell knows to be fact.

Funeral Services Conducted Today For A. L. Frisbie

Funeral services for A. L. Frisbie, who died Friday at a local hospital, were conducted at the Congregational church at 2:30 p.m. today by the Rev. Leland W. Mann.

Pallbearers were Charles H. Foster, Max Thompson, Owen Rickard, Sharp Lannon, F. W. Tomasek, and Albert J. Pinder.

Serving as honorary pallbearers were Carl E. Child, Clifford Jones, Roy Bates, S. J. Pooley, Croft L. Pilgrim, and G. L. Pierce.

Organ music was by Frank B. Stratton.

Following the services, the body was taken to Des Moines for cremation.

Statewide Renown

His editorial work brought him statewide renown. Many of the newspapers throughout the state quoted from his writings frequently. And to Grinnellians, his humorous and provocative editorials about the rabbit and the talking birds were almost legendary.

Drawing from a vast storehouse of knowledge and endless readings, Lowrie Frisbie's editorials showed aggressive and progressive thinking over a span of more than five decades.

College, Church and Music

Apart from his newspapering, his major interests lay in three areas: Grinnell College, music and the First Congregational church.

A graduate of Grinnell College (class of '00), he later served as alumni trustee on the College board, was active in college alumni work and was invariably present at college theatricals, convocations, music events and athletic contests.

For many years, he sang in college oratorios and cantatas and was also a longtime member of the Congregational church choir.

Devoted Church Member

Devoted to the Congregational church, he was a moderator in the church and served many years on the church board.

Active in many community and civic affairs over the past half-century, he served as president of the Kiwanis club, member of the Elks, director of the Chamber of Commerce and Community chest, and director and past president of the Poweshick County Red Cross.

Many Activities

A member of the Poweshick Club, a discussion group, he served as president of that organization. He also headed the Grinnell Oratorio Society.

In 1950, he received an alumni award from Grinnell

College for service to the college.

Honored

Also, during Grinnell's Centennial year, 1954, he was accorded the title of Honorary Pioneer.

He was a member of many other civic and community groups.

During World War I he enlisted in the American Red Cross camp service in 1917 and spent a year at Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan, being discharged in 1918.

Born In Des Moines

Alfred Lowrie Frisbie was born November 18, 1877, in Des Moines, son of the Rev. A. L. Frisbie and Martha Crosby Frisbie. His father was pastor of the Plymouth Congregational church in Des Moines.

Following his graduation from Des Moines West high school in 1896 he attended Grinnell college, graduating in 1900. While at the college, he served as editor of the college paper, was named to Phi Beta Kappa and played football for the Pioneers.

After a three year stint as city editor of the Fort Dodge Messenger, he went to Des Moines where he served as city editor on the old Des Moines Register and Leader until 1907.

Returns To Grinnell

It was in 1907 that A. L. Frisbie returned to Grinnell and in 1909, was named as editor of the Grinnell Herald, a position that he held until 1936 when the Herald and the Register combined, naming Frisbie as editor. He was a partner of Publisher W. G. Ray at the time of consolidation.

For the next 17 years he served as editor of the combined papers, retiring in 1953 but continuing to write for the Herald-Register until the time of his death.

Married In 1908

Mr. Frisbie was married to the former Margaret Scammon of Northwood, on October 28, 1908, also a Grinnell college graduate (class of 1902) and like her husband also a Phi Beta Kappa.

The Frisbies have one son, Alfred Lowrie, Jr., who is presently on the staff of the Omaha World Herald.

Survivors

Survivors include: his wife; a son A. L., Jr., of Council Bluffs; three grandchildren, Victoria Ann and twins, Mark and Stephen; and a sister, Mrs. Homer J. Clark of Des Moines.

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Editorial, and article, by A.L.P.

Grinnell was saddened Friday by news of the death of A. L. Frisbie.

It was through these very editorial columns that many of you came to know him . . . to marvel at his logic, to chuckle at his humor and to agree or disagree with his provocative writings.

Lowrie Frisbie was many things to many people. As the prime editor in the past 50 years, faithfully recording all that Grinnell had done and constantly urging that more be done, he left his mark on the community.

Many of us had come to believe in him as indestructible. The suddenness of his death was, accordingly, doubly hard to take.

The combination of a scholar and a good newspaperman is a rare one and thus it is that Mr.

Frisbie was a rare one in the newspaper world.

His writings were of the finest . . . and yet they poured from his typewriter with speed and certainty.

We recall with delight his many encounters with his greatest friend and worst enemy—Mother Nature. He loved spring and the green grass, and spent countless hours on his lawn, forking the power mowers for the hand mower to better maneuver around the shrubbery.

But as much as he loved the spring, summer and fall, he detested the winter. Shoveling snow was a medieval torture rack to him, and for walking on ice, he wrote many wonderful editorials extolling his patented duck-walk for safety on ice.

Grinnellians for years followed the antics of the rabbit and

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former Grinnellians in far-away. We shall all miss Lowrie Frisbie's photos were forever sending in his very much . . . identify it as the one he wrote, memories to help in filling the voids and easing the sorrow.

The Served Grinnell Over Half Century

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