

Family Group Record for Charles Crozat CONVERSE

Husband	Charles Crozat CONVERSE-[20842] ¹	
Born	20 May 1878	Sumner twp, Winneshiek, IA
Christened		
Died	9 Jan 1961	Denver, Denver, CO
Buried		
Father	Senator Samuel Ambrose CONVERSE-[12921] (1843-1919) [MRIN:4173]	
Mother	Ellen MUNSON-[12920] (1849-1922) [MRIN:7267] 2, 3, 4	
Marriage	14 Sep 1904	McGregor, Clayton, IA

Wife	Charlotte Calkins KOOP-[20866] ⁵	
Born	11 Jan 1880	McGregor, Clayton, IA
Christened		
Died	23 Jan 1962	Denver, Denver, CO
Buried		
Father	[MRIN:4173]	
Mother		

Children		
1	F	Elinor Jean CONVERSE-[20867]
AKA	Jean CONVERSE	
Born	10 Jan 1910	Schafer, , McKenzie, ND
Christened		
Died		
Buried		
Spouse	Roger Williams KENNEDY-[20868] (Abt 1910-)	Jul 1935 - Bismarck, Burleigh, ND [MRIN:7268] ⁶

General Notes (Husband)

BIOGRAPHY OF CHARLES CROZAT AND CHARLOTTE KOOP CONVERSE
 Charles Crozat was born May 20, 1878, the third son, fifth child (four living) of Sam and Ellen Converse at their Winneshiek County, Iowa, farm home.

In 1880, his parents moved to the farm two miles northwest of Protivin where they built the "round" barn. When he was 11, his parents moved to a farm one mile south of Cresco where he grad-uated from high school in 1895. In the Gay Nineties, few farm boys had the advantage of a high school education. He worked on his parents I farm for two years and taught at a country school for four months. Normal training in high school qualified graduates to teach in an Iowa country school until the second half of the twentieth century.

He was awarded a Ph. B degree by the University of Iowa in 1901. At the university, he was a member of Phi Delta phi frater-nity, Zetagathian Literary, Die Germania, and ranking captain of the cadet battalion. As a senior, he was on a three-student debate team which represented the university in the annual debate with the University of Wisconsin.

He apparently was a quick learner, because after four months of law school at the University of Iowa, and a few months of "read-ing" law in his brother Willard I s Cresco law office, he hung out his shingle in 1902 as a lawyer with the firm of Monnet and Converse in Cando, North Dakota. Being a new lawyer in a small, new town (only 1496 people 78 years later) has never been a quick road to riches, so he moved to a salaried position as County (State 's) Attorney of McKenzie County, where the Missouri River flows from Montana into North Dakota.

On September 14, 1904, he married a teacher, Charlotte Calkins Koop Converse, at McGregor, Iowa. She was born January 11, 1880 at McGregor, Iowa. They settled on a homestead claim near Schafer in McKenzie County in 1905, where they lived for five years, long enough to get title to 160 acres of land for \$18. Their tar-papered three-room house was called a "mansion" by the neighbors as it had more than the customary one or two rooms and a well by the kitchen door for his wife's convenience. The well could have been drilled

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General Notes (Husband)(cont.)

for less money at a lower spot away from the house. On January 10, 1910, their only child, Elinor Jean (known as "Jean") was born in this "mansion".

In the summer of 1910, the family moved a few miles to the little town of Schafer. In 1917, they moved across the Missouri River to Williston, North Dakota, where Charles was in partnership with other lawyers--first with Usher L. Burdick (later U.S. Senator from North Dakota)--and then with the law firm of Craven, Palmer and Converse.

The family moved in 1922 to the state capital, Bismarck, where Charles served as State Tax Commissioner. The spring of 1925, the family moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, where Charles resumed the practice of law, this time with his brother, Willard. When Willard died in 1929, Charles returned to Bismarck as Inheritance Tax Commissioner.

While he had not attended a seminary, Charles was ordained a Presbyterian minister in 1934. Independent study had enabled him to pass the required examinations. The first wedding at which he officiated was that of his daughter and Roger Williams Kennedy in July, 1935. He served churches in the small North Dakota towns of New Salem, Cooperstown, Walhalla, and Ellendale, and served one term as Moderator of the North Dakota Synod of the Presbyterian Church. He retired in 1956 at the age of 78!

From 1957 until their deaths, Charles and Charlotte resided in Denver, Colorado with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Roger W. Kennedy. Charles died at Denver January 9, 1961 and was cremated. Charlotte died at Denver January 23, 1962, and was also cremated.

Written by Jean Converse Kennedy

General Notes (Wife)

In January 1920 & April 1930, Charlotte's widowed mother Jennie C Koop (1850 WI) was living with with the Converse family.

General Notes for Child Elinor Jean CONVERSE-[20867]

In April 1930, Elinor was attending college.

Source Citations

1. *Occupation*, Lawyer & Presbyterian minister.
2. MUNSON, Paul L., *"Munson Family History, 1812 - 1989"* (Milwaukee, Tech/Data Pub, 1990), page 221.
3. *United States Federal Census*, (U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001), 1920 - North Dakota, Williams county, Williston town, 618 - 7th Street; ED 255, Sheet 6 A, Line 30, Dwelling 120, Family 128. 26 January 1920. Lawyer, general practice.
4. *Ibid*, 1930 - North Dakota, Burleigh county, Bismarck; SD 4, ED 8-4, Sheet 20 B, Line 69, Dwelling 381, Family 413. 18 April 1930. Official - State Capital.
5. *Occupation*, Teacher.
6. MUNSON, Paul L., *"Munson Family History, 1812 - 1989"* (Milwaukee, Tech/Data Pub, 1990), page 222.