

(Sherm)

MONTEZUMA REPUBLICAN.

.. NOV. 15, 1962

**Mrs. May Watts Was
Rural School Teacher**

May, daughter of Mary and John Varner, was born in Columbus City, Iowa, Aug. 2, 1878, and died in the Mahaska hospital in Oskaloosa Nov. 12, at 84 years of age.

In her youth, she moved with her parents to Montezuma, where she attended school and graduated from high school. She attended Iowa State Normal School at Cedar Falls, then taught in the Poweshiek county rural schools.

On Aug. 25, 1903, she was united in marriage with Sherm Watts, and to this union, six children were born. They made their home in the Barnes City community until they retired and moved to their home in Barnes City. Since the death of her husband in 1959, she has maintained the family home, with the help of her daughter, Merle.

She was a member of the Montezuma Christian church, but for several years has attended the Barnes City Methodist church, where she was a member of the Women's Society of Christian Service.

She is survived by her four daughters, Merle, of Waterloo; Inez, of Seattle, Wash.; Venia Gilbreath and Evelyn Duinink, Montezuma; two sons, Warren and Autumn, Montezuma; 11 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren; also a nephew, Laurence Dinsmore, Denver, Colo., and a niece, Mertice Varner, Los Angeles, Calif.; other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Barnes City Methodist church with Rev. William Morehouse, officiating. Music was by Mrs. John Grubb, who sang "The Old Rugged Cross", accompanied by Mrs. W. Landstrum.

Interment was in the Barnes City cemetery under direction of the Steffy Funeral Home. Casketbearers were Alfred Graham, Walter Ketels, Gale Riggs, Roger Sampson, John Westercamp and Wm. Landstrum.
