

Iowa's Notable Dead . . .

FREDERICK WINDSOR HUBBELL, insurance executive, cattle exhibitor, and civic leader, died in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, March 13, 1959; born in Des Moines, Iowa, November 24, 1891, the son of Frederick Cooper and Mary Windsor Hubbell; attended Bird school, graduated from old West high in 1908, and received his bachelor of arts degree cum laude at Harvard University in 1913, worked summers in various departments of the Equitable Life Insurance Company in Des Moines, a firm headed by his father and also in its early years by his grandfather who helped to organize it in 1867; entered the company as assistant treasurer, became treasurer in 1916, assumed the additional duties of vice president in 1921, and succeeded Henry S. Nollen as president January 26, 1939; married Helen L. Clark of Minneapolis June 19, 1915; enlisted in Battery F, First Iowa Field Artillery during World War I, served as an instructor with the 126th Field Artillery at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and was discharged a captain; served as a director of the Life Insurance Association of America, on the executive committee of the former Life Presidents Association, member of the executive committee of the American Life Convention, chairman of the joint committee on valuation of assets from 1947 to 1951, board chairman of the Institute of Life Insurance in 1950 and 1951, and was honored nationally for his leadership in the insurance field by being elected president of the American Life Convention in 1954; was president of the Greater Des Moines Committee in 1939, president of the Edmundson Art Foundation from 1949 through 1951, an original trustee of the Frederick M. Hubbell Estate, and a director of the Bankers Trust Company, Iowa Power and Light Company and the Maytag Company of Newton; raised pure bred Shorthorn cattle on his Helfred Farms near Des Moines from 1927 to 1954, gaining a national reputation in livestock shows; survived by his wife, a daughter, Mrs. Helen Ann Ingham of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; a son, Frederick W. Hubbell, Jr., died in 1936.

HORACE VAN METRE, district judge, attorney and civic leader, died at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota, February 27, 1959; one of twins born to Isaiah and Eleanor Thompson Van Metre in Waterloo, Iowa August 20, 1894; attended the Waterloo public schools and graduated from East High School there in 1912, enrolled at the University of Iowa but two years service in France during World War I interrupted his studies; after his discharge in July 1919, worked as a reporter for the

Waterloo *Daily Courier* before entering the University of Iowa Law school in 1920, receiving his degree in 1923; married Maybeth Mack in Waterloo December 29, 1923; practiced law in Fort Dodge for a year before removing to West Palm Beach, Florida, becoming a partner in the law firm of Kearley, Fisher, Van Metre and Chapman; returned to Waterloo to practice in 1931; appointed to the bench of the Tenth Judicial District by Governor Loveless in November 1957, and elected to a four-year term in November 1958; was secretary of the Marsh-Place building Company, charter member of the board of directors of the National Bank of Waterloo, member of the C. W. Chapman Lumber Company board of directors, and twice president of the Waterloo Chamber of Commerce; served as a delegate to the Democratic national convention in 1936, first president of the United Services of Black Hawk county, chairman of the Allen Memorial Hospital advisory committee, vice president of the school of religion at the University of Iowa, member of the YMCA board of directors, and had been president of the board of the Waterloo Symphony Association; also was active in the American Legion as past commander of the post in West Palm Beach, Florida, and the Becker Chapman post in Waterloo, Elks, American Judicature Society, and the Black Hawk County, Iowa State and American Bar Associations; was a member of the House of Delegates to the National Convention of the Episcopal church in 1949, and Chancellor of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa for 12 years; survived by wife, and one son, Peter, of Waterloo.

CLAUDE R. COOK, Curator of the Iowa State Department of History and Archives, and longtime Methodist minister, died at his home in Des Moines March 28, 1959; born on a farm near Kent, Iowa November 25, 1886, the son of Adley and Josephine Munyon Cook; attended the local schools, graduated from Simpson college at Indianola, and went into newspaper work; became city editor of the Creston *Morning American*, then night editor of the Council Bluffs *Nonpareil* from 1912 to 1914, and later was a special writer for the Des Moines *Register*; married Mary Cherry McConnell of Creston, November 20, 1912; admitted to the Des Moines Methodist Conference to study for the ministry in 1914 and subsequently held appointments at Tabor, Pacific Junction, Gray, Randolph, Coin, Osceola, Carroll, Ottumwa and Marengo, Iowa; participated in church campaigns that raised several millions of dollars in Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey and New York; voluntarily removed from Marengo to Red Oak in 1944, retiring from church work that same year to become secretary of the Chamber of Commerce there, and six months later was named executive secretary of the Republican state central committee; appointed acting Cur-

ator of the State Department of History and Archives in July 1947, Curator in 1948, and reappointed in 1954; survived by his wife, a son, Warren R., of Norfolk, Nebraska, and a daughter, Mrs. Charles Steward of Waukee, Iowa.

JESSIE M. PARKER, retired state education official, died at her home in Lake Mills, Iowa, May 1, 1959; born 79 years ago on a farm in Black Hawk county, the daughter of Frederick H. and Martha J. Knapp Parker; later moved to Lake Mills and attended public schools there, graduated from Iowa State Teachers' college, studied music at Grinnell college, received a bachelor of pedagogy degree at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana, and subsequently earned her bachelor of arts degree from Des Moines university; began her career as an elementary teacher in the Lake Mills public schools in 1898, had experience in teaching almost every grade before moving into the high school, later becoming principal; became Winnebago county superintendent of schools in 1915; the first woman to hold important office in that county; accepted an appointment as state rural school supervisor in 1927, and gained considerable recognition with her successful program to bring music into the one-room rural schoolhouse; elected state superintendent of public instruction on the Republican ticket in November 1938, and was successively re-elected to the office until her retirement December 31, 1954; the re-organization of school districts was accelerated during her administration, the 9,000 small rural schools in Iowa being reduced nearly half, teachers were professionally certified, many more curriculum aids made available, a school accounting system introduced, and the establishment of a home-to-school telephone system spread all over the world; served as president and executive officer of the Iowa state board for vocational education and the state board of educational examiners, trustee of the Iowa state library board, and editor of the *Educational Bulletin*; was a member of the American Association of School Administrators, a life member of the National Education Association and second vice-president of the National Council of Chief State School Officers; was a delegate to the World Federation of Education Associations at Tokyo, Japan in 1938, active in Delta Kappa Gamma educational sorority, P.E.O., the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, and was a past worthy matron in the Order of the Eastern Star; survived by a sister, Mrs. Norman Marthinson of Lake Mills, and a brother, Eli Parker, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

LONNIE A. COFFIN, well-known Iowa country doctor, died at Keokuk Hospital in Keokuk, Iowa April 28, 1959; born in Clark county, Missouri, June 13, 1890, the son of Walter and Mattie Green Coffin; moved to Iowa at the age of five and graduated

from the Farmington High School in 1909; graduated with the last medical class from Drake university in 1913, and began forty-three years of general practice in Farmington; married to Gretta Harmon in Des Moines April 19, 1917; began his practice in Farmington during the horse and buggy era as one of five physicians in the town, but with the aid of the automobile had served the community alone for several years; was always on call seven days and nights a week until suffering a heart attack in 1952, and the number of night calls were thereafter limited; delivered over 2,500 babies in his career, 2,000 of them in their own homes, and often operated on a kitchen table due to the lack of a hospital in Farmington; named the nation's Outstanding General Practitioner in 1958 by the American Medical Association; had been active in the Iowa State Medical Society's legislative committee for twenty years, and was president in 1956; was a member of the American Medical Association, Van Buren County Medical Society, Iowa Academy of General Practice, Congregational Church, Mt. Moriah Lodge, Order of Eastern Star, Elks Lodge, and was first commander of Richardson-Anthony American Legion post; survived by two daughters, Mrs. Helen Hols, and Mrs. Betty Millen, both of Farmington.

WILLIAM CONE, eminent brain surgeon, died May 4, 1959 while on duty at the Montreal Neurological Institute in Montreal, Canada; born of a pioneer family at Conesville, Iowa in 1897, and took his medical training at the State University of Iowa, made a brilliant record as a post-graduate student at Columbia University in New York, and became a lecturer in neurosurgery at McGill University in Montreal in 1928; was one of the first of Canada's doctors to go overseas during World War II, helped to organize the No. 1 neurological hospital, and appointed chief neurosurgeon with the rank of lieutenant colonel; was professor of neurosurgery at McGill University and chief of the neurosurgery service at the Neurological Institute at his death, had established a helicopter service whereby emergency patients could be flown to Molson Stadium and taken directly into the adjacent Institute, and was recognized as one of the world's leading brain surgeons.

WILLIAM CLINTON ALDEN, geologist, died at Doctors Hospital in Washington, D. C., April 11, 1959; born September 27, 1871 in Mitchell, Iowa, the son of Rev. Benjamin Dorr and Lydia Martin Waterman A. Alden; studied geology and received his B.A. from Cornell college in Mt. Vernon in 1893; was assistant principal of the Parker, South Dakota high school for one year, and principal at Centerville, South Dakota the next year; earned his M.A. degree from the University of Chicago in 1898, con-

tinued his studies while a special field assistant with the United States Geological Survey from 1898 to 1901, and obtained his doctorate from Chicago in 1903; married September 27, 1898 to Bess Mae Hollabaugh, who died January 9, 1934; taught at the University of Chicago for a time, served as an assistant geologist with the federal government from 1901 to 1910, promoted to geologist in 1910, and placed in charge of glacial geology in 1912; was the first to survey Glacier National Park, writing several scientific papers on his findings, his report on the geological make-up of Wisconsin considered a classic; became senior geologist in 1928 and was widely known for his studies of the topography of the northern United States upon his retirement in September, 1942; authored *Chicago and Milwaukee Folios*, *Quaternary Geology of S.E. Wisconsin*, *Physical Features of Central Massachusetts*, *Delevan Lobe of Lake Michigan Glacier*, *Drumlins of S.E. Wisconsin*, *Physiography and Glacial Geology of Eastern Montana and Adjacent Areas*, besides collaborating on several other works, and writing bulls and articles; was a member of the Geological Society of America, Phi Beta Kappa, and a Republican; served for many years as a trustee of the Eckington Presbyterian Church, and was a direct descendant of John Alden of Mayflower fame; survived by two sons, Leland Milton of Washington, John Herbert of Pittsburgh, and a daughter, Helen Hollabaugh Alden of Washington; another daughter, Elizabeth Lydia preceded him in death.

GEORGE WESLEY SMITH, retired farm operator, livestock feeder, insurance agent, and state legislator, died in Fort Dodge, Iowa, February 24, 1959; born in Richland County, Ohio, January 24, 1868, the son of Philip and Elizabeth Briggles Smith; attended public school there and in Benton County, after coming to Iowa in 1884 also attended Tilford Academy at Vinton, moved to Sioux County in 1889 and farmed there before marrying Effie F. Troutman of Blainstown January 30, 1890, removed to O'Brien County in 1902, engaging in farming and raising of pure bred cattle and hogs; became an insurance agent at Paullina, Iowa in 1920, serving several terms as mayor there and also at Sutherland from 1925 to 1928; represented O'Brien County in the state legislature from 1924 to 1928; served as a member of the school board, the Masons, Modern Woodmen of America, Eastern Star, trustee of the Methodist Church, and was a Republican in politics; survived by two of four sons, Clarence E. and Orlo H. Smith, both of Paullina.

ALLAN J. CHANTRY, retired naval officer, died April 9, 1959 at the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia; born at Malvern, Iowa, April 15, 1883, the son of Capt. Allan Joseph and Harriet Raines

C. Chantry; attended the Malvern schools, graduating in 1899, passed competitive examinations to enter the United States Naval Academy in September 1902, awarded his commission as a midshipman in the United States Navy and a bachelor of science degree with first honors in 1906, received his M.S. in naval architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1910; married Edna Starr Scott January 1, 1910; served at sea from 1906 to 1908 and stationed at navy yards in Norfolk, Philadelphia, and Boston from 1910 to 1923; headed the department of mathematics and mechanics at the Naval Academy for the next four years, was fleet constructor at sea for two years, assistant head of the design and construction division of the Bureau of Construction and Repair in the Navy Department from 1929 to 1935, graduated from the United States Naval War College in 1936 and headed the Design and Construction Division of the Navy Department from 1936 to 1939; promoted to rear admiral and became industrial manager of the Navy Yard at Philadelphia in 1939, directing construction of some of America's largest warships during World War II; awarded the Victory medal in World War I, held the Legion of Merit and the American Defense Service Medal among other American and foreign decorations for service in World War II; held an honorary doctorate from Drexel Institute; was a member of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, Board for Scientific Research at Temple University, Sigma Chi, the Chevy Chase Club, the Philadelphia Club and the Episcopalian Church; survived by his wife and one daughter, Carolyn C. of Philadelphia; another daughter, Helene, preceded him in death.

WHITLEY CHARLES COLLINS, aircraft manufacturing executive, died at All Saints Episcopal hospital in Beverly Hills, California May 12, 1959; born in Des Moines, Iowa April 28, 1898, the son of Anthony James and Catherine Whitley Collins; graduated from the Wharton School of Banking and Finance at the University of Pennsylvania in 1921 after having served as a sergeant in the field artillery during World War I; was with the new business department of the Continental Illinois National Bank & Trust Company in Chicago until 1929, vice president and general manager of Lockheed Aircraft Corporation for two years, and credit manager of the Security First National Bank in Los Angeles in 1931; formed the Collins-Powell Company, continuing as a partner and chairman upon becoming vice president and a director of the Elastic Stopnut Corporation in Union, New Jersey in 1939; was instrumental in the organization of the Radioplane Company of Van Nuys, California in 1938, and had been president and a director since 1940, also being a director of the Menasco Manufacturing Company from 1941 to 1951;

named chairman of the board of the Holga Metal Products Company, and since 1954 had been president and chief executive officer of the Northrop Aircraft Corporation, his Radioplane Company which developed into the nation's principal producer of target airplanes for the armed services, becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary of Northrop; married Amelia Rogg of Des Moines, September 19, 1936; survived by his wife, a son Rogg, and a daughter, Whitley.

B. FRANK THOMAS, retired attorney and former district judge, died in a convalescent home at Hyattsville, Maryland January 10, 1959; born on a farm east of Traer, Iowa March 28, 1877, the son of B. Frank and Sarah E. Stoakes Thomas, Sr.; attended country school, graduated from Traer high school in 1893 and the University of Iowa in 1897; taught a year at the academy in Sac City before returning to the university to study law, receiving his degree in 1900; began the practice of law in Traer in August of that year and became associated professionally with his brother, Arthur, in 1909; married Grace Porterfield in Traer August 3, 1904; served two terms as mayor, was commissioner of the board when the town's new light, water, steam and heat plant was organized, member of the school board for twelve years, and a director and officer of the First National Bank; appointed judge of the Seventeenth judicial district in October 1941 by Governor Wilson, re-elected several times, serving a total of thirteen years before his retirement from the bench December 31, 1954; returned to the practice of law with his son, Dean P. who was killed in an automobile accident in November 1956; had spent most of his time with his two surviving sons, Franklin S. Thomas of Hyattsville, Maryland and Leonard C. Thomas of Midland, Texas, after the death of his wife August 13, 1956; two other sons, Samuel and James N. preceded him in death; was a member of the American Bar Association, past director of the Iowa State Bar Association, and past president of the Tama County Bar Association; also was a charter member and past president of the Traer Lions club, and Sunday School superintendent of the Traer Congregational church for twenty years.

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