



Pieces of Iowa's Past, published by the Iowa State Capitol Tour Guides weekly during the legislative session, features historical facts about Iowa, the Capitol, and the early workings of state government. All historical publications are reproduced here with the actual spelling, punctuation, and grammar retained.

April 1, 2009

THIS WEEK: Iowa Legislative League

BACKGROUND: Started in 1909, the League consisted of women spouses of Iowa Legislators who met socially. Since then, the organization has grown to include men spouses and family members of legislators. The League serves as a bi-partisan organization and holds weekly meetings during session. These meetings include educational programs as well as social functions. Staff of the Legislative Services Agency has scanned all the scrapbooks and archival material collected by the Legislative League over the past 100 years. The following article has been taken from a 1931 archival scrapbook from the files of the Iowa Legislative League.

(Reproduced exactly as originally typed)

OBITUARY

County Assessor Bill adopted son of Income Tax was born on Capitol Hill, Des Moines, Iowa, in the summer 1930 and died in House Chamber on Capitol Hill, Thursday, March 26, 1931.

County Assessor Bill was enjoying good health until about a week ago when in the House Chamber of the State House he became entangled with the electrical voting devices and received 65 Voltes (Votes) which left him in a very weakened condition; experts were called to diagnose the case and he was thought to be on the road to recovery when on Thursday, March 26th, he again became entangled with

electrical wires and while only receiving 57 Voltes (Votes) he only lived a few minutes and was pronounced dead by Speaker Johnson after a careful examination.

County Assessor Bill leaves 99 friends and over 2273 enemies in Iowa.

At his bedside at the time of his death were members of the Grange; the Union and the Farm Bureau made a desperate effort to reach him before he died but were too late.

County Assessor Bill now is laying in State (Capitol) where he may be viewed by his friends; burial arrangements are not yet complete.