

W. J. FRANZ

District 10

Jackson, Cottonwood Counties

Class 1955

Majority Group

Congressional District 2

Personable Sen. Walter J. Franz goes into 1957 rounding out 20 years of service in a variety of public offices.

The Mountain Lake merchant has served four years as village clerk, 14 years as commissioner for Cottonwood county's fifth district and the first two years of his four-year freshman term as a state senator.

Franz has also been active in the Republican party. He has been in the retail field for 30 years and a junior partner in Mountain Lake's Franz and Son store since 1940. Since the death of his father last March, he has taken over the business.

Franz is now serving a term as president of the Minnesota Food Retailers association and is a director of Fairway Foods, Inc., of St. Paul. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota.

In his first session, Franz served on the insurance, labor, public welfare, railroads, towns and counties, university, workmen's compensation and unemployment insurance committees.

Franz and his wife belong to the Mountain Lake Bethel Mennonite church.

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W. J. Franz, Mountain Lake, is going to be pretty busy now that he has been elected to represent the tenth district (Cottonwood and Jackson counties) in the house. It will be his first term.

Franz, a Mountain Lake merchant, is treasurer of the Minnesota Republican state central committee and chairman of the Cottonwood county Republican committee.

He is also a Cottonwood county commissioner, a member of the county welfare board and vice president of the Rotary club at Mountain Lake.

Franz was born 46 years ago in Mountain Lake, attended school there and got a degree in business administration at the University of Minnesota. His debut in the political field was in 1937, when he was elected village clerk, which office he held until 1941. He was president of the Community club in 1940-41.

Franz is a member of the Bethel Mennonite church at Mountain Lake. He and his wife, Maxine, have no children.