

Reprinted by permission of the **Star Tribune** (Minneapolis, MN).



Former legislator C. Johnson dies at 83

C. Elmer Johnson, a cattle farmer from Almelund, Minn., and a state legislator for 30 years, died Saturday at the age of 83.

Johnson was born in Amador Township in Chisago County and resided there all his life. He farmed a 280-acre spread, specializing in purebred Holsteins.

He was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1932. Two years later he was elected to the state Senate, where he served until 1962, representing Chisago and Pine Counties.

He retired in 1962 after reapportionment placed both himself and a Liberal incumbent named Ralph Johnson in the same district. C. Elmer Johnson also was a Liberal.

He once said he was most proud of two accomplishments in his legislative tenure: authorship of the state's first civil service law and co-authorship of a bill putting the state Highway Patrol under Civil Service. He was also co-author of the state's income tax law and sat on many agricultural committees.

He is survived by a son, Ray, Almelund, and two daughters, Mrs. Louise Samuel, Louisville, Ky., and Mrs. Avis Legler, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday in Immanuel Lutheran Church in Almelund, with interment in the church cemetery.