

Mrs. Sarah Ray Native Here, Dies Thursday

8-13-55 H-R
Mrs. W. G. (Sarah) Ray, native and longtime resident of Grinnell, died early Thursday morning at Des Moines. She was 82 years old.

Memorial services are pending but will be held either late Saturday or Sunday afternoon at James Funeral Home. Rev. Leland Mann, minister of the Congregational Church, will officiate.

Mrs. Ray had been making her home with a daughter, Mrs. Arthur McMurray of Des Moines.

Born at Grinnell in 1873, she was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Haines, a pioneer Grinnell lawyer. Her husband was formerly publisher of the Grinnell Herald-Register.

Surviving are the one daughter, six grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Friends are requested to call the funeral home for memorial service arrangements. The body will be cremated.

H-R

Ray 8-25-55

H-R OBITUARY 8-25 '55

MRS. SARAH RAY
The death of Mrs. Sarah Haines Ray, widow of W. G. Ray, Thursday morning removed another link between present day Grinnell and the time of the founders.

Mrs. Ray was one of the six children of R. M. and Joanna Harris Haines, who were connected closely with the very beginning of Grinnell. Mr. Haines was a pioneer lawyer of statewide prominence and his wife, who came to Grinnell as a girl in a covered wagon, was a woman of exceptional character and ability, loved and honored through all her long life. Both Mr. and Mrs. Haines graduated from Grinnell college in the class of 1865.

There was a large and brilliant family. The only survivors now are Charles, a lawyer in Denver, Colorado, and Mary, Mrs. F. I. Herrriott of Des Moines. In addition to Mrs. Ray, three brothers, Dr. Jamie Haines, R. M. Haines, Jr., and Austin have died.

Sarah Haines, known as Sadie to all her friends, was born in Grinnell May 30, 1873. Last May 30 was her 82nd birthday. She grew up in Grinnell to be a charming and vivacious young woman. On August 16, 1895 she was united in marriage with W. G. Ray, who gained prominence

both as superintendent of the Grinnell schools, and as the veteran publisher of The Grinnell Herald, immediate ancestor of the present Herald-Register.

She spent her active life as the mistress of the Ray household until the death of Mr. Ray on Jan. 30, 1936. The last act of his life was to sign the papers which activated the merger of The Grinnell Herald and The Grinnell Register which became effective on Feb. 1, although, because of Mr. Ray's death, it was not formally announced until Feb. 13.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ray three children were born. Willard H. Harriet and Robert Haines Ray. Harriet, now Mrs. Arthur McMurray of Des Moines, is the only survivor. Willard, who won success in the oil business in Norfolk, Va., died a number of years ago. Bobbie, an invalid all his life, received the devoted care of his parents, and of his mother, after Mr. Ray's death, until his death. There are also six grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Following Bobbie's death Mrs. Ray continued to make her home in Grinnell for some years. Then she spent some time in Denver, Colo., near her brother Charles and the last years of her life were spent in Des Moines with her daughter, Mrs. McMurray.

Mrs. Ray spent most of her life as the loved and loving center of her home. She and her husband were active along many lines and their home was a center of hospitality as the children were growing up. Mrs. Ray was a charming woman, with a lively sense of humor and a gracious manner and her friends like to think of her as she was in those days, rather than in the last years of ill health and decline.

For many years she was active in P. E. O., and was also a member of other clubs. She was a member of the Congregational church.

Memorial services were held from James Funeral Home Saturday afternoon with Rev. Leland Mann officiating. Organ sermons were played.