

H-K
Thursday, May 11, 1961

Services Held Here For Mrs. E. H. Spaulding

May 11, 1961
Mrs. Irma Spaulding, 80, widow of Ernest H. Spaulding of the pioneer Grinnell industrial family, died suddenly at a local hospital Monday afternoon.

Memorial services were held Wednesday morning at the First Congregational church with the Rev. Ralph Beebe officiating. Organ music was furnished by Norman Goodbrod. Following cremation, interment was in Hazelwood cemetery with James-Schalinske Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Born at Pella on May 18th, 1880, she was the eldest child of Nathan and Ida Markel Town. Her grandfather, Edward O. Towne, helped establish a church there and was one of the founders of Central college. When she was three years old, the family moved to Des Moines where her father was engaged in real estate business for more than 50 years.

She was educated in the Des Moines schools, attended Drake University and graduated from Grinnell College in 1903. In 1904, she married Ernest Spaulding, a college classmate and

they resided in Grinnell where he was connected with the Spaulding Mfg. Co. One daughter was born to this union.

In 1946, they moved to Des Moines where Mr. Spaulding died in 1954. In 1958, she moved with her sister, Mrs. Ethel Holmes, to the Mayflower Home in Grinnell.

Mrs. Spaulding was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and four brothers. Survivors include her sister, Mrs. Holmes; a brother, George L. Towne of Des Moines; her daughter, Mrs. Miriam Smith of Kirkwood, Mo.; and three grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

She helped establish the visiting nurse program here, the Grinnell Woman's Club, and was active in Parker School PTA, the Congregational church and its Women's Fellowship, the Historical and Literary Society, and Chapter BM of PEO. She was also an organizer of the Entre Nous Club and was active in the beginnings of the Community hospital.

Monday, May 15, 1961

OBITUARY

(Contributed)

Mrs. Ernest H. Spaulding

Mrs. Ernest H. Spaulding was born Irma Towne in Pella, Iowa, on May 18, 1880, the eldest child of Nathan and Ida Markel Towne. Her grandfather, Edward O. Towne had come to Pella in 1848, a Baptist minister, who established a church and helped found Central College. When she was three years old, the family moved to Des Moines where her father engaged in real estate business for more than fifty years.

She was educated in Des Moines schools, graduating from West High school in 1898. After one year at Drake, she entered Grinnell College and graduated in 1903.

In 1904, she married Ernest Spaulding, a college classmate, and they established a home in Grinnell where he was connected with the Spaulding Manufacturing Company. One daughter was born to this union.

In 1946, they moved to Des Moines where Mr. Spaulding died in 1954, and in 1958, she moved with her sister, Mrs. Ethel Holmes, to the Mayflower Home in Grinnell, where they have had an apartment. She died quite unexpectedly in the Community hospital Monday afternoon, May 8.

Mrs. Spaulding was preceded in death by her parents, four brothers and her husband. She is survived by her sister, Mrs. Holmes, her brother George L. Towne of Des Moines, her daughter, Mrs. Miriam Smith of Kirkwood, Missouri, three grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Mrs. Spaulding was always actively interested in the community where she lived and in Grinnell helped establish the Visit-

ing Nurse, the Grinnell Woman's Club which she was serving as president, when the city made Merrill Park out of a pasture in one day, the club cooperating with other organizations. She also was active in Parker School P. T. A. She was a member of the Congregational church and its Women's Fellowship, the Historical and Literary Society, and of Chapter B. M. of P.E.O. She was an organizer of the Entre Nous Club, the nucleus of which was a group of college alumnae of the class of 1903 who lived here. She was active in the beginnings of the Community hospital also.

She had a great interest in Art and was a tremendous reader all her life. During her years in Des Moines, she gathered a group of neighborhood children around her who came to her home to hear her read many books to them on Saturday mornings. Her interest in Grinnell College was always close and real. Here she had learned that education is a continuing process and hers continued as long as she had breath.