

12/13/1977

Bertha Newcomer Dies In Newton; Rites Tuesday

Chester J.
Mrs. Bertha F. Newcomer, 80, widow of Chester J. Newcomer, died early Friday (Dec. 31) morning at Nemon Manor in Newton. She had been in failing health the past 18 months.

The daughter of Willis E. and Mary Elizabeth Stark Newton, Mrs. Newcomer was born near Newburg on March 15, 1891. She was a member of the Grinnell high school class of 1909 and attended the University of Northern Iowa at Cedar Falls.

Following her teachers' training, Mrs. Newcomer taught in the rural schools of Hickory Grove Township in Jasper County.

On May 23, 1916 she was married to Chester J. Newcomer at Verhailtown and to this union were born four daughters—Mrs. Ruth (Maxine) Loudon of Rt. 2, Grinnell, Mrs. Raborn (Hildred) Davis of Monroe, Mrs. H. M. (Verna) Zimmerman of Cleveland, Ohio, and Mrs. Imogene Knowles of Grinnell.

Mr. and Mrs. Newcomer had farmed near Newburg until 1937, when they moved to Grinnell to make their home. Mr. Newcomer died June 9, 1955.

Mrs. Newcomer was a member of the Grinnell United Church of Christ-Congregational, the Women's Fellowship of the church, and had held several lay offices in the church as well as serving as Deaconess. She was also a member of the Grinnell Chapter of the D.A.R., the D.A.C., and the Searchlight Club.

Survivors include her four daugh-

ters; 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one sister and brother—Mrs. Lois N. Lowrey of Grinnell and Leonard E. Newton of Newburg.

Services for Mrs. Bertha F. Newcomer will be held 2 p.m., Tuesday (Jan. 4) at the Grinnell United Church of Christ-Congregational with the Rev. Newell E. Davis and the Rev. Leland W. Mann officiating.

Organist will be Norman Goodbrod.

Pallbearers will be grandsons: Jerry Davis, Larry Davis, Scott Knowles, Gordon Loudon, Bruce Knowles and Dean Zimmerman.

Following cremation, burial will be made in the family plot at Chester Cemetery.

Should friends desire, memorials may be made to the Grinnell Chapter D.A.R. School Fund or the United Church of Christ-Congregational.

Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home for additional information.