

NOTABLE DEATHS

CHARLES M. DUTCHER was born at Humboldt, Allen County, Kansas, April 29, 1869, and died in the Supreme Court room of the State Capitol at Des Moines, November 17, 1936, immediately after making an oral argument to the court. Burial was in Graceland at Oakland Cemetery, Iowa City. His parents were Daniel N. and Adelaide Beattie Dutcher. He accompanied his parents in 1877 in their removal to a farm near Ladora, Iowa County, Iowa, but the following year they removed to Iowa City. He was graduated from Iowa City High School in 1889 and soon afterward entered the employ of the Smith & Harrison Dry Plate Co. as a factory worker. The following year he took a course in the Williams & Barnes Business College in Iowa City. He assisted in making a government census of the mortgage indebtedness of Johnson County, was for a short time a stenographer in a building and loan office in Chicago, but returned to Iowa City and became secretary to Dean Emlin McClain of the University College of Law, remaining there until January 1, 1894, in the meantime carrying forward his studies in liberal arts and law in the University. He was business manager of the *Iowa City Republican* in 1894 and was graduated in law and admitted to the bar in June, 1894. He began practice at Iowa City in 1895 in partnership with Charles H. Burton which continued until 1900 when he and Walter M. Davis formed the firm of Dutcher & Davis. In 1906 Martin J. Wade joined the firm as Wade, Dutcher & Davis. In 1916 Judge Wade retired and C. F. Hambrecht joined the firm which then became Dutcher, Davis & Hambrecht. In 1923 Mr. Hambrecht retired as did Mr. Davis soon thereafter. Henry G. Walker and Herbert J. Ries then joined with Mr. Dutcher in 1927 as Dutcher, Walker & Ries. On the death of Mr. Walker in August, 1936, Dan C. Dutcher, a son of Charles M. Dutcher, entered the firm which then became Dutcher, Ries & Dutcher. Charles M. Dutcher was concerned in much important litigation in the various courts of the state. For more than twenty years he was attorney for the Iowa State Medical Society, and for several years was a lecturer in the University of Iowa on medical jurisprudence. He was president of the State Bar Association in 1921. In 1925 he declined an appointment to the Iowa Supreme Court when offered to him by Governor Hammill. He declined a political career although he was county attorney for two years soon after his admission to the bar—1897-98, was a delegate to the Republican National Convention of 1916, and was elected senator in 1920, and served in the Thirty-ninth, Fortieth and Fortieth Extra general assemblies. In the latter he was chairman of the Code Revision Committee and rendered the state distinguished service in that work. For six years he was a member of the Iowa City Board of Education. He was a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Iowa City and had been a member of its Board of Trustees for many years. Besides being an outstanding lawyer this busy man of affairs was kindly and considerate in all his activities.

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