

Iowa's Notable Dead . . .

DAN ELBERT CLARK, educator and author, died at Eugene, Oregon, August 14, 1956; born in Ogden, Iowa, July 25, 1884; as a student at the State University of Iowa engaged in historical research, and received his Ph.D. degree there in 1910; taught on the faculty at the State University of Iowa from 1909 to 1917; during World War I was assistant director in charge of the home services of the Red Cross at Camp Lewis, Washington, and after the war directed the Northwest division office of the Red Cross at Bremerton, Washington; in 1921 went to Eugene to join the University of Oregon faculty, first as assistant director of extension division and assistant director of the summer sessions; was associate professor of history from 1921 to 1926, when he became a professor, and also became director of summer sessions; retired from the university in 1951 after 30 years on the faculty; served as president of the British-American Historical society and of the American Historical society and was a member of the board of editors of the *Mississippi Valley Review*, the board of directors of the Oregon Historical society, the *Pacific Historical Review*, the *Northwest Quarterly* and the State Historical Society of Iowa; was a contributor to yearbooks and other publications on the West in American history and once wrote a column published in several Oregon newspapers; author of "One Hundred Topics in Iowa History," an original idea with Clark, and later developed into the "Iowa History Reference Guide," published by the State Historical Society of Iowa; other works of which Clark was author include "The Government of Iowa," "History of Senatorial Elections in Iowa," 1918, "Biography of Samuel J. Kirkwood," 1917, and "The Spirit Lake Massacre," 1918; gained his most eminent reputation in history of the American frontier, writing "The West in American History," published in 1937 and in use in more than 100 U.S. colleges; also the author of several other historical books and had been active in professional societies; a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the Congregational church; bereaved by death of his wife, Abigail, in 1954; survivors include a son, Dan E. Clark II, of 290 SW Birdshill road, Portland, a daughter, Mrs. Lewis L. McArthur, 2109 SW Sunset boulevard, Portland, and six grandchildren.

MARGARET LEE RUNBECK, novelist, teacher and humanitarian, died at her Beverly Hills, California, home September 30, 1956; born in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1900; a daughter of Wil-

liam Runbeck, who moved to Washington, D. C. engaging in the government service, and a granddaughter of Capt. Francis Marion Griffith, recalled in Des Moines as a popular orator in his day; first appeared in print as an author before her thirteenth birthday when she had won a prize contest sponsored by a Washington newspaper, and on calling at the newspaper office, the surprised editor discovering that his prize winner was a child; became the editor of a weekly human-interest page feature, writing a column each week, the work to remain anonymous because of her youth and signed as "The Scribe," even her parents not knowing of this secret enterprise in their household; sponsored while still a sophomore at the University of Chicago and won the McLaughlin award for excellency of prose; then residing at Sharon, Massachusetts, began her adult writing career in Boston on *The Christian Science Monitor*; shortly turned to advertising; resigned her newspaper position and began to write fiction; was a contributing editor of *The Christian Herald* for three and one-half years; became the author of 16 books and 250 short stories and articles; included among her books are "Our Miss Boo," "Time for Each Other," "Hope of Earth," "The Great Answer," "Pink Magic," and "A Hungry Man Dreams," through many of which ran a spiritual quality, which also found expression in her lectures and in her work for the improvement of the lives of the people in India; in connection with her work in India, wrote six little ten-chapter books, each of which can be related by the student to his village life and customs, and have been translated into fourteen languages; "People Will Talk" (1929), her first novel, with Des Moines as its setting, describes the joys of Peter and Sally Lauren in their early married years when they buy a home and stretch their modest budget to purchase occasional ornaments; "For Today Only" (1939) describes a dress sale in a department store and gives the secrets of manufacturing, buying and selling to expose greed and ambition; "Home of the Earth" (1937) concerns the Phelps family, which moves in 1837 from Philadelphia to Illinois, where they develop a religious and patriotic faith; "Pink Magic" (1949) is about adolescents, written for adult readers who collide with that alien race; "Answer Without Ceasing" (1949) is a book giving evidence of God in everyday life; has also written "The Great Answer (1944), "Your Kids and Mine" (with Joe E. Brown, 1944), and "The Secret" (1946); "Our Miss Boo" (1942) and "Time for Each Other" (1944) contain short stories about a four-year-old girl; her latest work, "The Year of Love," based on observations in India during repeated visits for the State Department's point Four Program

and for the Committee on World Literacy, published recently by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., is scheduled for filming by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; moved to Los Angeles in 1944, and being unmarried is survived only by her father, William Runbeck of Washington, D.C. and a sister, Mrs. Jessadee R. Seallan of Los Angeles.

GEORGE WALTER STEWART, physicist and educator, died at Iowa City, Iowa, August 16, 1956; born in St. Louis, February 22, 1876; son of Oliver Mills and Eleanor Bell Stewart; was graduated from DePauw university in 1898 and earned his doctorate at Cornell university in 1901; later awarded honorary doctor of science degrees by the University of Pittsburgh, Depauw university and Kalamazoo college; married Dr. Zella M. White, July 7, 1904; became assistant in physics at Cornell, 1899-1901, instructor, 1901-1903; assistant professor in charge of department of physics at University of North Dakota, 1903-1904, professor of physics, 1904-1909; was professor of physics and head of department of University of Iowa from 1909-1946, professor of physics (retired), 1946; acting dean of Graduate college State University, 1921-22; a Fellow of American Academy Arts and Science, Iowa Academy of Science, American Physics Society (president 1949) American Acoustic Society; a specialist in the physics of sound, was named to the academy, the highest American honor of scientific achievement, in 1938; member Society for Promotion of Engineering Education, American Optical Society, National Academy of Sciences, American Association of Physics Teachers, (Oersted medalist 1942), Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi (president 1930-32), Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Kappa Sigma, Phi Kappa Psi; author of text books, "Introductory Acoustics," 1933, "Theoretical Acoustics" (with R. B. Lindsay), 1930; contributor to current research in physics upon radiation, architectural acoustics, sound diffraction and liquid structure; invented a device known as the "acoustic wave filler;" affiliations included the Methodist church and many community groups; last May was re-elected president of the board of trustees for the Iowa School of Religion, the 29-year-old program of inter-faith education for which he had been a trustee since its beginnings; early last summer led the eighteenth annual colloquium of college physicists, a national meeting for the advancement of physics education which he founded and directed; had a long record of distinguished and devoted service to the university, both through his own efforts and through those people whom he selected for staff appointments; planned physics building and supervised its construction, its long usefulness with comparatively

little remodeling attesting the wisdom of his planning; survived by a son, Rodney C. Stewart, Scarsdale, N. Y., and a sister, Mrs. Edward Morgan, Chesterton, Indiana.

PAUL C. WOODS, newspaper publisher, died at the hospital at Sheldon, Iowa, August 12, 1956, after having collapsed in his office the previous Wednesday; born at Ossian, Iowa, September 10, 1876; son of Emily June Churchill and Philo Rogers Woods; moved in 1880 to Fayette, Iowa, where the family resided until he was 18 years old, later at Spencer, Iowa, a few years; was graduated from Upper Iowa university at Fayette in 1898, having served as editor of the college paper; taught a rural school in Clay county; employed some years on the *McGregor North Iowa Times*; married to Amy Lather of New Albin, Iowa, December 1, 1898; moved to Eldora in 1904 and became editor of the *Eldora Ledger*; some years later purchased the *Eldora Enterprise* and combined the two publications; sold the business in 1911 on account of ill health and removed with his family to Mission, Texas; returned to Iowa in August, 1913, and purchased the *Sheldon Mail*, and continued as its publisher until his death; in 1940 was one of three Iowa editors named winners of the Iowa Master Editor-Publisher awards of the Iowa Press Association; many honors conferred on the *Mail* during the Woods regime included eight national prizes, a first for service to the community and a first for illustrations, three times selected the best Iowa newspaper and winning a total of 25 state awards; served as O'Brien county Republican chairman for 25 years and in 1940 was the presidential elector from the eighth Iowa district and a delegate to the Republican national convention in 1944; was president of the Sheldon chamber of commerce for many years, a director of the Sheldon Federal Savings and Loan Association and active in Kiwanis work; survivors include a daughter, Lucille, and son, Carol, both staff members of the paper, two grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, the wife Amy, and son Kenneth, former publisher of the Priest River, Idaho, paper, preceding him in death.

J. FRED HINKHOUSE, educator and former dean of Parsons college, at Fairfield, Iowa, died there September 7, 1956; born at Lenox, Iowa, February 20, 1895; son of John Frederick and Amy Junkin Hinkhouse; was graduated from Parsons academy in 1912 and received his BA degree at Parsons college in 1916; attended the University of Chicago in 1921-22 and received his MA and Ph D degrees from Columbia university in 1924, later taking graduate work at the University of Michigan; served overseas with the U.S. army field ar-

tillery during World War I and was a member of the army of occupation until June 1919, then becoming a teacher until 1921 in the American university in Beirut, Syria; joined the faculty of Parsons college at Fairfield as professor in history in 1924, and served continuously until ill health forced his retirement in 1906; as professor and dean made important contributions to the academic program of the college; was author of many publications in the field of history, including "The Preliminaries of the American Revolution as Seen in the English Press," a book widely recognized when published in 1927; a member of the First Presbyterian church, Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Kappa Delta and a past president of the Fairfield Rotary club; had suffered from a form of paralysis for 17 years and in 1955 underwent surgery in New York which resulted in limited improvement of his condition; married to Francis Dool at Chariton, December 20, 1924 and survived by his widow and two children, Mrs. Margaret Killion, Sturgis, Michigan, and James Hinkhouse, Philadelphia, three grandchildren, two brothers and two sisters.

JOHN A. HEINZ, farmer, community official and legislator, died suddenly September 24, 1956, at a hearing held at Peosta, Dubuque county, before State Treasurer M. L. Abrahamson and the state appeal board on the appeal of the taxpayers of the Peosta independent school district; born April 14, 1878, on a farm in Dubuque county, where he was reared; son of Joseph and Catherine Bugung Heinz, and educated in the local schools; married the former Ludwina Schmitt on February 3, 1914, in Saint Anthony's church in Dubuque; engaged in farming all his life, and for the past 33 years had farmed in Vernon township near Peosta in partnership with his sons; was a charter member of the farm bureau, served as president and voting delegate seven years, organization delegate three years, chairman of the warehouse board five years, national convention delegate two years, treasurer of the A.A.A. 14 years and director of the Elkader Production Credit association since its organization in 1924; served one term as state representative from Dubuque county in the Fifty-fourth General Assembly and was secretary of the Peosta independent school district for 33 years, retiring on July 1 last; also had been a member of the Dubuque county library board and was elected its chairman on September 1 this year; active in local Red Cross and other community organizations; a member of the Catholic church, the Catholic Order of Foresters and assisted in the Christian Overseas Rural program; survivors are his widow, three daughters, Miss Catherine Heinz, at home, Mrs. Leander (Mary) Herrig, Dubuque, and

Mrs. Matt (Sophie) Blong, Waucoma, Iowa; three sons, Joseph, Edward and John Heinz, all of Peosta; 11 grandchildren and one sister, Mrs. Claude (Anna) York, Seattle, Washington.

CLIFTON ROBERT MUSSER, lumberman and banker, died at Muscatine, Iowa, October 12, 1956; born at Iowa City, Iowa, in 1869, son of Peter M. and Julia Hutchinson Musser, and moved with parents to Muscatine at five years of age; succeeded his father in timber and lumber business, the family accumulating one of the large fortunes of the community in an early day by cutting timber in the north woods and shipping it down the Mississippi river to Muscatine for processing; was graduated from the State University of Iowa in 1890 and started his business career in 1891 with Muscatine Sash & Door Co., predecessor of Roach & Musser Co.; long connection with Weyerhauser Timber Co., Tacoma, Wash., recognized in 1955 when Weyerhauser named one of its ocean-going vessels the "C. R. Musser;" developed one of the early leading Hereford herds in the country; in 1937, established the Iowa State College Agricultural Foundation which has operated several demonstration farms; had been president of Muscatine Bank & Trust Co. 20 years and its board chairman 15 more, was instrumental in starting the public health nursing service at Muscatine, contributed to the Muscatine Welfare Association, and gave a modern fire truck to the city; was an original trustee and president several years of the library board, member of Masonic bodies and active in the Congregational church; survivors include his wife, a son and daughter and seven grandchildren.

HARRY GRANT PLUM, professor emeritus department of history, State University of Iowa, a member of the faculty 62 years, died at Iowa City, Iowa, September 29, 1956; born in Iowa City, November 3, 1868, a son of Martin Van Buren and Elizabeth Morgan Plum; educated in the public schools of Iowa City and earned his bachelor of philosophy degree in 1894 and his master of arts degree in 1896, both at S.U.I.; received his doctor of philosophy degree at Columbia University in 1906 and studied later at the Sorbonne in Paris, France; became a specialist in teaching English history particularly that of the early 15th century; a professor since 1894 when he began teaching in the university and retired from full-time teaching in 1939, but had continued on part-time status in research work until recently; records in the university archives disclose only one other S.U.I. faculty member served the university for as long a time as Profes-

sor Plum, being the late George T. W. Patrick, who was credited with originating the graduate seminar method of instruction and who served on the philosophy and psychology staffs from 1877 to 1949; was married to the former Margaret Budington 51 years ago, who survives, their daughter, Alice, having preceded him in death in 1926; the author or co-author of four books and monographs, the most recent being "Restoration Puritanism, a study of the Growth of English Liberty," published in 1943; was active throughout his life in the Iowa City Presbyterian church; was a member of the American Historical Association, Mississippi Valley Association and State Historical Society of Iowa, serving as president of the Iowa group in 1935-36; also held membership in the Economic Society of England. Burial of the remains took place at Kingston, New York.

CHARLES EMORY STEWART, farmer, cattle man and state senator, died in an automobile accident north of Wayland in Henry county, Iowa, September 20, 1956; returning to his home near Rose Hill, his car leaving the road on a curve, hurtling down a steep embankment and striking a large power line pole; born in Adams township in Mahaska county, Iowa. October 3, 1897, son of Albert W. and Ellen Evisa Stewart; engaged in farming all his life; married Alice Marie Clayworth of Oskaloosa, June 8, 1918; with his son Albert, and a son-in-law, Omer Seitsinger, operated a 785-acre farm, specializing in purebred Shorthorns; had served three terms as a county supervisor before he went to the state senate winning over the veteran Democrat, A. E. Augustine; served in the Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth General Assemblies of Iowa, and was a candidate for re-election, a member of the Methodist church, the Farm bureau, Kiwanis club, chamber of commerce and a Republican; had a record as an aggressive builder of roads and in the senate a strong advocate of economy in state expenditures, as well as outspoken in opposition of increase in real estate taxes; survivors include his widow, two daughters, Mrs. Anita Seitsinger and Mrs. Virginia Moore, both of Rose Hill, and his son, Albert W., also a brother, Tracy S. Stewart of Oskaloosa, and six grandchildren.

OLIVER PECK NEWMAN, journalist, former commissioner of the District of Columbia and counselor in finance, died in Miami Heart Institute, Miami, Florida, September 25, 1956; born in 1876 in Nebraska, and came to Des Moines with parents in 1884; son of Mr. and Mrs. George C. Newman, who first resided at 716 20th street and later at 3302 University avenue, Des Moines; first was a reporter on Des Moines news-

papers and then for three years city editor of the *Des Moines Daily News*, going to Washington in 1901; engaged in newspaper work on the *Washington Post*; returned to Des Moines in 1905 as political editor of the *Daily News*; later, while working in Beaumont, Texas, met and married Mrs. Jane Bixby McComas, widow of a Beaumont newspaper editor, and she survives him; served as a major in France in World War I; became associated with columnist David Lawrence at the time Lawrence established the *United States News*; covered Woodrow Wilson's presidential campaign in 1912 for the United Press; later Wilson appointed him a District of Columbia commissioner; was president of the board of commissioners from 1913 to 1917; was first chairman of the public utilities commission for the District of Columbia; was an aide to President Wilson at the Paris, France, Peace Conference and also was associated later with Cordell Hull, late secretary of state, in organizing the Woodrow Wilson Foundation; was appointed administrator of the foreign debt of the Dominican Republic in 1933, and in 1941 President Franklin Roosevelt sent him to the Dominican Republic on a special assignment; had suffered from a heart ailment and retired two years ago as financial adviser to the Dominican Republic, in which position he had served for 20 years.

FLOYD J. PINE, farmer, auto dealer and legislator, died at Phoenix, Arizona, August 27, 1956; born on a farm near Columbus Junction, Iowa, July 1, 1893; son of A. F. and Mary E. Skipton Pine; educated in the public schools of Louisa county, and afterward engaged in farming there; served on the Mexican border with the Iowa National Guard and overseas troops, as a lieutenant in the First Division, U. S. army in World War I; married December 19, 1924, to Ruth D. Stone, to whom were born two sons, Gordon and Herold; served as city mayor, in the Iowa House of Representatives in the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth and Forty-ninth extra sessions and in the state Senate during the Fiftieth, Fiftieth extra and Fifty-first assemblies; was a director of the Columbus Junction State bank, a partner in the Pine Bros. Auto Company both at home town and Wapello; member of the American Legion, D.A.V., Odd Fellows and Masonic orders, and the Baptist church; moved to Phoenix about two years ago on account of his health; survived by his widow, two sons, a grandchild, his mother, Mrs. Alex Pine of Columbus City, seven brothers and four sisters.

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