

H-R
January 4, 1979

Sears dies following illness

Howard A. Sears, 69, of rural Malcom died Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 27, at Grinnell General Hospital following an extended illness.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30, at the Smith Funeral Home, with Dr. Lawrence P. Fitzpatrick, pastor of the Malcom-Sheridan Parish, officiating. Music was provided by Donna Overturf, organist, and Virgil and Ruth Palmer, vocalists.

Pallbearers were Charles Anthony, Warren Dee, Floyd Heishman, Steven Mintle, Clair Simmons and Edward Watkins. Flowerbearers were Mrs. Allan Graff, Mrs. Cloyd Gross, and Mrs. Ross Mintle.

Fraternal rites were conducted by members of the Lily Lodge no. 254 of the Malcom Masonic Temple. Burial was in Sheridan Cemetery northeast of Grinnell.

Born May 28, 1909, in Chester Center, he was the son of Myron and Edith Palmer Sears. He attended rural schools and later took a dairy short course at Iowa State University.

He lived in Poweshiek County all his life, and for the past 40 years had resided in Sheridan Township. He was married to Inez Louise Cobb on June 17, 1936, at Akron, Iowa. The couple had two children, James and Helen.

Howard Sears was a farmer. In 1950, his Ayrshire cattle herd was among the top ten per cent in the United States. He was one of the first members of the Poweshiek County Soil Conservation Board and served the board for 10 years. He was an ASC committeeman for 20 years, and had served as secretary-treasurer of the Sheridan Cemetery Association for 25 years.

He is survived by his wife; his children, James H. Sears of Ames and Mrs. John (Helen) Primus of Fresno, Calif.; one sister, Mrs. Virgil (Margaret) Case of Grinnell; two brothers, George E. Sears of LeRoy, Minn., and Richard M. Sears of rural Grinnell; and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Adelbert Sears.