

ANNALS IOWA

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

THE COMMUNITY SERVANT

The service of no man either in high or low station in life surpasses in value or character that of the individual who devotes his personal endeavors and dedicates his every effort to the worthwhile interests of the community in which is established the home where is spent his life in companionship with the wife and children he cherishes. In the April issue of *THE ANNALS* a brief obituary told of such an individual in the person of the late Anthony TePaske, of Sioux Center, Iowa; and in a state like Iowa he is a type known and respected, but not always appreciated in many such communities. Both he, and the companion of the years who survives him, contributed much to that community—the record a simple recital of the long years of service in performing the tasks placed in his hands by his neighbors and friends, evidencing the faithfulness, capacity and reliability of a willing and competent community servant.

A re-reading of the notice of his passing reveals how worth-while was his life. It speaks of years of preparation in school and college; a teacher in school and academy for a brief period; in law practice almost fifty years; service as county attorney twelve years; town mayor twelve years; local bank officer over thirty years; trustee of college and academy over twenty years; a Sunday school teacher more than fifty years; nearly a life time member of his church; long service on the local school board and in other community duties; service in the Iowa legislature, to which position he was recalled later in life. Perhaps there was both delight and drudgery in such a life! Certainly fortunate was the

town and community where Anthony and Agnes TePaske made their home and found time to serve others as well as themselves. And in the middle years, again later, they travelled abroad, the last time accompanied by their two sons, after attending the International Sunday School convention at Oslo, Norway. Gathering inspiration, and understanding the need of the training and assimilation of our foreign-born population, this man and his wife established in their community an adult citizenship school for instruction in the principles of the American government, and for 23 years they taught these new citizenship classes in their own home, which was truly "a house beside the road and a friend to man." He was a total abstainer, and as a legislator was an ardent supporter of the temperance forces.

Who can measure the true worth and the widening influence of the life of an individual so filled to overflowing in every way, and whose passing came like a benediction to the service of the years in his community and his state for those whom he loved?

ADVANCED TO HEAD OF CHURCH

Added honors and responsibilities have come to a well-known former Iowan who still maintains personal ties and interest in the affairs of the Hawkeye state. Israel A. Smith, of Independence, Missouri, for long years a resident of Lamoni, Iowa, and a member of the Thirty-fourth Iowa General Assembly, has been elevated to the position of President and Prophet of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He succeeds to this position following the death on March 20th last of his brother, Dr. Frederick M. Smith, whose obituary appears in the Notable Death section of this issue of THE ANNALS.

The action of the General Conference of the church held in April at the headquarters of the organization

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