

Eugene Henely, 23 Years Superintendent Of Grinnell Schools, Dies On Tuesday

Grinnell Herald Sept. 13, 1928

Eugene Henely, beloved superintendent of the Grinnell public schools for the past 23 years, was summoned by The Supreme Commander at his home, 1014 East street, at 1:15 o'clock Tuesday morning, September 11. He had been ill six weeks, death being caused by a weak heart, induced by indolism.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist Episcopal church at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, Rev. George Blagg, pastor of the church officiating. The body lay in state at the church, with a guard of honor from the high school, from 11 to 1:30 o'clock today with hundreds passing by his bier.

Music for the final rites was arranged for by Frederick Morrison and sung by a special quartet. The pallbearers were: George Edward Marshall, Davenport; George A. Brown, Des Moines; C. E. Humphrey, Frank Marvin, R. G. Coutts and W. G. Ray of Grinnell. The Masonic order had charge of the services at the grave. Interment was in Hazelwood cemetery.

The schools were closed for the day, except for an impressive memorial service held in the high school auditorium this morning. The stores closed today from 2:30 o'clock until 5 o'clock, to honor the memory of one who had won a place in the hearts of all who knew him.



continue their work too long, and he did not wish to make this mistake.

No slightest detail was too small to ever be missed or slighted by Mr. Henely. Each pupil was known and called by name, and he felt a deep interest in his or her welfare, not only in school days but through later years. His graduates of long ago still consulted him upon their plans and work. Some of the most splendid tributes paid him during his illness and since his death have been by his former students, who

know him so well and loved him the more for it.

He has been for 22 years a member of the State Board of Athletic Control for high schools, being one of the founders of the present systematic administration of this work. He has served in various capacities in the State Teachers association and in other educational organizations, serving as chairman of the executive committee of the former organization.

He was married in 1892 to Louise Miller of Oxford, the ceremony being performed in that city. To this union two daughters were born, Iva Louise of Grinnell and Mrs. Margaret Henely Black of Cambridge, Massachusetts. His wife, two daughters and a grandchild, Eugene Charlton Black survive him. His son-in-law, Knox Charlton Black, with the other relatives mentioned, were with him when the end came peacefully Tuesday morning.

Superintendent Henely has been a consistent member of the Methodist church for 28 years, and an active member of the Men's Bible class of the Grinnell church for many years. He was a member of the Masonic order, Brotherhood of Elks, Kiwanis club, Portlighth club and many other civic organizations.

Member Stewart Library
Board 1907-1928

TEACHERS PAY ENORMOUS TRIBUTE TO MR. HENELY

aper Dedicated To Memory
Of Late Superintendent

lay, October 26, 1928, The Orange & Black
stars, Middle Authorities,
frustrated citizens join in
eulogy.

In Memoriam

SEVENTEEN REPLY.

and Dr. Vondra's Statute (ar-
responsibility; Shindell
Cooperation.

honor of one who was ever a
friend and adviser of the school,
and who had his best interests
at heart, the Orange and Black is
making this history of the memory
of Superintendent Henely.



Grinnell and Black feels that it
is fitting and proper to acknowl-
edge the tributes of love and admira-
tion, at our request, by his co-
workers and personal friends.

Superintendent C. E. Humphrey,
editor of Mr. Henely, and a mem-
ber of the Board of Control during
his tenure of office, writes in his
reply: "Mr. Henely was a man of
high character and high ability,
and his death is a great loss to the
community."

that the honor to be his friend
of the I. H. S. A. for the last
of his long career. He was a
man of high character and high
ability, and his death is a great
loss to the community. And
my mind, no higher tribute can
be paid to say than that to say of
him, "He is a Christian gentleman."

Mr. Deputy Superintendent
of the Board of Education says:
"I shall always hold it a
great privilege to have known
and to have associated with him, as a
member of the Board of Education. I
was privileged to enjoy a
close relationship with Mr. Henely. His re-

Eugene Henely was born De-
cember 15, 1859, near Monticello,
Iowa, the son of Michael and Mary
Jane Kirkley Henely. His par-
ents pioneered to Iowa via cover-
ed wagon in the year of 1855. He
received his public and high
school training in the schools of
Monticello.

He was graduated from Iowa
State college at Ames in 1880 and
immediately engaged in teaching,
accepting the position of head of
the schools of Oxford, Iowa. He
taught there for nine years, going
to the superintendency of the
schools of Brooklyn, Iowa, in 1889.

After six years of successful
work there he was called to take
charge of the schools of Grinnell,
in 1905, administering this work
for 22 years, up to the time of his
death. His passing leaves a vacan-
cy in the educational field of Iowa
which it will never be possible to
fill.

During these 38 years of serving
three communities in their school
system, his whole heart and soul
were put in his work. He had
planned to complete the two re-
maining years of his contract here,
and then retire, rounding out 40
years of work in education. He
felt that many school men try to

suffereth long and is kind, which thinketh not of himself but of the welfare and happiness of others; that unselfishness which shines like a star, and makes the true spirit of Christian living. God never made anything finer than a good man. The world is better because Mr. Henely has lived in it."

Mr. Walter T. Jessup, President of the State University of Iowa, sends us the following: "What a fine thing it is that the Orange and Black is dedicating a special issue to the memory of Eugene Henely. 'Gene' as he was known to his friends, was a rare soul, loyal and upright, friendly and true, a fighter for the right, a devoted executive. He will ever live in the hearts of those who knew him. I am honored to be known as a friend of Eugene Henely."

Mr. F. P. Marvin, a former member of the Board of Education, says of Mr. Henely, "In all my years of service on the Board of Education, I found Mr. Henely a courteous gentleman, a true friend, a competent executive, a fine educator, and a man who always had the best interests of the schools of Grinnell, the Faculty, and Students at heart."

The contribution of the Grinnell teachers can thus be summed up, "No greater tribute can be made of Grinnell pay to the memory of Eugene Henely, than to pledge themselves with new determination to carry out the ideal he constantly held up before students and teachers alike. 'Play the game square.'"

Mr. George A. Brown, Executive Secretary of the I. A. S. A. A., sends us this tribute: "For twenty-three years Eugene Henely was Superintendent of schools at Grinnell, and for twenty years he was a member of the Board of Control of the I. H. S. A. A. It is not as an efficient school administrator that we mourn his loss, but it is the loss of the generous, kind-hearted friend and the companion that we always knew would listen with sympathy to any trouble that might arise. The I. H. S. A. A. is what it is because it bears the stamp of his prophetic vision upon the code of ethics, that had been established through its rules. He has exerted an influence upon educational progress in Iowa equalled by few leaders. We could ill afford to lose him."

our whole commonwealth.

But so far as is consistent with those who mourn, we should also rejoice that we have had the opportunity to work with such a man. What has he left us? We cannot list in cold type our inheritance from this

man. We know we are the richer, however, in the spirit of friendliness which so characterized him, in sincerity of purpose in the ideals of honesty and truth, in faith in other human beings, in abiding trust, and in devotion to any cause in the interest of children and youth.

I loved Gene Henely; I shall miss him, but I am better that our paths have crossed and recrossed many times during these last thirty years.

Mr. Studabaker of Des Moines contributes the words:

"It is with a deep sense of personal loss that I have learned of the passing of my good friend, Eugene Henely. My acquaintance and professional contacts with him, covering a period of more than fifteen years, were some of the very enjoyable experiences of my life. I shall remember him always not only as a man of charming personality but as an educator who was devoted to a single school system as a means of making his contribution to our nation's welfare."

Mr. W. I. Griffin, of the Engineering Extension Service of Iowa State College, says, "It was my privilege to become Principal of Grinnell High School at the same time that Mr. Henely became City Superintendent of the Grinnell schools, and to work with him and under his direction, for the next two and a half years. This was a period of real professional growth to me, because Mr. Henely, in his kindly way, took such an interest in all phases of work. He not only had the happy faculty of securing the hearty cooperation of those with whom he served in the school system, but became a life-long friend with whom we felt at liberty to consult on any subject."

Mr. T. M. Clevenger, Superintendent of the Waverly Public Schools and a member of the Board of I. H. S. A. A., contributes the following: "My first knowledge of Superintendent Henely was in October, 1895. We ate dinner at the same table in Mar-engo, where a friendship which has lasted for 22 years began. During these long years of friendship and association, I have had a splendid opportunity to study and know Mr. Henely, the man I have heard it asked by those who did not know Mr. Henely, 'What is the secret of his power and influence among those with whom he comes in contact?' Those who knew him best could readily answer, 'He is a man of character and integrity, with a fine spirit and a big heart.' To know Mr. Henely was to love and respect him. He will be greatly missed by the school

men of the state, but he will be long remembered by those who were fortunate enough to know him."

Supt. Shirley of Marshalltown submits these thoughts: "My associations with Mr. Henely extended through a period of fifteen years, without jar or discord, yielding three very distinct impressions.

He was clearly entitled to high ranking in the field of educational administration and gave Grinnell a distinctively superior school system. As a member of the state athletic board he was a consistent and courageous supporter of high ethical standards, and contributed to the morale of our secondary school athletics in a very essential way.

Stronger than either of these, however, was the impression that he made as a friend and it is in that capacity that I am happiest to remember him. His original personality, his wide range of information, and his high ideals made association with him most companionable and worth while. I shall ever think pleasantly of the many happy hours spent with him, and most sincerely regret that there can be no continuance of this privilege."

Mr. B. C. Berg, Superintendent of the Newton Public Schools says, "Out of his rich and varied experience as teacher, community leader, and director in various types of school progress, Mr. Henely developed a philosophy of love and education that was a source of help and strength to those of us who were seeking solutions for our first time, for some of these ever recurring situations. We went to him for help and we left with encouragement and cheer. His mind was of the type that penetrates to the heart of any matter, analyzes it, and then acts with clear cut decisiveness. His help reached out of his community into every activity that concerned the state and its educational problems, and won for him our respect and admiration."

The following is written by F. C. Eshen of Iowa City "U":

"We cannot measure the influence of a human life. We have no scales, nor means of measurement sensitive enough, but must leave such final judgments to God Himself. In the death of Eugene Henely, Grinnell has

Mr. Fred J. Miller, Principal of the Waterloo High School, says of Mr. Henely, "It was with no small shock that we received the news of the passing of Eugene Henely. To those of us who have known through the several years his friendship became more precious as the years passed. To have known Mr. Henely means that our life has been made the richer. He was a rugged friend who always rang true."

The final words of esteem comes from Mr. M. G. Davis, Superintendent of Schools at Ames: "Mr. Henely brought me to Grinnell as a young and inexperienced high school principal, and for three years guided and inspired me. It was a happy and very worthwhile apprenticeship. During the seven years since leaving Grinnell his guidance and inspiration has continued to come to me by letter, by telephone and through personal conferences. The small degree of success which I have attained in my profession is in no small measure due to his wise advice, kindly interest and wholesome influence. Mr. Henely was, however, more than an advisor and counselor professionally. He was a most personal friend. A father could scarcely have taken greater interest in my welfare and that of my wife and children. We shall always treasure as one of our most valued possessions the remembrance of this kind and good man."

good fortune to know personally more school men than perhaps any other person in Iowa. It is, therefore, with some degree of authority that I speak when I say that no school man in Iowa was loved, revered, and respected as was Gene Henely. For the three years he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Iowa State Teachers Association and in that three years I came to know him intimately and personally. No more egotistic thing can be said of any man than that he was a man in every sense of the word, and this can be truthfully said of Mr. Henely. He was always tactful, but never a coward, always courageous but never domineering, always sympathetic but his emotions always under control, modest and unassuming in his personal relationships but aggressive and proud in support of his colleagues and his profession. The I. S. T. A. has lost one of its most valued members."

Mr. Frank L. Smart, Superintendent of the Board of Education at Exeter, sent us the following statement: "My acquaintance with Eugene Henely began more than thirty years ago. I knew him intimately from the time he became superintendent at Grinnell. I count it one of the great joys of my life that he made me one of his host of friends. Eugene Henely was genuine through and through. One had to know him well to appreciate his sterling qualities. His heart was a heart of gold. His geniality, his cheery laugh, the merry twinkle of his eyes, are unforgettable. His friends will never find another like him to take his place. Their loss is irreparable."

For 22 years Mr. Henely was a member of the State Board of Athletic Control for high schools, being one of the founders of the organization. He has served in various capacities in the State Teachers Association, being chairman of the executive board of this organization, and served in other educational labor.

(Continued from page 10)

Eugene Henely was born December 12, 1872, at Grinnell, Iowa. He received his first schooling in the schools of Marshalltown, graduating from the high school there. He graduated from Iowa State College at Ames in 1890 and immediately began teaching. After nine years of work at Ottumwa, Iowa, he returned to Grinnell, Iowa as superintendent in 1899. Six years later he came to Grinnell (1905) and administered this work for 22 years, up to the time of his death. His passing leaves a void which will never be possible to fill.

MEMORIAL ERECTED TO EUGENE HENELEY Oct. — 1930. Impressive Tablet Erec- ted At High School.

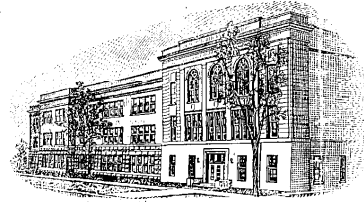
EUGENE HENELEY
FAITHFUL SERVICE
MEMBER BOARD OF
CONTROL
1908-1928
Erected by
IOWA HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Thus reads the bronze plaque on the new monument erected Saturday to Eugene Henely, former superintendent of schools at Grinnell. The monument rests on the south side of the high school building, and was placed there in memory of the twenty year period of faithful service to the Iowa High School Athletic association by Mr. Henely.

A year after Mr. Henely's death, the board of control, consisting of T. M. Clevenger of Waverly, George Edward Marshall of Davenport, C. E. Humphrey of Grinnell, and Geo. A. Brown, secretary of Des Moines, voted to erect a memorial of some kind to the former Grinnell superintendent and this spring, Mr. Clevenger, Mr. Brown and Mr. Humphrey went out and chose a boulder from among the remnants of the mammoth rock west of Grinnell. A defect which showed up in the rock later slowed up the work somewhat but Saturday the work was completed and the monument erected.

Mr. Henely became a member of the board of control in 1908, five years after he took charge of the Grinnell schools.

New Junior-Senior High



The new addition to the old high school is the most fitting memorial to the memory of our late superintendent, Mr. Henely. In this building is Henely's gymnasium named in honor of its enthusiastic worker and promoter.

T. T. Cranny opened the service with the thought that if only Superintendent Henely's plea for a life of service could be impressed upon his students, the memorial service would be more than worth while.

Rev. H. C. Rice offered the prayer, and a quartet composed of Fred Morrison, B. T. Mills, Cecil Myers, and David Peck sang two sacred selections.

"In the minds of thousands of us," said Rev. George Blagg, who gave a splendid tribute to Mr. Henely, "Eugene Henely is a man who has lived among us, beloved by all. For thirty-eight years he has been a holder of character, and a shaper of lives—a man who has helped countless hundreds to become useful citizens and to live lives of service."

"Eugene Henely gave us his life that he might teach you the principles of right living, so that you could live a life of real service to humanity. He has been a man of the highest and noblest ideas in his religion, in school scholarship and athletics—a man who counted fairness and squareness greater than victory. His very life was his school, and after others were asleep, he was in his office, working and planning that Grinnell's schools might be of the best."

"Eugene Henely has been for you and countless others, a friend, a helper—a man who has lived out his ideals, and who has given his life for you. For those students whom he loved so well, he has been at all times 'a hand in the storm,' and his influence will live as long as those people live."

ALL GRINNELL MOURNS HIM

September 19, 1928



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1930.

Memorial For Supt. Henely

Former Superintendent of Grinnell Schools honored by Iowa High School Athletic Association

GAVE TWENTY YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

Became Member of Board of Control In 1908 Five Years After He Took Charge of Local Schools

The bronze plaque on the new monument erected Saturday to Eugene Henely, former superintendent of Grinnell schools reads:

"Eugene Henely,
Faithful Service, Member Board
of Control, 1908-1928.
Erected by Iowa High School
Athletic Association"

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Passes On

Just as the schools are bubbling into new life with youthful enthusiasm and hope, a great sorrow has cast its shadow upon Grinnell. Superintendent Henely, the man who served so faithfully at the head of the schools, and who loved them with a deep and abiding love, has yielded up his life as a result of his effort to make them the best schools in the State of Iowa. The children who knew him and worshipped him, the teachers who admired and respected him are today in deep mourning and all over the town the hushed voice and saddened face tells of the great sorrow which has come to all of us.

Superintendent Henely died at 1:15 o'clock this morning after an illness which consumed him to his last nearly six weeks. To those who knew him and loved him most it seemed that following his operation a few years ago he never recovered his previous strength, although he maintained his work with the same enthusiasm and fortitude that had always been his.

Twenty-three years is a long time to stand at the head of any school system but the longer Mr. Henely worked the deeper grew the affection of pupils, teachers and parents for him. He was a strict disciplinarian and yet his deep love for the young and for the profession which he honored marked him as a wonderful leader and guide for youth. The affection in which he was held in Grinnell was no less felt in other places where he had previously served and all over the state of Iowa in educational circles today word will be passed that one of Iowa's noblest men had yielded up his life, though his spirit still moves on.

The school fans are feeling a great loss as a fitting testimonial of the man whose example more than any other one has been a model for young men and boys to follow. Henely has gone to, but until the boy or girl who came under his influence has passed away there will be some to speak of his many character and best testimony to his entire work.

His wife and two daughters survive him, all of whom were with him at death.

The funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the Methodist church, conducted by Rev. George Rice. The Masons have charge of the services at five.

Superintendent Henely's Work Of 23 Years Is Ended

Served Grinnell Longer Than Any Superintendent Of Schools.

The funeral of Superintendent Henely held in the church Thursday afternoon was attended not only by teachers and pupils and friends but by a large circle of educational workers in places distant from Grinnell. Prof. G. L. Pierce presided at the organ and there were two songs by a quartet composed of D. E. Peck, H. C. Rice, Cecil Myers and Fred Morrison. The sermon by Rev. George Blagg was from the text "And the king said unto his servants, Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel?"

In a touching and complete way the speaker outlined the activities and the useful deeds of the man whose life had gone out from among us. He spoke of him as a Christian gentleman who loved youth and who sought to bring up the young to lives of usefulness because he loved humanity as well as he loved them. The young are made for society and he realized that only the best teaching could lead them into lives of usefulness.

The discourse was in all ways a kindly reference to a great man who had given more than his strength to the work which he had undertaken. He referred to the loyalty of pupils to the support of teachers, and to the endorsement of his work and his character without reservation by the entire community. He had built monuments in Grinnell. The real monuments are the characters of the young people who grew up under his instruction, but as a monument which may last through all the years to come he referred to the Henely Gymnasium, given this name by a group of pupils who wished in this way to commemorate in later years the name of the man who had served the town and the school with unremitting zeal.

It would be impossible to speak of all the kind things said by Mr. Blagg. He stated at the beginning that he was only going to echo the thoughts that were in the minds of all at this time. His references were from a generous loving heart, who believed in the man whose life of service he was commemorating.

The decorations at the church were most wonderful. Mr. and Mrs. Henely have been workers in so many activities that it seemed as if the whole town came together to show especial honor and esteem in its profusion of fragrant decorations.

The service at the grave was conducted by the Masons with Mr. Ganaway in charge. A large company of Masons were present and joined in the fitting memorial service.

Bearers were perhaps the three public school men of Iowa to whom Mr. Henely has been dearest in the

last dozen years and with whom he has been serving on the state high school board of athletic control. They were C. E. Humphrey of Denison, now superintendent of the Grinnell schools, George Edward Marshall, principal of the Davenport High School and George A. Brown, Secretary of the Athletic Board. Grinnell friends serving as bearers were R. G. Loutts, teacher of the Sunday School class in the Methodist church which Mr. Henely attended, F. P. Marvin for many years his friend and co-worker as president of the School Board and W. G. Ray, Secretary of the Board.

The P. E. O.'s and other organizations to which Mrs. Henely belonged were present to add their testimony and express their sympathy to their friend the wife of the deceased man.

Mr. Henely was identified with several of the active clubs in Grinnell. Since coming to Grinnell he has been a member of the Fortnightly club; he was one of the charter members of the Kiwanis club and its first secretary; he was an active Mason and Knights of Pythias. In all places and also a member of the Lodge of which he was more than welcome and his voice and his suggestions were heard with interest and with approval. The business houses in Grinnell were closed at 2:30 on account of the funeral to give the business men an opportunity to attend, for every one was a personal friend, and to show in every way possible their regard for him.

Among out of town school men who were present were Supt. James Smart and Principal George Edward Marshall of Davenport; James Rae, Principal of the Mason City High School; Supt. B. C. Berg and Prin. Lynn of Newton; Supt. T. M. Clevenger of Vaverly; Supt. Kline of Waterloo; and Principal A. Miller of the East Side Waterloo High School; Supt. Mahannah of Cedar Falls; W. I. Griffith, former principal of the high school here, but now connected with the state college at Ames; M. G. Davis, superintendent of the Ames schools and George A. Brown, secretary of the state high school athletic association.

There were doubtless many others whose names we did not get but these were enough to show the high esteem in which Mr. Henely is held throughout the entire state.

The impress which Mr. Henely has made upon this town will last many a long year and when the last kind word has been said all will remember him as a man among men, a boy among boys, a whole-hearted leader without a fault because his heart was always in the right place.

Ethel Carter, Mrs. D. E. Dawkins, Mrs. Clyde Connelly, Mrs. Shearer, Mrs. Ray Johnson, Mrs. J. E. Alexander, Mrs. F. B. Howard, Mrs. C. G. ...

Students Pay Fine Tribute

The students and teachers of the Grinnell Public schools united in a simple and impressive memorial service for their beloved leader, Eugene Henely, in the high school auditorium Thursday morning. They all came,—little tots clinging to the hands of their teachers, awed at the deep silence hanging over that great crowded room, and young and mature men and women—they stopped the plan and work of their busy day to come and pay tribute to that strong, fine man who had never failed them in time of need.

An atmosphere of sorrow—yes—filled that auditorium, but more than sorrow; there were love and respect, and a reverence amounting almost to worship.

The huge stage was filled with floral offerings—flowers from every grade and every class, flowers from the boys of the DeMolay, from individuals, evidence of the work that Eugene Henely has done with the youth of Grinnell, evidence of the sincere esteem in which he is held by them.