

NOTABLE DEATHS

FRED H. HUNTER, legislator, city official, railroad man and agriculturalist, born at Dexter, Iowa, on June 7, 1869, died at Rochester, Minn. on July 23, 1943; his parents natives of Pennsylvania, moved to Dexter in 1867, thence to Des Moines in 1869; his father, Dr. A. O. Hunter was one of Des Moines' pioneer physicians; graduated from East High school of Des Moines in 1887; afterwards graduated from Capital City Commercial college and took agriculture and dairy course at the University of California and later at Iowa State college at Ames; associated with B. F. Gue for a time as one of the editors of the Rural Northwest Farm Publication; read law one winter; later employed for a number of years by the Chicago, Great Western railroad as passenger agent and subsequently traveling freight and passenger agent.

Mr. Hunter has engaged in many Des Moines business enterprises and resided eight months of each year on the family farm near Ankeny, and in Des Moines during the winter months. He was married in 1892 to Mary Ankeny, daughter of Gen. R. V. Ankeny, who survives him with two sons and a daughter. He has been a life-long republican and active in politics as well as in business and welfare fields; served in the Iowa General Assembly in 1908 and mayor of Des Moines in 1926; since the operation of the selective service act has served as chairman of local draft board No. 3, served as a member and chairman of the Polk county board of supervisors in 1922 to 1926; always active in welfare and civic work, Masonic and church circles. In 1911 he was appointed receiver, auditor and general manager of the Minneapolis and Northern Interurban railroad which was electrified and sold three years later. Was a member of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association, Des Moines Pioneer club and the Kiwanis club.

GEORGE FREDERICK KAY, educator and scientist, one of the world's great geologists, former dean of the State University of Iowa liberal arts college, born on a farm near Virginia, York county, Ontario, on September 14, 1873, died at Iowa City, Iowa, on July 19, 1943, having retired from full-time teaching service in May previous; long a recognized authority on glacial and interglacial history of Iowa and adjacent states; through research, he was able to determine the minimum length of time involved in the Pleistocene geologic period at about one million years; for 23 years headed the department of geology at the state university, directed the Iowa geological survey, and was Iowa state geologist from 1911 until 1934; for the last 25 years, his main

courses have been geology of Iowa, geology and man, and Pleistocene geology; becoming dean emeritus at the age of 68, headed the liberal arts college from 1917 until 1941. During tenure as dean, he was responsible for the establishment and selection of the first directors of the schools of journalism, fine arts, letters, and religion, all of which were added to the liberal arts college. He remained chairman of the board of trustees of the school of religion from its inception in 1924 until his retirement as dean in 1941.

Dean Kay attended schools as a lad in the district near Virginia, York county, Ontario, and was graduated from the Port Perry High school and the Owen Sound collegiate institution, receiving his degree from the latter in 1896. He took his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Toronto in 1900 and his Master of Arts degree two years later at the University of Chicago, where he was a fellow from 1903 until 1904. In 1914, he was granted a Doctor of Philosophy degree at Cornell college, Mt. Vernon, Ia., and returned to the University of Toronto in 1936 to be granted an honorary Doctor of Letters degree.

He was a former vice president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a fellow of the Geological Society of America, and a former president of the Iowa Academy of Science. In addition, he was a member of the Presbyterian church, a fourteenth degree Mason and a Kiwanian. He is survived by his wife, the former Bertha Hopper of Paisley, Ontario, and two sons, George Marshall, associate professor of geology at Columbia university, New York, N. Y., and Capt. Galvin F., of the army medical corps in India. A daughter, Marjorie Kay McLaughlin, died in 1936.

CHARLES BURTON ROBBINS, jurist, banker, veteran of two wars, born at Hastings, Iowa, on Nov. 6, 1877; died at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 5, 1943; son of an Iowa farm couple, Lewis Robbins and Harriet E. Benson Robbins; attended the public schools of Mills county, Iowa, and a private school at Hempstead, Long Island, before entering the University of Nebraska, from which he was graduated in 1898; enlisted in First Nebraska Volunteers in April the same year when the war with Spain began; later was commissioned a second lieutenant and saw service in twenty-seven major engagements; wounded in the battle of Marilaio, in the Philipines, on March 27, 1899; cited for gallantry in action and discharged with rank of captain; after a post graduate course at the University of Nebraska he made a trip around the world; married to Helen Larrabee, of Clermont, Iowa, Sept. 9, 1903, who died Aug. 9, 1919; entered law school of Columbia University, and after graduation and

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.