

came to him he generously contributed to many philanthropies and remembered his town with benefactions in the way of public improvements, and by his will he shared extensively with relatives, employes, associates and friends the proceeds of his success. His estate was said to total many millions.

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JOHN BURKE, better known as "Honest" John Burke, was born in Keokuk County, Iowa, February 25, 1859, and died May 14, 1937. Burial was at Bismarck, North Dakota. His parents were John and Mary (Ryan) Burke. He was educated in the public schools of Keokuk County, Iowa. He attended the State University of Iowa and received his degree of LL.B. From 1886-88 he practiced law in Des Moines with his brother, Judge Thomas C. Burke. In 1888 he removed to North Dakota and soon attained fame as a trial lawyer. He was elected county judge, serving from 1889-91 and from 1896-98. He was a member of the North Dakota House of Representatives from 1891-93 and of the Senate from 1893-95. He had the distinction of being the first Democratic governor to serve in North Dakota, being elected in 1907 and re-elected in 1909 and 1911, serving until 1913. In 1912 he was runner-up to the late Thomas R. Marshall for the nomination of vice president. He was appointed treasurer of the United States in 1913 by President Woodrow Wilson and served until 1921 during the trying period of the World War. After his retirement as United States treasurer he entered into partnership with Louis M. Kardos, Jr., in a Wall Street brokerage firm which soon failed and was subjected to a grand jury investigation. Mr. Burke was absolved of any wrongdoing, but so keenly did he feel the losses of the people who had invested their money that he turned over his entire personal fortune including a paid up insurance policy in order to help make up some of their losses. This together with his personal record in public office earned for him the appellation of "Honest" John Burke. From New York he returned to North Dakota and was elected a member of the Supreme Court of that state, and was serving as a Supreme Court justice at the time of his death. Governor William Langer of North Dakota commenting on the death of Mr. Burke said: "North Dakota has lost its leading citizen, the outstanding man of the state."

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WILL BURNETT, chief of the Des Moines fire department, was born October 9, 1859, in Newark, New Jersey, and died in the Iowa Methodist Hospital, Des Moines, Iowa, March 27, 1937. Burial was in Glendale Masonic Cemetery. His death was the result of burns suffered in an explosion in the Sheurman Woolen Mills warehouse fire March 26. His parents were Charles and Ellen (Stagg) Burnett. In 1870 when only eleven years old, he came with his parents to Des Moines where he has continuously made his home since. He obtained most of his schooling in the East Des Moines public schools. From 1881 to 1895 he and his brother Lew operated a grocery store at East Sixth and Locust

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