

Iowa's Notable Dead . . .

CHARLES EDWIN FRILEY, college administrator, died at Ames, Iowa, July 11, 1958; born in Ruston, Louisiana, August 27, 1887, the son of William Christopher and Ellen F. Friley; graduated from Sam Houston Teachers College in 1905, attended Baylor University for two years, and taught in the public schools of Texas and Louisiana from 1907 to 1910; received his bachelor of science degree from the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas in 1919, named registrar there the same year, and became dean of the school of arts and sciences in 1924; married Nina Lynn Wood, June 21, 1913, and following her death, October 28, 1918, married Vera Foreman, June 21, 1921; received the Master of Arts degree from Columbia University in 1923, the doctor of laws degree from Hardin-Simmons University in 1929, and studied summers at the University of Chicago from 1926 to 1931; was visiting professor of education there during the summers of 1930 and 1931; became dean of the division of science at Iowa State College in 1932, and in 1935 was advanced to vice-president before becoming president in 1936; retired as president emeritus in 1953; awarded honorary degrees by Texas A. and M., Cornell College and Iowa State College; active member of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities, and the American Council on Education; served as president of the North Central Association of College and Secondary Schools 1942-43, and was president of the American Association of College Registrars in 1929; was vice president of National Council Presbyterian Men; member of the Masonic Lodge, the Rotary Club, and a Democrat; contributed many articles on college administration to professional journals; survived by his wife, Magdalen, two sons, Charles Jr. of Allegan, Michigan, William of Alberta, Canada, and one daughter, Mrs. Stuart Kuyper of Pella, Iowa.

ISRAEL ALEXANDER SMITH, editor, attorney, church leader, and former legislator, died at Bethany, Missouri, June 14, 1958, following a highway accident near Pattonsburg; born at Plano, Illinois, February 2, 1876, the son of Joseph and Bertha Madison Smith; moved with his parents to Lamoni, Iowa, in 1881, graduating from Lamoni High School in 1898, and attending Graceland College for two years; engaged in sales and insurance work, being manager of the Pentol Paper Company from 1902 to 1905, and did telephone work in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia for three years; performed editorial duties for the *Saints' Herald* from 1908 to 1914; repre-

sented Decatur county in the 34th General Assembly, admitted to the Iowa bar in 1912; for several years acted as private secretary to his father, president of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; served as mayor of Lamoni, township clerk, town clerk, and as a member of the school board; practiced law in Independence, Missouri, following his father's death, and located briefly in Toronto, Canada; became a member of the stake high council in Independence in 1915, and called to the office of counselor to Bishop Benjamin R. McGuire, the general church Bishop, in April, 1920; had been president of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints since 1946; married to the former Nina Grenawalt, and had two sons, Joseph Perreine, and Donald Carlos.

MOTHER MARY GERVASE TUFFY, educator and former superior general of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, died at Dubuque, Iowa, July 27, 1958; born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, May 27, 1865, the daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Tuffy; educated by the Sisters of Charity, entering their novitiate in 1887; taught in the schools of her Institute in Iowa, Illinois, Missouri and Montana; served as superior of St. Raphael's school in Dubuque from 1900 to 1906, and of St. Joseph's school in Butte, Montana, from 1909 to 1915; was mistress of postulants from 1915 to 1919; president of Clarke College, then St. Joseph College, until 1925 when elected to the General Council of the Congregation; elected superior general of the Institute, serving two six-year terms before again being elected to the General Council; retired in 1947 because of failing health; extended the apostolate of her order to the Negro and introduced practice teaching for senior novices; opened nineteen schools of the order; survived by two sisters, Sister Mary Ignatius of Dubuque, and Mrs. Walter B. McShane of Cleveland, Ohio.

HERMON PORTER WILLIAMS, minister, missionary, educator, and Spanish-American war chaplain, died July 21, 1958, in Albuquerque, New Mexico; born at Iowa City, Iowa, February 16, 1872, the son of James Madison and Augusta Williams; graduated from the University of Iowa, attaining Phi Beta Kappa, in 1895, obtained a B.D. degree from Drake University in 1896, and ordained minister of the Disciples of Christ church the same year; located at Ames, Iowa, as pastor of the Christian church before enlisting as a private in the Iowa National Guard upon the outbreak of war, was shortly commissioned regimental chaplain and served with the Fifty-first Iowa Volunteer Regiment, through the Philippine Insurrection of 1899; married Beulah MacFarland, October 12, 1898; returned to the

Philippines to do pioneer missionary work until 1910, contracted tuberculosis and forced to homestead in New Mexico, ministering to the Jicarilla Indians, was also pastor of the Broadway Christian church in Albuquerque until 1914; served two years as dean of Spokane University, and was pastor of the First Christian church in Tacoma, Washington, from 1916 to 1922; assigned by the Y.M.C.A. for six months as preacher and lecturer to troops in Europe during World War I; directed the Bible Foundation at the State University of Washington for two years, receiving an M. A. degree there in 1919; became pastor of the Park Avenue Baptist church in Paterson, New Jersey, in 1924, and of the Calvary Baptist church in Westwood in 1930, earning the Th. M. and the Th. D. degrees from Drew Theological Seminary during that time; retired to New Mexico in 1940; translated several church works into native languages; survived by his wife, Myrtle, and three children, David of Gainesville, Florida, Mrs. Winifred Williams, of Pasadena, California, and an adopted son, Lyle, in Ohio.

Mrs. TONI WENDELBURG, conservationist and retired school teacher, died in Des Moines, Iowa, May 13, 1958, at the age of 90; born in Ottawa, Illinois; graduated from the former Milwaukee Seminary at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and came to Des Moines in 1905 to instruct the first girls' physical education classes at West high school; later taught at Cooper, Grant and Phillips elementary schools in Des Moines; became well-known for her effectiveness in imparting a knowledge and appreciation of nature lore to her classes; the wild life preserve surrounding her home was greatly appreciated by students and conservationists; was a charter member of the Des Moines Audubon Society, and a board member of the Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa; served as regional director and guardian for the Camp Fire Girls; received a national first prize for an essay on conservation from the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., and held the Honor Award of the Iowa State Horticultural Society; retired from teaching in 1933; survived by three daughters, Mrs. Ray E. Sterrett of Des Moines, Mrs. Hertha Black of Denver, Colorado, and Mrs. Vilma Shaffer of Phoenix, Arizona; and one son, Alfred Wendelburg of Miles City, Montana.

NEHEMIAS TJERNAGEL, farmer, writer, and composer, died at Story City, Iowa, May 17, 1958; born at Story City, March 28, 1868, the son of Ole Andreas and Martha Tjernagel; attended the township school, and enrolled at Iowa State College at Ames for a short period; an interest developed in community musical organizations led him to Norway to study in 1892, and later at the Leipzig Royal Conservatory; compelled to give up

his studies by ill health, traveled extensively in Egypt and Palestine, returning in 1895; went abroad again in 1910 for further study and travel in the Scandinavian countries; farmed in partnership with his brothers, Peter and Martin, until 1953; active in the work of St. Petri and Bethany Lutheran congregations; composed hymns, songs, marches, and other pieces that have been on the repertoires of soloists, choirs, and bands in both Norway and America; first published literary works were accounts of walking trips taken during his foreign travels, later wrote many essays on Iowa pioneer life which have appeared in state historical journals and local publications; in 1955 many of his short articles concerning religion, having previously been printed in church papers and religious journals, were edited and published in a small volume under the title, "Contributions to Church Periodicals"; survived by one of two sisters, Bertha Tjernagel, and one of four brothers, Martin, both of Story City.

FREDERIC MAGOUN MILLER, attorney and judge, died in Des Moines, Iowa, June 8, 1958; born February 18, 1896, at Des Moines, the son of Jesse A. and Emily Magoun Miller; graduated from North high school in 1914, attended Grinnell College before entering the United States Army in 1917, received his law degree from the University of Iowa in 1922; married to Margaret Littleton, September 8, 1922; practiced law with his father until 1929, then was a member of the Miller, Miller & Miller law firm for nine years; elected to the Iowa supreme court in 1938, re-elected in 1944, returning to private practice in 1946; active in the American Bar Association, and president of the Iowa association in 1945-46; lecturer on appellate procedure at the Drake University law school since 1948; member of Phi Beta Kappa, various Masonic orders, and the Pioneer Club; widely-known in Republican party circles, and member of the Plymouth Congregational Church; survived by his wife, one son, Frederic L., two daughters, Margaret Ann Wagner, and Rosemary Miller, two brothers, a twin, Alex M. Miller, and J. Earl Miller, all of Des Moines.

ALFRED LOWRIE FRISBIE, retired editor and newspaperman, died at Grinnell, Iowa, February 28, 1958; born November 18, 1877, in Des Moines, Iowa, the son of the Rev. A. L. Frisbie and Martha Crosby Frisbie; graduated from West high school in 1896, and from Grinnell College in 1900, there named to Phi Beta Kappa, served as editor of the college paper, and was a star football player; married Margaret Scammon of Northwood, Iowa, October 28, 1908; began his newspaper career with the *Fort Dodge Messenger*, and after three years there, joined the staff of the *Des Moines Register and Leader*, eventually

becoming its city editor; returned to Grinnell in 1907 to work on the *Grinnell Register*; became editor of the *Grinnell Herald* in 1909, and was a partner of Publisher W. G. Ray when the two papers were consolidated in 1936; gained statewide renown for his editorials; active in college alumni work as a trustee on the Grinnell College board, and faithfully attended most of the school's theatricals, convocations, music and athletic events; had a strong appreciation for music, singing in college groups and the Congregational church choir for many years; also was long a moderator in the church and a member of its board; active in many community and civic affairs, serving as president of the Kiwanis Club, director of the Chamber of Commerce and Community Chest, and president of the Poweshiek county Red Cross; named an "Iowa Master Editor-Publisher" by the Iowa Press Association in 1953; retired in that year but continued to write special articles for the paper; survived by his wife, and a son, Alfred Lowrie Frisbie, Jr. of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

THOMAS JOSEPH GUTHRIE, attorney and former district judge, died July 23, 1958, in Des Moines, Iowa, at the age of 81; born in Elkhart Township, the son of John and Mary Guthrie; taught rural school there before studying law at Drake University, passing his state bar examinations in 1903; worked in the law offices of A. B. Cummins while attending law school; elected Polk county attorney in 1909, appointed Polk county district judge in 1916, and returned to private practice in 1920; served as president of the Iowa Bar Association, held several offices in the American Bar Association, and was president of the American Bar Foundation; was attorney for the Des Moines Roman Catholic Diocese; member of Kiwanis and Knights of Columbus; director of the Southside Community Center; married to Agnes Hogan who died in 1950.

WILLIAM AVERY SMITH, Iowa supreme court justice, died June 10, 1958, at Dubuque, Iowa; born in Andalusia, Illinois, November 19, 1870, the son of William and Cynthia Smith; moved to Toledo, Iowa, with his parents in 1884, graduated from the Toledo High School in 1886, and Western College there in 1890; taught commercial subjects at Western for two years, and helped organize the Tama-Toledo Electric Railway and Light Company; married Martha G. Lichtenwalter at Toledo in 1894; received his law degree from the State University of Iowa in 1898; practiced law in partnership with Frank O'Connor at New Hampton, Iowa, for twenty years, moved to Dubuque in 1918 and joined the Hurd, Lenahan, Smith and O'Connor law firm, which had the longest record of continuous law practice in Iowa; president of the Iowa Bar Association 1941-42, receiving

its highest honor, the Award of Merit, in 1950; elected to the Iowa Supreme Court in 1942, re-elected in 1948 and 1954, noted for his precise and clearly worded opinions; served as president and director of the Dubuque Chamber of Commerce, was a trustee of Dubuque county tuberculosis sanatorium; survived by his wife and one son, Paul F. Smith of Toledo.

CHARLES ALMON DEWEY, attorney and retired federal judge, died at Des Moines, Iowa, March 2, 1958; born in Washington, Iowa, September, 11, 1877, the son of Almon Ralph and Sarah (Rousseau) D. Dewey; graduated from the Oberlin Academy, Oberlin, Ohio, in 1897, and attended Oberlin College there for two years, served in the 50th Iowa Infantry in the Spanish-American war, returning to earn a law degree at the University of Iowa in 1901; married Jessie Irene Laffer of Sigourney, Iowa, September 1, 1910; practiced law in Washington for several years, was city attorney from 1905 to 1909, and county attorney of Washington county from 1909 to 1915; was a lieutenant and adjutant in the cavalry during the Mexican Border war; named judge of the sixth Iowa judicial district in 1918, appointed to the federal bench by President Coolidge in 1928; was an associate of Judge Martin J. Wade of Iowa City, and upon his death in 1931, assumed the full judicial load of the United States district court for the southern district of Iowa; following his retirement in 1949, was called upon to fill temporary assignments with the eighth circuit court in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1950, the federal district at New York in 1951, and the district at Miami, Florida, in 1952; became well-known for his firmness and dispatch in operating his courtroom; member of the Rotary club, the Methodist church, and a Republican, was Grand Master of the Masons in Iowa from 1920 to 1930; survived by his wife, and a son, Almon Rousseau.

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.