

## Iowa's Notable Dead . . .

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FRANK A. O'CONNOR, lawyer, legislator and Federal bank and credit counsel, died at his home in Dubuque, Iowa, June 20, 1954; born in Independence, Buchanan county, Iowa, August 2, 1875, one of 13 children of Timothy and Ellen Curran O'Connor, his parents coming from Ireland at very early age; as a child of five went to visit grand parents at Lawler, Iowa, by whom he afterward was raised; graduated from the Lawler high school, attended the Iowa City Academy and the State University of Iowa, graduating in the law school in 1898, and admitted to the bar the following year; with William Avery Smith, now a member of the Iowa supreme court, opened a law office and practiced at New Hampton, Iowa, and the partnership continued 44 years, moving their office to Dubuque in 1918; elected county attorney of Chickasaw county in 1902 and re-elected in 1904; on May 1, 1922 became United States attorney for the district of northern Iowa; married Mary Agness McNevin, of Minneapolis, Minn., November 24, 1904, who with a son, Gerald, was killed April 6, 1934, in an auto-train collision, and in March, 1939 married Mrs. Mabel Conover of Dubuque; elected state representative from Chickasaw county in 1908 and re-elected in 1910, becoming minority party leader of the democrats of the house in the session of 1912; was delegate-at-large from Iowa to the Democrat national convention at Baltimore, in 1932 was chairman of the Iowa delegation of the Democrat national convention at Chicago, and in 1940 placed the name of Henry Wallace of Iowa in nomination for vice-president; served on the Iowa governor's council of defense during the World War I years of 1917 and 1918; entered the Federal service in 1934, becoming general counsel for the Farm Credit Administration at Omaha, and later that year became its general agent, filling the post until June 1, 1937, and being responsible during that time for the operation of the FCA, including the four credit banks set up by the congressional act, as chairman of the boards of the those banks—the Federal Land Bank of Omaha, the Omaha Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Production Credit Bank of Omaha and the Omaha Bank for Cooperatives; returned to private practice in 1937; served as president of the Dubuque Chamber of Commerce, a member of the board of governors of the School of Religion at the University of Iowa, a director of the archdiocese of Dubuque and a trustee and member of the board of regents of Loras college;

as a layman was engaged in outstanding activities of the Catholic church and named in 1945 a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory by Pope Pius X, so recently elevated to sainthood; a member of the Dubuque Assembly, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, Elks lodge, the Dubuque county, Iowa State and American Bar associations, the Catholic order of Foresters and the Holy Name Society of St. Joseph's church; survived by his wife, two sons, Charles E. and Francis J. O'Connor, both of Dubuque, five grand children, three brothers, four sisters and nieces and nephews.

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J. FRANK ALDRICH, physician, of Shenandoah, Iowa, died at Decatur, Illinois, the home of his daughter, July 8, 1954; born at Creston, Iowa, January 24, 1873; a son of Charles and Rixie Caldwell Aldrich; was educated at Western Normal college in Shenandoah, where he received his B.S. degree in 1891, and his M.D. degree from Rush Medical college, Chicago, in 1897; married December 22, 1897 to Fannie McGogy, who died February 22, 1952, and to them were born three children, Lester E. Aldrich of Arlington Heights, Illinois, Mrs. William P. (Kathryn) Bishop of Decatur, and Mrs. Ernest (Frances) Pool of Denver, Colorado; practiced medicine at Murray, Iowa, from 1897 to 1905, and located in Shenandoah the latter year, was a practicing physician there until 1952, when he retired; served as city health physician many years, a member of the Iowa State Board of Health, local physician for the Burlington and Wabash railroads, a member of the board of education, a trustee of the public library board, chamber of commerce, Rotary club, a past noble grand of IOOF, the Page county and Iowa medical societies and the American medical association, a trustee of the Methodist church and a civic leader; served on the staff of the Medical Health Institute in Clarinda after retirement from active practice; was deeply interested in cancer research and made many generous gifts to it during his life, a recent one being in Mrs. Aldrich's memory at the time of the dedication of the new wing, which was used to furnish the laboratory, and a more recent one to provide an oxygen tent; survived besides his children by three sisters, Mrs. Alice Castle, of Shenandoah, Mrs. Beecher Smith of Gravity and Miss Bertha Aldrich, Los Angeles.

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EDWARD WILLIAM McMANUS, attorney and former president Iowa Bar Association, died at Keokuk, Iowa, June 1, 1954; born near Charleston, December 31, 1887; son of Edward P. and Sarah I. Downey McManus, the father having served two terms in the Iowa state senate and his grandfather, John Downey, also was a state senator, representing Lee

county, Iowa; was graduated from the Keokuk high school in 1905; attended the State University of Iowa and received his law degree in 1909, there was a member of Beta Theta Pi social fraternity and Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity; since practiced law in Keokuk and recently in partnership with his three sons, Neil E., Edward J. and Richard P.; appointed city attorney in 1911, and later served as Lee county attorney from 1912 to 1920; elected as delegate at large from Iowa to the Democrat National convention in 1924, 1928 and 1932 and presidential elector from Iowa in 1932; served as chairman of the Lee county Democratic committee for some years; formerly a director of the Security State bank of Keokuk, and served as president of the Knights of Columbus Building association since it was first organized, and a past president of the Iowa State Bar association and Iowa County Attorney's association; a member of St. Francis de Sales church and its Holy Name society, the Knights of Columbus, the Elks, Keokuk club and Fairview club, First Judicial District, Iowa and American Bar associations; married Kathleen O'Connor October 20, 1909, at Homer, Nebraska; survived by his wife, a daughter, Mrs. Jean Huiskamp, the three sons and nine grandchildren.

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REUEL HULL SYLVESTER, educator and psychologist, died at Joliet, Illinois, July 29, 1954; born March 18, 1881, at Lynnville, Iowa; son of Dixon Sylvester; attended Iowa State Teachers college at Cedar Falls, and took his bachelor of arts degree at the State University of Iowa in 1908; also received his master's degree from S.U.I. and took his doctorate in psychology in 1912 at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Penn., from 1913 to 1919 was director of the psychology clinic and assistant professor of psychology at S.U.I. and for the next 4 years was director of the Des Moines Health Center; during World War I, was chief psychologist examiner, with the rank of captain, at Camp Grant, Illinois; became head of the Drake psychology department in 1923 and retired from teaching about 1943, but remained several more years to continue research; at one time headed his own school in Des Moines for backward children; was author of many professional papers and articles; was a member of the American Psychological Association, associate member of the American Medical Association and a life member of the Iowa Academy of Science; elected to Sigma Xi, national honorary science fraternity, and Phi Delta Kappa, national professional education fraternity; also was a member of the Masons, Scottish Rite, York Rite and Shrine and of the Des Moines Prairie Club, bereaved in 1946 by the death of Mrs. Sylvester; a member of the Presbyterian church and

the Republican party; left Des Moines about two years ago to make his home with his son, Dr. Edgar Bradley Sylvester, in Joliet; besides the son, survived by a sister, Mrs. Lona Fleck of Killduff.

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WILLIAM W. GOODYKOONTZ, lawyer, legislator and city official, died at Boone, Iowa, June 23, 1954; born there also, August 18, 1872; educated in the Boone public schools and was graduated in 1895 from the law school of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and entered the practice of law the same year at his home city where he had since resided; married to Florence Streeter of Cedar Falls, Iowa, December 31, 1900, who survives with their three children, Daniel E., who was associated with his father in the practice of law five years, now residing at Alhambra, California, Mrs. Theodore (Elizabeth) Uehling, Mansfield, Ohio, and Mrs. Ralph M. (Mary) Barnes, Los Angeles, California, with four grand daughters and two grand sons; elected to the city council, served as mayor of Boone 1905 and 1906 and one term as city attorney; served two terms as representative of his county in the Iowa General assembly 1909-1913; president and director of the Boone Blank Book Co. many years, president and director of the Linwood Park Cemetery association 20 years; a director of the Citizen's National building company and during World War II served as a member of the Boone county draft and coal distributing boards; past exalted ruler of the Elks order, of which he was the last living charter member; also a member of the Masonic bodies, the American, Iowa and Boone county bar associations, being president of the latter at time of death, the Pioneer Lawmakers association of Iowa, and was a Republican.

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LUTHER WINFIELD STALNAKER, educator and clergyman, killed when struck by an auto, July 12, 1954, at San Rafael, California; born November 27, 1892, at Pleasant Hill, Missouri; son of Ward and Josephine Amanda (Howard) Stalnakar; educated in the public schools and received his A.B. summa cum laude from Drake university in 1920, Ph.D. degree from Yale in 1929; from 1920 to 1929 while a student served pastorates in Brookfield, Conn., and Bethany, West Virginia; went to Drake university in 1927 as assistant professor of philosophy; in 1929, became a full professor and head of the philosophy department, and had been dean of the liberal arts college since 1920; branched out from time to time to the field of international service and in 1949 and 1950, made two trips to Japan as an adviser on educational affairs to the United States military occupation headquarters; author

of "Humanism and Human Dignity," published by Yale University Press; had written a number of articles for religious philosophical and educational periodicals; was married in 1913 to Margaret Charlotte Fritz of Fort Scott, Kan., who survives, with three children, Mrs. Richard Hosman, San Rafael, Calif., Col. George W. Stalnaker, stationed with the Air Force in Norfolk, Va.; and Howard, a World War II Navy pilot, now an executive of KPHO, a television station in Phoenix, Ariz.; also survived by his mother, Mrs. Josie Stalnaker of Fort Scott, Kansas, and a sister, Mrs. M. E. Malley of Los Angeles, Calif.

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BESS STREETER ALDRICH, novelist and writer of short stories, died at Lincoln, Nebraska, August 3, 1954; born at Cedar Falls, Iowa, February 17, 1881; daughter of James Wareham and Mary Wilson (Anderson) Streeter; was graduated in 1901 from Iowa State Teachers college at Cedar Falls; received honorary Litt.D. University of Nebraska, 1934; prior to marriage Sept. 24, 1907 to Charles S. Aldrich, a Tipton, Iowa, banker and attorney, since deceased, taught school in Iowa at Boone and Marshalltown and Salt Lake City, Utah, five years; resided at Tipton two years before removing to Nebraska; began formal writings under her own name in 1918, becoming a constant contributor to leading American magazines, originally having used the pen name of Margaret Dean Stevens; author of books with midland flavor, largely published between 1924 and 1944, including "Mother Mason" (1924), "Rim of the Prairie" (1924), "Lantern in Her Hand" (1925), "The Cutters" (1926), "A White Bird Flying" (1931), "Miss Bishop" (1933), "Spring Came on Forever" (1935), "The Man Who Caught the Weather" (1936), "Song of Years" (1939), "The Drum Goes Dead" (1941), "The Lieutenant's Lady" (1944); a member of the Methodist church, Order of Eastern Star, P.E.O., Chi Delta Phi, Theta Sigma Phi, Nebraska State Press association, Southern California Press association, and Midland Authors club; survived by a daughter, Mrs. Milton Beechner, Lincoln, and two sons, James, New York city, Charles, Long Island, N.Y., and a sister, Mrs. Anna Wood, Cedar Falls.

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CHARLES FRANCIS GARRETT, educator and author, died July 17, 1954, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Charles Griffin, Los Angeles, California, where he has lived the past three years; born October 25, 1886, at Winterset, Iowa; was married to Louella Nancy Graham, November 7, 1891, who died in El Paso, Texas, in 1950; was one of a family of educators; attended Simpson college at Indianola, Iowa, and was gradu-

ated from Midland college, Fremont, Nebraska; served as superintendent of the public schools in Mapleton, Charter Oak, Sac City, Shenandoah and Fairfield in Iowa, and Jonesboro in Arkansas; served four years upon the Iowa state board of educational examiners, also as president of the Southwest Iowa Teachers association, and in 1926 was elected one of the vice-presidents of the National Educational association; became head of El Colegio International, Chichuahua, Chichuahua, Mexico, in 1928, and in 1929-30 conducted classes in English and American citizenship in the vocational high school of El Paso; in 1931 retired from the teaching profession; was author of a textbook on vocational agriculture arithmetic; acted as instructor and lecturer before teachers' institutes in South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa for many years; survived by two daughters, Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Floyd Mitchell, Burlington, Iowa, five grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

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HUGH ALFRED BUTLER, railroad construction engineer, mill owner, wholesale flour and grain dealer and United States senator; died at Washington, D. C., July 1, 1954; born on a Harrison county farm near Missouri Valley, Iowa, February 28, 1878; son of Harvey Gibson and Ida Wills Butler; moved with parents to Nebraska when a boy of six years; entered Doane academy in 1896; received his B.S. degree from Doane college in 1900, and his LL.D. in 1910; married Fay Johnson, now deceased, at Crete, Nebraska, February 5, 1903; to which union were born two sons, Laurence Hugh and Robert Johnson, both now also deceased; became a C.B. & Q. railroad engineer 1906, a grain miller at Curtis, Nebraska, 1908-13; manager Crete Mills 1913-18; formed Butler-Welsh Grain Co., Omaha, 1918, of which he was senior partner; also served as a director of the Nebraska Consolidated Mills and Sheridan, (Wyoming) Flour Mills, Inc.; served as Republican national committeeman from Nebraska in 1936, and has been a U. S. senator from Nebraska since 1941; served as a member of the Omaha board of education, chairman of the board of trustees of Doane college, president of the Grain and Feed Dealers National Association 1929-30; a Republican, a Congregationalist, a Mason, a Modern Woodman, an Odd Fellow and a member of various Omaha civic and social clubs.

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BENJAMIN F. WILLIAMS, educator, died at his home in Santa Barbara, California, June 13, 1954; born at Afton, Iowa, July 21, 1874; educated in the public schools and after seventeen years farming and teaching came to Des Moines and became an instructor in penmanship and other branches

in the Capital City Commercial college, of which Dr. J. C. Mehan was president; married on December 28, 1898, and became the father of four children; acquired an interest in the college, served as its president from 1908 to 1949, and at time of his death was president emeritus; was president of the National Association of Accredited Commercial Schools for 25 years, president of the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce in 1929, a charter member and president of the Des Moines Rotary Club in 1913, and an honorary member since removing to California; his widow, Arabelle, also died a few weeks after his demise, survived by a daughter, Mrs. Mary Alice Noonon, San Francisco, Cal., and two sons, J. Richard Williams, Des Moines, and Hillis E. Williams, Cleveland, Ohio.

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NICHOLAS BALKEMA, merchant, teacher and legislator, died January 29, 1954, at Sioux Center; born April 7, 1865, at Gibbsville, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin; attended district school at Gibbsville and graduated from Sheboygan Falls high school; removed to Newkirk, Iowa, in 1884; taught school for a time and entered mercantile business at Newkirk and conducted the postoffice in connection therewith; removed to Sioux Center in 1894 and continued the same business there for many years, also owning a clothing store at Paullina; became interested in the local bank and served as its vice-president; served on the city council and ten years as president of the school board, being intensely interested in educational matters; in all was occupied by local business affairs and official interests for 54 years, retiring in 1941; served six sessions, 1909-19, as state senator from the forty-ninth Iowa district, composed of the counties of Lyon, O'Brien, Sioux and Osceola; was a Republican and a member of the Central Dutch Reformed church, of which he was a charter elder and had taught a Sunday school class for many years; married on December 9, 1886, to Clara Van Rooyen, of Newkirk, who survives with children as follows: Mrs. Fred DenBeste (Kate), Mrs. P. B. Mouw (Florence), and Clayton Balkema, all of Sioux Center, Dr. Walter Balkema, of Sheldon, Raymond Balkema, of Burlington, and Mrs. Eardly Scheutz (Lucille) of Lincoln, Nebraska, one daughter, Mrs. Wm. G. Van Roekel (Jeanette), and two grandchildren, Alice DenBeste and Dorothy Ellen Balkema, having preceded him in death.

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