

Salem Weekly News

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JOSEPH T. INGRIM

An unusual incident in Salem, was two military funerals held in one week, that of Miss Carrie Weeks, a nurse in the World War in a U. S. army camp in the west, and was held on Monday, May 6 while the services for Mr. Ingram, the last of the Henry County Civil War veterans, was held on Saturday. A man well known in the county, with friends in all places, the church was filled in both the auditorium and balcony for Mr. Ingram's services. Salem people have been proud to have one of such character and sterling qualities, one who has always been foremost in the betterment of their community, and even in failing health, his interests in the church, the lodges and all organizations, never seemed to falter and we feel as though the loss of this splendid man, will be noticed in many places. As the flag-draped casket entered the church, escorted by the American Legion members, a sorrow seemed to be felt in all places. The casket placed at the front of the church, was preceded by Tom McCabe and Elmer McMillan the color bearers, who placed the American flag and the Legion flag at each end of the casket for the services. An abundance of beautiful flowers expressed the sentiment of all those who knew him best. The songs, "Rock of Ages" and "I Will Sing You a Song," were sung by Rev. Paul Barnett and Mrs. Barnett accompanied by Mrs. Floyd Beery. Mrs. Bessie Collins read the scripture from John 14, 1-6 which was followed with

prayer, and the sermon was given by Rev. R. T. Richards, pastor of the church.

Group organizations attending the service were the Simkin-Pidgeon post No. 94 of Salem, the Bob Tribby post of Mt. Pleasant, and members from Wayland, Hillsboro and New London posts, the W. R. C. of Mt. Pleasant, and a large group of the Masonic lodge of Salem and also other members of this organization from other places in the county.

Following the church services, the Legion members escorted the funeral cortege to the South cemetery where the services were first conducted by the Simkin-Pidgeon post of Salem assisted by members of the Bob Tribby post, Hillsboro, Wayland and New London. The W. R. C. then conducted their services and this was followed by the impressive and beautiful services of the Masonic order. Pallbearers were E. N. Van Trump, A. J. Lee, Ivan Rossell, Howard Burkey, Glen Foss and M. L. Barton. Other Legion members in attendance were Dr. McCabe, Dr. Laird, Henry Walberg, Parke Cornick, Frank Abraham, Jim Sodini, Elmer McMillan, T. E. Taylor, Herbert Heaton, Art White, Paul Smith, Merton Wright of Mt. Pleasant, Everette Monson, Wayland, Mr. Elliot of New London and Joe Hoaglin of Hillsboro, Milo Thompson, Vernon Pratt, Allen McDowell, Scott Watts, W. W. Simkin of Salem, and

Tom Alter, a Spanish American War veteran.

Joseph T. Ingram, son of Robert and Hannah Parkins Ingram and the last surviving Civil War veteran of Henry County, also the oldest male resident of Salem, Iowa was born near Flushing, Belmont County, Ohio, February 3, 1845 and died at his home in Salem on Wednesday May 8, 1940, aged 95 years, 3 months and 5 days. He came to Iowa with his parents when he was 8 years old in the year 1853. The family wintered near Rome, Iowa in 1853-54. In the spring of '54 they went to Des Moines, where Robert Ingram, his father entered government land, 10 miles east of Des Moines. At the age of 16 in the last day of July 1861, Joseph Ingram enlisted in the army of the U. S. A. for the North. He was mustered into the army on August 8, 1861 and was with the Second Iowa Battery. The company left immediately for Council Bluffs. Mr. Ingram saw action at Corinth, Miss., two days siege at Vicksburg; two battles at Jackson, Miss., one battle at Hurricane Creek; two days at Nashville, Tenn., the latter was the 15th and 16th of December, 1864. Mr. Ingram re-enlisted on the 23rd of March 1864. From here the company went to the South, then on down the Mississippi River to New Orleans. There they took a steamer and went to the Gulf of Mexico to Mobile just across from Fort Spanish. This fort was sieged for eight days when the enemy evacuated. From there they moved from Montgomery, to Selma, Alabama on the Alabama River. Some time in July, they were ordered home to be discharged and they came to Davenport where Mr. Ingram was discharged on August 7, 1865 having served a full term of four years to a day as he had been mustered

in August 8 of 1861 and mustered out August 7 of 1865.

After leaving the army, Mr. Ingram went to Des Moines and from there he came to Salem, Iowa in the fall. He was married to Leanna Hobson on August 11, 1868. They resided in Davis County until 1871 when they went to the Indian Territory, now Oklahoma, where they worked among the Indians. They remained there until 1874 and left the Territory in the spring and moved to the town of Coffeyville, Kansas. Some time in August they came to Salem. Mr. Ingram worked in the carpenter and contracting business and also operated a furniture store until 1900. He then went into the lumber business but due to failing health, he retired in 1914. Mr. Ingram was a member of the Masonic lodge, joining the order in 1875, being a member of this order for 65 years. He received a medal of Recognition on his 50th jubilee. He was a charter member of the Salem order of the Eastern Star and was a Past Worthy Patron. In addition to his many interests and active life, Mr. Ingram lived the Hymn, - "Take Time to be Holy." He was converted to God in 1876 and became a member of the Salem Methodist church. It may be of interest to know that Mr. Ingram built this church in which we worship today. Mr. Ingram held every office open to a layman in our local church. For many years he was Church School Superintendent and for years he was a teacher of the Adult Bible class. He held the helm in these capacities until overtaken by age and infirmities. He was also an active Steward and Trustee of this church and until his death, held the honorary official membership. He was honored as a man of God and as a man of affairs in Henry County and the State of Iowa.

Mr. Ingrim is survived by his wife, Leanna Ingrim, his companion for over 71 years, one daughter Mrs. T. B. Sater, Danville, Iowa, a son Arthur Ingrim of Crow Agency, in Montana, a foster daughter, Mrs. Mildred Huxley of Fairfield, Iowa, five grandchildren; four God children and three great-grandchildren. Three daughters preceded him in death, namely – Jennie, Emma and Dolly.

“Servant of God, well done,
Thy Glorious Warfare past.
The battle’s fought, the race is won
And thou art crowned at last.”

Among the relatives and friends from out of town attending the services for Mr. Ingrim were Embree and Allie Gibson, Pawhuska, Okla., Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Logan, Wells, Minn., Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Nelson, Wells, Minn., Mrs. E. C. Funk, Waterloo, Iowa, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Huxley and family, Fairfield, Iowa, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sater, Danville, Iowa, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Tomlinson, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Tomlinson, Bonaparte, Iowa, Mrs. Loren Peel, Milton, Iowa, Mr. Harold McLaren, Rev. and Mrs. B. G. Hankins, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hanna, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Collins, of Mt. Pleasant and Mr. and Mrs. L. L. DeLong, New London, Iowa.