

INFORMATION & DATA ON THE FAMILY OF:

ROYAL LEROY & ANNIE CAROLINE (BROWN) DOOLITTLE
1860-1946 1864-1963

Being a collection of information from Public records, biographies, histories and family sources, and arranged to present a coherent view of said family and their individual relationship. This has all been done for the purpose of preserving for future generations a knowledge of their past.

Date June 1985

Edward E. Bartlett, Compiler

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Surname
FAMILY INFORMATION CHART NO. _____

Husband's full name Royal Leroy (R. L.) DOOLITTLE
 born on 24 May 1860 at Near Story City, Iowa
 married 4 Oct. 1883 at Near Story City, Iowa 1.
 died on 7 Jan. 1946 at Webster City, Iowa 2.
 interred at Williams Cemetery . Groom's 1st marriage
 Farmer
 Occupation Religion Military Service
Wm. Rochester DOOLITTLE Fidelia Electa WARD
 His Father 1824-1893 Mother's maiden name 1831-1922

Authority or Source of Data:
 DOOLITTLE - WARD FAMILY
 by Ruby Greiner Nail, Pub-
 lished in 1985.

Records, Census & Others:

Wife's maiden name Annie Caroline BROWN
 born on 11 Apr. 1864 at Near Story City, Iowa
 died on 11 June 1963 at Webster City, Iowa
 interred at Williams Cemetery . Bride's 1st marriage
Jas. Frederick BROWN . Rebecca SMILEY
 Her Father Mother's maiden name

R. L. Doolittle's farm in
 Hamilton County was in Lib-
 erty Township.

Abodes and removals : R. L. was born on a farm three miles south of Story City. Soon after his marriage (1883) they settled on a prairie farm southeast of Blairsburg (Hamilton Co.) and continued to live there until December, 1918, then they moved to Webster City.

Sex	Their Children	Additional Information:
	<p>(1) Name <u>Charley Frank DOOLITTLE</u> born on <u>2 Feb. 1885</u> at <u>Hamilton County, Iowa</u> died on <u>5 Feb. 1885</u> at <u>" " "</u> married _____ at _____ to: _____</p>	<p>Interred in Williams Cemetery</p>
	<p>(2) Name <u>Effie Fadelia DOOLITTLE</u> born on <u>5 Mar. 1887</u> at <u>Hamilton County, Iowa</u> died on _____ at _____ married <u>17 Jan. 1906</u> at <u>Blairsburg, Iowa</u> to: <u>Charles Thomas GREINER</u> <u>9 Oct. 1883 - 20 Dec. 1955</u></p>	<p>Children: Loren Myrian GREINER 1908 Lyman Wade GREINER 1911 Hester Charlotte GREINER 1913 Ruby Delores GREINER 1914 Glenn Doolittle GREINER 1917 Esley Burdell GREINER 1920</p>
	<p>(3) Name <u>Fred Brown DOOLITTLE</u> born on <u>8 Mar. 1890</u> at <u>Hamilton County, Iowa</u> died on <u>24 Nov. 1959</u> at <u>Webster City, Iowa</u> married <u>2 July 1918</u> at <u>Webster City, Iowa</u> to: <u>Clara ZEIHAN</u> <u>18 June 1889 - 2 Nov. 1980</u></p>	<p>Children: Daughter (stillborn) 1919 Donald Francis DOOLITTLE 1920 Deloris Marian DOOLITTLE 1921 Frances Marcelyn DOOLITTLE 1923</p>

List other children on the reverse side.

Form B-0285

1. R. L. & Annie were married in the J. F. Brown home.
2. R. L. died at his home, 915 Bank Street, in Webster City, Iowa.

CHILDREN OF Royal Leroy and Annie Caroline (Brown) DOOLITTLE

Sex (4) Name Guy Howard DOOLITTLE
 born on 11 Feb. 1893 at _____
 died on 30 Dec. 1949 at _____
 married _____ at _____
 to: #1. Mary Gish HOFFMAN, 17 Feb. 1916, Blairsburg
 #2. Mrs. Mable (ALVESTAD) Granby, 1 June 1935

Children by first wife:
 Harold Luverne DOOLITTLE 1919
 Floyd H. DOOLITTLE 1924
 Betty DOOLITTLE 1926
 Child by second wife:
 Janet DOOLITTLE, b. 4 Feb. 1937
 d. May 1937

(5) Name Clyde Gustavus DOOLITTLE
 born on 13 Oct. 1895 at Hamilton County, Iowa
 died on 5 Dec. 1960 at Near Woolstock, Iowa
 married 3 Feb. 1920 at Gilmore City, Iowa
 to: Velma Marina BEHRENDSEN
19 May 1897 -

Children:
 Enid Lorraine DOOLITTLE 1921
 Doris Jeanne DOOLITTLE 1926
 Velma is the daughter of Nis & Ida Emma (Carlton) Behrendsen

(6) Name Harry Smiley DOOLITTLE
 born on 29 Dec. 1900 at _____
 died on 11 Dec. 1962 at _____
 married _____ at _____
 to: _____

Saw service in World War II
 Occupation was painting and decorating. For two years prior to his death he was employed by the Arrow-Acme Corp.
 He is interred in the Williams Cemetery, Williams, Iowa

() Name _____
 born on _____ at _____
 died on _____ at _____
 married _____ at _____
 to: _____

() Name _____
 born on _____ at _____
 died on _____ at _____
 married _____ at _____
 to: _____

() Name _____
 born on _____ at _____
 died on _____ at _____
 married _____ at _____
 to: _____

Use this side of another of these forms if there are more than nine children.

SCHEDULE 1. — Free Inhabitants in LaFayette (Township) in the County of Story State
of Iowa, enumerated by me, on the 27th day of June, 1860 S. S. Webb, Ass't Marshal

Post Office Story City

Line No. on page	Dwelling No.	Family Number	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	Age	Sex	Color	Profession, occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female, over 15 yrs. of age.	Value of Estate owned		Place of birth	Married within the year	Attended School within the yr.	Over 20 who cannot read & write	Whether deaf & dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper or convict.	(Remarks)
								Real Estate	Personal Estate						
28	343	307	William R. Doolittle	36	M		(Farmer) Do	3500	300	New York					Married 27 Nov. 1849, Crawford Co., IL, to Fidelia E. Ward, dau. of Jonas & Elizabeth
29			P E	29	F					Ohio		/			
30			E C	9	M					Ill		/			
31			Harriett	7	F					Do		/			
32			Perry	6	M					Do		/			
33			Franklin	3	"					Iowa					
34			Stephen A D	1/12	"					"					
35			Ole Johnson	24			Farm Laborer		200	Norway					

STORY COUNTY, IOWA
MARRIAGE REGISTER A-4

1880-1891

Number of License:....113

Date of License:.....Oct. 1, 1883

By whom affidavit,
if any is made:.....R. L. Doolittle
by whom consent is
given:

Full name of Groom:...Royal L. Doolittle

Residence:.....Lafayette Tp

Occupation:.....Farmer

Groom's age:.....23

Groom's color:.....White

Groom's race:

Place of birth:.....Lafayette Tp, Story Co., Ia

Father's name:.....W. R. Doolittle

Mother's maiden name: Electa Ward

Number of marriage:...1st

Full name of Bride:...Anna C. Brown

Maiden name if widow:

Bride's residence:....Lafayette Tp

Bride's age:.....20

Bride's color:.....White

Bride's race:

Place of birth:.....Lafayette Tp

Father's name:.....J. F. Brown

Mother's maiden name: Rebecca J. Smiley

Number of marriage:...1st

Where and when
married:.....Lafayette Tp. Story Co., Ia, Oct. 4, 1883

Witnesses:

By whom married:.....W. A. Wier, J.P.

Date of Return:.....Oct. 6, '83

When Registered:.....Jan. 21, '84

e. e. b.
06/14/88



R. L. Doolittle
&

Annie Brown

Taken July 4, 1883

"Grandma's second day dress
to wear the day after the
wedding."

Annie Caroline Brown Doolittle
b. 11 Apr. 1864, Story City, IA

Royal LeRoy Doolittle

b. 24 May 1860, Story City, IA

Married: 4 Oct. 1883 at her
parent's home south of Story
City.



MR. & MRS. R. L. DOOLITTLE
Webster City, Iowa

50th Wedding Anniversary
October 4th, 1933

**STORY CITY
JUBILEE BOOK**





MR. AND MRS. W. R. DOOLITTLE
Pioneers Southeast of Town



MR. AND MRS. JAMES F. BROWN
Pioneers South of Story City

Marriage

Royal L Doolittle

To

Annie C Brown

Thursday Oct 4th 1883 - 12 o'clock noon 3 1/2 miles south of Story City Story Co Iowa at the James & Rebecca Brown Home ~~south of Story City Story Co Iowa~~

Births

Royal Leroy Doolittle May 24th 1860

Annie Caroline Brown Doolittle April 11th 1864

Children

Charley Frank Doolittle Feb 2nd 1885 day of Birth Monday eve 10 o'clock
Died Feb 5-1885

Effie Fadelia Doolittle March 5th 1887 Saturday morning 4 o'clock

Fred Brown Doolittle March 8th 1890 Saturday noon 12 to noon

Guy Howard Doolittle ~~Octob~~ Feb 11th 1893 Saturday 4 o'clock after noon

Clyde Gustavus Doolittle October 13th 1895 past 12 sat morning

Harry Smiley Doolittle Dec 29th 1900 Sat 12:30

Liberty J P Hamilton Co Iowa

6 1/2 miles south east of the little town of Blairsburg on the then R L Doolittle farm

signed Annie C Doolittle
mother of the
above children

HISTORY OF
HAMILTON COUNTY
IOWA

ILLUSTRATED

Volume II

1912
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY
CHICAGO

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GENEALOGY DEPT.

manifesting capable management and efficient and systematic supervision.

On the 28th of October, 1909, Mr. Mason was married to Miss Irene Merrill, a daughter of W. N. and Sophia Merrill, natives of Iowa and residents of Webster City, where the father conducts the Willson hotel. Mrs. Mason whose natal day was the 28th of October, 1888, is the eldest in a family of twelve.

Mr. Mason gives his political support to the republican party and is now serving as president of the school board, to which office he has but recently been elected. He is an energetic young man with high ambitions and is making highly creditable progress in the vocation he has elected to follow.

R. L. DOOLITTLE.

Among the many worthy residents of Liberty township, whose activities have so largely contributed toward forwarding the agricultural development of Hamilton county, must be mentioned R. L. Doolittle. He located here twenty-eight years ago and during the intervening years has increased his realty interests until he now holds title to six hundred and twenty acres of land, the greater portion of which is under cultivation. He is descended in both lines from old colonial stock and is a member of one of Iowa's pioneer families. His birth occurred on the old family homestead in Story county on the 24th of May, 1860, and he is the fifth child of W. R. and Fidelia F. (Ward) Doolittle. The father, a native of Rochester, New York, passed away at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, on Christmas day, 1893. He is survived by the mother, who is living at Roland, this state. She was born and reared in Ohio. The family took up their permanent residence in Story county on the 6th of June, 1856, being among the first settlers in that section. Mr. Doolittle had made a previous trip to the county, looking for a location and land, which he purchased at a dollar and a quarter per acre. In common with the majority of the pioneers they came to their new home in an emigrant wagon, as there were very few railroads west of the Mississippi at that period, the only complete line in the state running from Muscatine to Wilton Junction. Their nearest trading point was Iowa City, while the nearest gristmill was located at Des Moines, to which point they had to haul all of their grain. Owing to the small demand for produce

and the limited and inadequate shipping facilities, prices were low and money scarce. Eggs were three cents a dozen, and all other commodities of the farmer were equally low, which fact together with the uncertain seasons and the innumerable obstacles encountered by the pioneer, made the life of the agriculturist of that period hard and discouraging. It was not unusual at that period to have the trading post forty miles distant and the postoffice fifteen, while any one was a neighbor, who lived within a radius of ten miles. Books and papers were scarce and the members of a household were almost entirely dependent upon their immediate family circle for society. There was a strong bond of unity among those pioneer men and women, however, as their circumstances were practically the same, and their interests largely one. Visitors were few and the traveler who sought their hospitality was cordially received and offered the best shelter their crude homes could give, while the good housewife spread the table with what her pantry afforded, which often was limited in variety if not in quantity. It was in such a home as this that the family of Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle were reared. Aside from our subject, the children were as follows: E. C., deceased; Mrs. Lillie Carlton, a resident of Rolfe Junction; A. P., also deceased; F. D., a resident of Story county; Mrs. George Brown, who is a resident of Gilbert, Iowa; Emma, who lives at Roland with the mother; W. J., of Story City; Elvira, who is deceased; and Ira D., also of Story City. The three eldest members of the family were born in Crawford county, Illinois, and the other seven in Story county, Iowa. They all take much pride in the fact that their maternal ancestors were numbered among the colonists who bravely fought for what they considered to be their rights. Mrs. Doolittle is connected with the family of Dueese, the last of whose male members fell at the Battle of Bunker Hill. An old pocket-book belonging to George Dueese, an uncle of hers and one of the heroes of that famous battle, is still numbered among the valued possessions of the family. Her father, Jonas Ward, was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was within thirty feet of Tecumseh, when that valiant warrior was killed by Colonel R. M. Johnson. Mr. Doolittle, the father of our subject, was one of the volunteers who accompanied the regular soldiers to Spirit Lake at the time of the Indian uprising in that section, his services always being tendered in time of need, despite the fact that his personal interests might suffer thereby.

Although the boyhood of R. L. Doolittle seemed uneventful to him at the time, to the youth of today it must seem full of interesting

happenings. He can recollect when the country from Fort Dodge to Story county was largely unbroken prairie, and has been an interested observer of its development into one of the finest farming sections of the state. He was educated in the district schools and received much the same training as other farmer lads, remaining at home with his parents until he had attained his manhood. One year before his marriage he purchased a hundred and sixty acres of land in Liberty township, this county, on which he and his young wife took up their residence on the 26th of February, 1884. His capital was limited but he was descended from the sturdy stock which subdued the west, and not only possessed faith in his own powers and the unfailing optimism of youth, but the tenacity of purpose and determination of spirit which belongs to the conqueror in any walk of life. Those early years were most difficult, but he would not have had them different, for the greatest happiness of his life was found in conquering adverse conditions, which at times almost engulfed him. He worked early and late in the fields, and Mrs. Doolittle aided his efforts by her capable management of the household affairs, her resources at times being sorely taxed to meet the many needs of an increasing family. The passing years brought prosperity, however, and as his circumstances warranted Mr. Doolittle extended his holdings until he held title to five hundred and sixty acres of land, located on sections 23 and 24. This has been divided into practically three farms, each of which is provided with a full set of improvements. He also owns sixty acres of unimproved land located a mile south of the courthouse at Webster City. Although his extensive interests absorb much of his time, his home and family are his deepest concern. The house is well furnished and provided with good books and music for the benefit of his children. Mr. Doolittle leads an active life as is evidenced by the general appearance of his farm, the condition of which manifests efficient and systematic supervision and management.

In Story county on the 4th of October, 1883, Mr. Doolittle was united in marriage to Miss Annie C. Brown, whose birth occurred there, April 11, 1864. She is a daughter of James F. and Rebecca (Smiley) Brown, natives of Crawford county, Pennsylvania, the father's birth occurring, December 8, 1832, and that of the mother on the 20th of February, 1833. They came to Story county on the 13th of April, 1856, and began their pioneer life on a tract of government land in a house fourteen by sixteen feet. Here they reared their children which were born in the following order: O. S., whose

natal day was the 8th of April, 1857; George P., who was born on December 2, 1858, and died on the home farm north of Gilbert, Iowa, on the 20th of May, 1908; Charlie, a resident of Ames, whose birth occurred on October 12, 1861; Mrs. Doolittle, born April 11, 1864; and Grant, who was born on the 8th of August, 1868, living on the old homestead near Story City. The parents, who are still living, celebrated their golden wedding January 1, 1906. To Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle have been born six children: Charles Frank, who was born February 2, 1885, and died four days later; Effie F., now Mrs. Greiner of Lakefield, Minnesota, who was born March 5, 1887; Fred B., whose birth occurred on the 8th of March, 1890; Guy H., who was born February 11, 1893; Clyde G., who was born on the 13th of October, 1895; and Harry S., whose natal day was the 29th of December, 1900. All are living at home with the exception of Mrs. Greiner, who has two children: Loren Marion, who was born on the 9th of March, 1908; and Lyman Wade, whose birth occurred on February 8, 1911. They are also natives of Liberty township.

Fraternally, Mr. Doolittle is identified with Silver Link Lodge, No. 458, I. O. O. F. of Williams. He gives his political support to the democratic party and has served his township as trustee, while for fifteen years he has been a member of the board of education. He is highly esteemed in his community and is a worthy representative of a respected pioneer family. His home contains several interesting relics among them an old kettle and a skimmer, which were used in the Ward family more than a hundred years ago and were presented to him by his maternal grandmother, and Mrs. Doolittle has a newspaper containing President Lincoln's message to Congress in 1863.

NELS PEHRSON.

Nels Pehrson, who is living retired in Ellsworth, is one of the pioneer settlers of Hamilton county, having located here over forty years ago. He was born in Sweden on the 6th of January, 1837, and is a son of P. and Anna (Neilson) Pehr Swenson, likewise natives of Sweden. The father was one of the prominent citizens of his community, where he owned five farms and a packing house and was also interested in a line of ocean vessels and owned a windmill. He and the mother always resided in the old country, where they both passed away in 1871.

GREINER

Surname

FAMILY INFORMATION CHART NO. _____

Husband's full name Charles Thomas GREINER
 born on 9 Oct. 1883 at Hamilton County, Iowa
 married 17 Jan. 1906 at Near Blairsburg, Iowa^{1.}
 died on 20 Dec. 1955 at Webster City, Iowa
 interred at Graceland Cemetery^{2.} . Groom's 1st marriage
 Teacher & Farmer _____
 Occupation _____ Religion _____ Military Service _____
 Hulbert Luther GREINER . Bridget ENRIGHT
 His Father 1855-1935 Mother's maiden name _____

Authority or Source of Data:

Records, Census & Others:

Wife's maiden name Effie Fadelia DOOLITTLE
 born on 5 Mar. 1887 at Hamilton County, Iowa^{3.}
 died on _____ at _____
 interred at _____ . Bride's 1st marriage
 Royal Leroy (R.L.) DOOLITTLE Annie Caroline BROWN
 Her Father 1860-1946 Mother's maiden name 1864-1963

Abodes and removals : Charles, born and raised on a farm in Hamilton County, started farming there after his marriage. Five years or so later he removed to a farm near Lakefield, Minn. He returned to Hamilton Co. in 1916. In 1941 he moved into Blairsburg.

Sex	Their Children	Additional Information:
	<p>(1) Name <u>Loren Myrian GREINER</u> born on <u>9 Mar. 1908</u> at <u>Hamilton County, Iowa^{1.}</u> died on _____ at _____ married <u>20 Feb. 1942</u> at _____ to: <u>Alice Rosealtha SWEET</u> <u>28 Oct. 1904 - 25 May 1977</u></p>	<p>Children: 1. Juanita Rose Greiner 1946 2. Keith Roger Greiner 1948</p>
	<p>(2) Name <u>Lyman Wade GREINER</u> born on <u>8 Feb. 1911</u> at <u>Hamilton County, Iowa^{1.}</u> died on _____ at _____ married <u>2 Jan. 1938</u> at <u>Maryville, Missouri</u> to: <u>Violet Frances HOBSON</u> <u>16 Aug. 1915 -</u></p>	<p>Children: 1. Charles Lyman Greiner 1941 2. Thomas Hobson Greiner 1945 3. Lyle Bruce Greiner 1948</p>
	<p>(3) Name <u>Hester Charlotte GREINER</u> born on <u>10 Mar. 1913</u> at <u>Lakefield, Minnesota</u> died on _____ at _____ married <u>26 May 1935</u> at <u>Blairsburg, Iowa</u> to: <u>Frank Emory FLEMMING</u> <u>10 Oct. 1908 -</u></p>	<p>Children: 1. Ruth Elaine Flemming 1936 2. James Edward Flemming 1937 3. Mary Esther Flemming 1945</p>

List other children on the reverse side.

Form B-0285

1. These were born in Liberty Township of Hamilton County, Iowa.
2. Graceland Cemetery is located in Webster City, Iowa.
3. They were married at the home of the brides parents in Liberty Twp.

CHILDREN OF Charles Thomas and Effie Fadelia (Doolittle) GREINER

Sex (4) Name Ruby Delores GREINER
 born on 16 Dec. 1914 at Lakefield, Minnesota
 died on _____ at _____
 married 3 July 1941 at Webster City, Iowa
 to: Everett Clifford (Buster) NAIL
6 June 1911 - 1.

Children:
 1. Shirley Lillian Nail 1943
 2. Lloyd Clifford Nail 1946
 3. Karen Deloris Nail 1949

(5) Name Glenn Doolittle GREINER
 born on 21 Mar. 1917 at Hamilton County, Iowa
 died on _____ at _____
 married 4 Dec. 1938 at _____
 to: Arlene Mae GRANBY
26 Sept. 1917 -

Children:
 1. Lynn Robert Greiner 1939
 2. Gary Douglas Greiner 1943
 3. Mark L. (Hupt) Greiner 1963*
 4. Susan E. " " 1968*

* Adopted children.

(6) Name Esley Burdell GREINER
 born on 1 Oct. 1920 at Hamilton County, Iowa
 died on _____ at _____
 married See below at _____
 to: #1. Eleanor ALEXANDER, 24 May 1942 (later divorced)
 #2. Alice GREENWOOD Bruce, 30 June 1963

Children by 1st Wife:
 1. Anne Louise Greiner 1947
 2. Neil Robert Greiner 1948
 3. Dale Leslie Greiner 1952

- Now has 6 Stepchildren.

() Name _____
 born on _____ at _____
 died on _____ at _____
 married _____ at _____
 to: _____

() Name _____
 born on _____ at _____
 died on _____ at _____
 married _____ at _____
 to: _____

() Name _____
 born on _____ at _____
 died on _____ at _____
 married _____ at _____
 to: _____

Use this side of another of these forms if there are more than nine children.

1. Buster was born in Cass Township of Hamilton County, Iowa.



"Pa" Greiner
Blairsburg
IA
July 1938



"Ma" Greiner
Blairsburg
IA
July 1938

Keeping busy becomes her way of life

By LOUISE RUDKIN
 "Keeping busy" and "patriotic work"...if any two phrases could be said to describe Effie Greiner, these would be the chosen ones.

Now 95 years old, she does admit to slowing down, but only a little...and she continues in the activities which "help veterans" and bring her so much satisfaction.

BORN SOUTH of Blairsburg in Liberty Township March 5, 1887, she grew up in that area, attending country schools and Washington Central High School in Webster City. She then went to college at Cedar Falls and taught for 12 months in country schools.

"Then a man thought he wanted a companion to be company for him and to keep house..."

"I wasn't quite 19. I was too young and I wasn't ready for marriage, but if I wanted that man, I had to marry him then..."

Her idea had been to teach school for a while. She liked teaching, and she liked passing information on to people.

"But, I married Charles Thomas Greiner and we lived on an acreage on James Street...they call it Greiner Corner sometimes even today.

EFFIE GREINER MAY have given up being a school teacher—she served only in a substitute capacity in the ensuing years—but she never gave up learning and passing on information. And she has combined those attributes with a strong desire to help veterans and an ability to come up with ideas and projects that can help accomplish that goal. The organizations she has joined have been—for the most part—those that pursue the same goal.

She was initiated into the Rebekahs in 1915, is the oldest member in the local chapter and has been a member for the longest time, 67 years. Within this group she is a member of three branches, including the Ladies Auxiliary Patriotic Militant group of Iowa Falls. She is also a past state officer of Grand Ladies Encampment Auxiliary, which is affiliated with the Rebekahs.

She belongs to the Sgt. James E. Wedding Barracks and Auxiliary, Veterans of World War I. ("I had a brother in that war.") And she belongs to the Eastern Star, Sharon Chapter, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Hamilton County Historical Society and the American Legion Auxiliary.

It is this latter group which used "Effie's quilt" as a Fourth of July fund-raising project this year to raise money for their veterans' projects.

"The making of that quilt was a good project," she says. "I feel that to have a live organization, you must do things together and that's what we did.

"We got together at my house. Some of the women said they couldn't sew. I said, 'You can thread

a needle, can't you?' and some of them were kept busy doing just that. We had a grand time, and we raised around \$200 with that quilt that can help some needy veterans or their families."

Effie Greiner

IT IS THE WOMEN'S Relief Corps, however, which seems to be Effie Greiner's pet organization. She became a member in 1943, has served as president of the local and state groups, been a counselor for department presidents and attended countless state and national conventions. She is still president of the local unit.

Officially entitled the Women's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, the organization is described by Mrs. Greiner as a patriotic group, working for veterans of all wars. Along with members of other organizations, those who belong to this group continually find ways to help veterans in their own locality and those who are in veterans' hospitals.

"That's our purpose," she says. "We're dedicated to helping veterans of all wars." That help may range from financial contributions, to donating homemade cookies or gifts, to sewing carpet rags...whatever is needed.

Members of the group also conduct the Memorial Day Service on the North Des Moines Street bridge which honors servicemen and women who were lost at sea.

SHE HAS BEEN WIDOWED since 1955 and makes her home at 921 Elm St. Though the days of the acreage

are past, Effie Greiner seems never to be without some project, something that needs to be done.

"I have cut back a lot," she says. "I don't do housework. I hire it done. And I don't do yard work. I quit about three years ago. If I want to keep myself going, I don't want to get too tired."

But she says she still wants to "do more than I can do. I keep myself so busy that I can't catch up. If I start to catch up, I think of other things to do." And she has a long list of things she likes to do.

She makes colorful baskets with greeting cards, she makes wastebaskets with egg boxes, she crochets around handkerchiefs ("but I keep giving them away"), she crochets around washcloths ("they make attractive dollies"), she makes pillows ("I've made nine recently, but I've given them away") and she likes to listen to the radio.

"AND I READ quite a bit, and then if someone wants me to give a program I can help them out."

(It should be noted here that Effie Greiner does more than just read when she wants information for a program. Last spring she wanted up-to-date information on what to do in case of a tornado. She visited the fire station first. She referred her to the Freeman-Journal where she talked with Editor Max Maxon, and when she left she had a copy of some information he had just received on the subject. She undoubtedly passed on the new information just as she liked to do during her days as a teacher.)

"And I have a lot of correspondence. I'm on get-well card committees for some of my

organizations, and I sort coupons for Handicap Village for the Legion Auxiliary...we had more than \$1,000 worth sent in last year. And I subscribe to some publications. They help me prepare my papers and articles for programs."

She has recently helped put together a slide presentation, using pictures from the Iowa magazine, entitled "See Iowa First."

"We checked and found out it was all right to use the pictures if we didn't charge any money. I showed them at the county American Legion Auxiliary meeting and to some other groups."

"SOME PEOPLE SAY 'I don't know what to do with myself.' They need someone to give them ideas."

Effie Greiner seems to be one who comes up with those ideas, not only for herself, but for others. Members of the Women's Relief Corps will find themselves busy in the fall when they begin working on a new quilt for which Mrs. Greiner has already purchased the material.

"I was going to wait and get it later, but I saw this beautiful yard goods...it will make a lovely quilt...and I knew I'd better buy it before it was gone..."

She also comes up with great ideas for herself and her family, like the "fun day" she planned in July. Organized as a post-birthday celebration for her, it brought around 100 family members (six children, 16 grandchildren and an ever-increasing number of great-grandchildren and the families of everyone involved) together.

"There'll be swimming, canoeing, volleyball, visiting and games for the younger children," she said when she discussed the event before it took place. "I want them all to know they had a nice time."

ONE MORE BELIEF of Effie Greiner's should be mentioned here.

"I'm one of those who says, 'It can be done. If you try, it can be done'."

She put this belief to work around two years ago when members of the local Women's Relief Corps were asked to hold the state convention here.

With just a handful of members and only \$40 they undertook the task.

"We thought we couldn't do it, but we worked together. We had from June until September to raise money and make plans and we did it."

It seems likely that whenever Effie Greiner has anything to say about it, it...whatever "it" may be...will be done.



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Effie Greiner examines some material which will be made into a quilt this fall by members of a group to which she belongs.



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Effie Greiner marks 104th birthday

Effie Greiner, center, a resident at Southfield Care Center in Webster City, celebrated her 104th birthday Tuesday afternoon with a party in her honor. Pictured with her are four of her six children, left to right: Loren Greiner of Emmetsburg, Glenn Greiner of Jewell, Lyman Greiner of Story City, and Ruby Nail of Webster City. Not present are Hester Fleming of Boise, Idaho, and Esley Greiner, Chino Valley, Ariz. She also has 16 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Effie Fadelia Doolittle, daughter of Royal Leroy and Annie Caroline Brown Doolittle, was born March 5, 1887, on a farm north of Ellsworth. Her grandparents were pioneers from Story County who settled on farms south of Story City in 1856. Mrs. Greiner had five brothers, and she is the survivor of her immediate family. She attended country school, and Washington Central High School in Webster City. She received her teaching certificate from Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, and taught for one year before marrying Charles T. Greiner on Jan. 17, 1906. She and her husband farmed near Blairsburg and in Minnesota before moving to Webster City in 1941. Mr. Greiner died in 1955, and Mrs. Greiner became a resident at Southfield in 1985. Throughout her life, she has been active in numerous community clubs and organizations, and was active in politics.