

NOTABLE DEATHS

GEORGE KESSEL, physician, surgeon and public benefactor, died at Cresco, Iowa, January 29, 1945, after more than fifty years in that community; born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, March 20, 1856; his wife passed away many years ago. Dr. Kessel, once associated with Mayo brothers at Rochester, Minn., became one of the prominent medical practitioners in Northern Iowa; for many years a member of the Iowa Medical society, the American Medical association and the Fellows American College of Surgeons. As founder of the Kessel hospital at Cresco, the first hospital in that community, he operated it from 1902 to 1910, then giving it to the Sisters of Mercy of Dubuque, who then named it St. Joseph's Mercy hospital, Dr. Kessel was retained as chief surgeon.

In 1913 Dr. Kessel gave the ground for a park adjoining the hospital grounds known as Kessel park, and in 1930 added another tract to the gift, including a residence, now known as Kessel Park Lodge, adjoining the park. Always active in community affairs, he was mayor of Cresco two years, a member of the school board three years, once president of the library board, and during the First World war served as a member of the selective service board. He is survived by four daughters, Mrs. Raymond W. Haas, Emmetsburg; Mrs. Frank B. Lowry, wife of Rear Admiral Lowry, of Cresco; Mrs. H. L. Lissfelt, New York City, and Gertrude Kessel, Cresco.

E. W. DINGWELL, attorney, soldier and jurist, died on February 7, 1945, in the hospital at Dexter, Iowa, where he was taken the previous evening after suffering a stroke at Adel, Iowa, his home; born at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on July 17, 1872, his parents being Elisha and Louisa G. (McKay) Dingwell—the father, a ship builder, born May 18, 1821 and died March 12, 1904, and the mother born February 1, 1825, both in the same locality. In 1872 Elisha Dingwell removed to Auburn, Illinois, and in 1873 became a resident of Lakeside, near Chicago, where his last days were spent. E. W. Dingwell was educated in the public and high schools of Marshalltown, Iowa, and at Western College at Toledo, Iowa, then studied law at Leland Stanford Jr. University at Palo Alto, California, and was admitted to the bar at Marshalltown in October, 1899. On August 25, 1908 he was married to Nelle Luther of Adel, Iowa, who preceded him in death on December 11, 1914.

He saw service in the Spanish-American war, enlisting on April 26, 1898, in Co. H, Forty-ninth Iowa Volunteers, and served for almost two years, the troops going to Jacksonville, Florida, thence to Savannah, Georgia, and to Havana, Cuba, remaining there from

December 28, 1898 until April 19, 1899, and mustered out at Savannah, Georgia on May 13, 1899. Returning to Marshalltown he engaged in the practice of law until March 17, 1900, when he removed to Adel, Iowa, where he entered the law firm of Cardell, Giddings & Dingwell, with offices in Perry and Adel, Mr. Dingwell having charge of the office in the latter place, later in 1900 succeeding to the practice and office alone; was elected judge of the district court of the Fifth judicial district, including Adair, Dallas, Guthrie, Madison, Marion and Warren counties, serving upon the bench from 1927 until his death. He was a Republican and active also in fraternal orders. A son, Lieutenant Wilbur L. Dingwell, now in France, survives.

EDWARD CLAYTON EICHER, lawyer, jurist and public official, died at his home in Alexandria, Virginia, on November 29, 1944, bringing to an abrupt end the widely-heralded, seven-months-long sedition trial of thirty defendants at one time, over which he presided as Federal District judge of the District of Columbia; born on a farm near Noble, Washington county, Iowa; graduated in 1906 at the University of Chicago; practiced law at Mt. Pleasant, Burlington and Washington, Iowa; was a member of the Iowa, Illinois, and Supreme Court of United States bars; married on August 19, 1908, to Hazel Mount, who with a foster daughter, Elizabeth, survive him; a member of the governor's commission to take the Iowa soldier's vote in First World war, 1918; a delegate to the Democratic national convention from Iowa in 1932; elected to the Seventy-third congress from the First Iowa district, serving from 1933 to 1939, not being a candidate for renomination became a democratic leader in Iowa and spokesman of the national administration in the attempted purge of Senator Guy Gillette, that failed, after which he was appointed by President Roosevelt as chairman of the Securities and Exchange commission (SEC); appointed Federal judge of the U. S. District court of the District of Columbia in 1941; was a member of the Mennonite sect, a Democrat and in public life served during a tumultuous period, the scenes and experiences in the court proceedings in which he was engaged generally regarded as hastening his demise.

H. A. DARTING, legislator and public official, died at the Masonic hospital at Bettendorf, Iowa, February 15, 1945; born in Harrison county, Iowa, February 5, 1873, later with his parents moved to Thayer county, Nebraska, returning to Harrison county in 1881; received his education in the rural schools; moved to Mills county in 1911 and resided at Glenwood since that time; elected to the Iowa senate in 1920 and re-elected in 1924; served in five sessions of the General Assembly, including the Fortieth extra; appointed and served as a member of the Iowa State Highway Commission

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