

## Last Services For Jay R. Orcutt Held In Searsboro

Jay Reginald Orcutt, son of Robert Lewis and Anna D. Orcutt, was born May 9, 1884, in Sheridan, and passed away in Searsboro, March 15, at the age of 33 years.

His father was born in Rome, N. Y., and when just a young man came west and located in Sheridan. In this community Jay Orcutt grew up and received his early education. Later he attended Grinnell High school and the Grinnell Academy.

In 1901 he took his first step in the business world, in connection with the real estate and insurance business, in which he was associated with J. J. Muller for about a year. In 1905 he accepted a position as a traveling salesman for the Gale Mfg. Co. of Albion, Mich., and was in the road for 2 years. In 1907 he purchased the hardware business of Moody and Son, in Searsboro, and has continued in the hardware and hardware business for the past 25 years.

He was progressive and public spirited in citizenship and served for many years on the town council.

He was conservative, upright and honest in his business affairs, and always tried religiously to guard his credit. He was a devoted husband and father and loved his home. He always retained his membership in the Sheridan M. E. church.

In 1912 he was married to Elizabeth Higgins of Grinnell, Ia. This union gave children were born: Ruth at home, Grinnell, Ia.; now Mrs. M. B. Watson of Grinnell, Ia.; a general student nurse at Des Moines hospital; in Marshfield town and Clark at home. His devoted wife, who has shared him in the business for the past ten years, has four children and many relatives survive him.

In December he became ill, and his illness was not considered serious until January when it was found cancer of the stomach. For a time it seemed

that surgery had benefited him but complications set in and he died quite suddenly Friday, March 15, at his home in Searsboro. Funeral services were conducted at the home Monday afternoon by Rev. W. S. Knight of Des Moines, an old family friend and pastor, assisted by Rev. Myrtle C. Lee, pastor of Searsboro Friends' church. Masonic services were conducted by the Lynnville lodge of which he had been a member for 21 years.

Miss Lee and Miss Pearl Visser sang 3 songs: "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere," "God Leads his Dear Children Along" and "Now the Day is Over," with Mrs. Bowen at the piano. Pall bearers were: Chas. Holmeyer, Howard Davis, Rollo Brummett, Geo. Lowry, Everett Bakke and Jerry Sheeler. Burial was in the family lot in the beautiful Sheridan cemetery near its highest point.

In attendance given out of town were: Mrs. Fred Haines of Franklin, Neb., A. Hillman and Jane Hillman of Marshalltown, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Orcutt, Mrs. Esther Haines and son Stanley of Des Moines, Mrs. Fred Fontana of Moline, Ill., Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Orcutt and daughter, Shirley, of Monticello, Mr. and Mrs. Mildred Orcutt and children, Dean and Joyce, of Colfax, Mrs. Roy Woot and children, Glenn, Margaret and Robert, of Iowa Falls, Rev. W. S. Knight of Des Moines, and Misses Pearl Visser and Martha Burgegnat of Oskaloosa.

JAY R. ORCUTT.

Per 100

Jay R. Orcutt, conducting a general hardware and implement business in Searsboro, Iowa, is meeting with success in this line of activity and at the same time his efforts have been a factor in the commercial development of the town. He is a native of Poweshiek county, his birth having occurred in Sheridan township on the 9th of May, 1883, his parents being Lewis and Anna D. (Hartzell) Orcutt. The father was born in Rome, New York, on the 27th of May, 1836, and the mother in Rock Island, Illinois, January 20, 1849. Early in life they came to Poweshiek county, locating in Sheridan township. The father was a farmer by occupation and was the owner of a well developed farm, to the cultivation of which he gave his attention until the time of his demise. He

passed away in 1885. His wife still survives him and makes her home in Grinnell. Mr. Orcutt was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as is also Mrs. Orcutt, and he gave his political support to the republican party. In their family were three children, namely: Helen Mildred, who was born January 18, 1880, and passed away August 5, 1887; Lewis Percival, born October 27, 1881, whose death occurred August 5, 1900; and Jay Reginald, of this review. By a former marriage Mr. Orcutt had three children: Della, deceased; Charles, of Grinnell; and Frank, of Minnesota.

In the school of Sheridan township and Grinnell, Iowa, Jay R. Orcutt received an excellent education, passing through consecutive grades, and later entered the college at Grinnell, from which he was graduated. With this good general information to serve as a preparation for life's practical and responsible duties he took his first step in the business world in connection with the real-estate and insurance business, in which he was associated with J. J. Muller for about one year. At the expiration of that period he accepted a position as travelling salesman for the Gale Manufacturing Company of Albion, Michigan, and was on the road for two years, after which, on the 17th of July, 1908, he purchased the hardware stock of Moody & Son, in Searsboro, and has since conducted business on his own account. He has greatly increased his stock and now deals in hardware, agricultural implements, builders' supplies, etc., and his trade is constantly growing in volume and importance, being one of the prosperous enterprises of this town. He is a shrewd young business man and his ability and untiring efforts have added much to the growth of trade in this community.

Mr. Orcutt is a member of the Masonic lodge at Lynnville, Jasper county, and in politics is a stalwart republican, now serving as a member of the town council. He is progressive and public-spirited in citizenship and a strong advocate of advancement and improvement in connection with local affairs. Although numbered among the younger generation of business men in Sugar Creek township he has, however, attained an enviable position in commercial circles, and his keen business insight, exceptional enterprise and his progressive spirit will undoubtedly win for him continued success in the future.