

[Cheney, Edith Bates]

Mrs. Edith B. Cheney, 87, of Belleview, prominent civic leader and active in Republican politics in Chautauqua County, died at 7:30 a.m. today (May 26, 1964) at WCA Hospital. She was the widow of John C. Cheney, member of an old Chautauqua County family and pioneer of many farm developments. He died 11 years ago today. Mrs. Cheney was born Dec. 16, 1876, in the Town of Ellery, the daughter of Selden and Agnes Brown Bates. She attended schools at Dewittville and Fredonia and was graduated in 1893 from Jamestown Business College. Mrs. Cheney was a member of the Chautauqua County Republican Committee from Ellery District No. 2 for many years, and was chairman of the GOP Rural Citizens Committee since its organization in 1946. She was a member of the County Women's Republican Club for many years, serving as chairman for 15 years. She was a member of the Bemus Point Study Club since its organization in 1903, serving in every office including five years as president. She helped form the Bemus Point Library in the early 1900's. She was a farm leader in her own right, being very active in the early organization of the Chautauqua County Home Bureau and 4-H Club. She also was a member of the Union Grange and the former Universalist Church of Bemus Point. She took a keen interest in the history of Western New York State and was active in the Chautauqua County Historical Society. Surviving are a son, Asa B. Cheney, and a daughter, Mrs. Agnes C. Russell, both of Bemus Point; six grandchildren; and 12 great grandchildren. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Evans Funeral Home. Burial will be in Bemus Point Cemetery.

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