

Necrology of Notable Iowans...

BEARDSLEY RUMML, noted financial adviser and corporation executive, died April 18, 1960, in Danbury, Connecticut; born at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, November 5, 1894, the son of Dr. Wentzle and Salome (Beardsley) Rumml; displayed a penchant for mathematics as a small child, was an omnivorous reader and even when a youngster exercised an unusual ability to accomplish most tasks with a minimum amount of physical effort; graduated from Washington High School at the age of 16, Dartmouth College in 1915 and obtained his doctorate from the University of Chicago two years later; married Lois Treadwell August 28, 1917; his talent for ideas saving time and money brought him into the business world as secretary of the Scott Company in Philadelphia, 1919-21, assistant to the president of the Carnegie Corporation of New York for a year, and in 1922 became director of the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial, the National Securities and Research Corporation and the Peerless Casualty Company; served under President Herbert Hoover as a member of a committee for unemployment relief in 1931, was appointed dean of the social science division and professor of education at the University of Chicago that year, and in 1934 became an "idea man" and treasurer of R. H. Macy and Company at a salary of \$70,000; is best known for conceiving and developing in detail the pay-as-you-go income tax payment plan adopted by the federal government in 1943; advanced to chairman of the board of Macy's department store, 1945-1949, served as an adviser to a number of government agencies, including the division of cultural relations in the state department, the committee of economic development, the coordinator of inter-American affairs, and the National Resources Planning Board; wrote his first book, *Tomorrow's Business*, in 1945; also was former chairman of the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Hansen's Laboratory Inc., American National Theater and Academy, trustee and business committee chairman of the National Planning Association, the Committee for Economic Development, a director of the National Bureau of Economic Research, General American Investors Company, and the Muzak Corporation; entered politics in 1952 in charge of fund-raising for the Democratic national committee, supervising the financing of Adlai E. Stevenson's first campaign for president; served as trustee of the Spelman Fund of New York, 1929-1948, the Museum of Modern Art, Dartmouth College, Fisk University, and at his death was an economic adviser to the government of Puerto Rico, and a director of several firms, including among others Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc., and the Enterprise Paint Manufacturing Company; authored *Memo of a College Trustee* in 1959; member of Phi Beta Kappa, Psi Upsilon, and Sigma Xi; survived by his wife, a daughter, Mrs. John Doyle, and two sons, Treadwell and Alvin Rumml.

WAYLAND ROY CHRISTIANSEN, former district court clerk, postmaster, county auditor, and state representative, died at the veterans hospital in Knoxville January 28, 1960; born August 12, 1895, at Northwood, Iowa, the son of Hans and Manda Christiansen; attended the public schools in Northwood and Hamilton Business College at Mason City; was a veteran of World War I, receiving the Purple Heart for injuries that caused the loss of a leg in the Argonne in France shortly before the armistice; served as clerk of the district court in Worth County for several years, was afterwards postmaster at Northwood, and Worth County auditor from 1935 to 1950; married to Mary Jane "Mae" Hilborn June 23, 1940; was elected to the state legislature in 1952, and re-elected in 1954 and 1956; had been commander of the American Legion post in Northwood and its service officer for many years, treasurer of the Northwood Independent School District, member of the Masonic Order, and First Lutheran Church; survived by his wife, and two stepsons, Dr. Donald H. Hilborn, Rapid City, South Dakota, and James F. Hilborn, Menominee, Wisconsin.

CARROLL ORRY SWITZER, district judge, attorney, business executive, Democratic party leader, and former civic official, died in Des Moines May 30, 1960; born at Pilot Mound, Boone County, Iowa, May 23, 1908, the son of Walter Nicholas and Martha Frances (Chingren) Switzer; graduated from the consolidated high school at Runnells in 1925, being active in football and state oratorical champion that year, received his law degree from Drake University in 1931, having been president of the freshman class, 1929, member of the varsity football team, 1928-29, and on the student council two years; took graduate work at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, in 1931, and became an assistant branch manager of the Butterick Publishing Company in Cleveland, Boston, Philadelphia and Boston for a short time; married in Chicago to Hilda Lorraine Hastie of Omaha, Nebraska, March 19, 1932; was associated with the law firm of Neiman & Leake in Des Moines, 1932-33, before establishing his own practice, assistant city solicitor, 1936-1938, and became a partner in the law firm of Switzer, Jackson, Crawford & Guessford; took a strong interest in politics, serving as president of the Young Democratic Club of Polk County, 1939, the Young Democratic Clubs of Iowa the following year, permanent chairman of the Young Democratic Clubs of America national convention in Louisville in 1940, and delegate to the Democratic national convention that year; was Polk County attorney from 1946 through 1948, chairman of the Iowa delegation to the Democratic national convention, and defeated by William S. Beardsley for governor of Iowa in 1948; appointed federal district judge for southern Iowa by President Harry S. Truman in October, 1949, served through the next year, but Iowa Democratic Senator Guy Gillette exercised his senatorial prerogative to block confirmation by the United States Senate; was a member of the law firm of Switzer, Clarke & Emery, and vice president of Orville Lowe, Inc., and several other affiliated

concerns from 1951 through 1956; named a seventh Polk County district judge by Governor Herschel C. Loveless in 1957, and retained his business interests upon his election to a four-year term in 1958, receiving more votes than any of the other six judges; his professional activities included membership in the Polk County, Iowa State and American Bar Associations, Legal Aid Committee and Phi Alpha Delta, taught in the Lutheran Church Sunday School, and was also active in the Masons, Des Moines Consistory, Za-ga-zig Shrine, Shrine Mounted Patrol, Ser-toma International, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and was a past president of Co-operative International; survived by his wife, and a son, Steven Allen, a student at Grand View College.

FRANCIS JAMES BROWN, noted educator, died September 25, 1959, in Washington, D.C.; born on a homestead near Cherokee, Iowa, November 10, 1894, the son of George Augustus and Mary Ann (Soutter) Brown; began a distinguished career teaching in a rural one-room school near his home, taught at Solon, 1912-14, and graduated from the State University of Iowa in 1918; married July 27, 1918, to Opal McKay who preceded him in death; was principal of the high school at Emmett, Idaho, 1919-20, after having served as a corporal in the American Expeditionary Force, 1918-19, superintendent of schools at St. Maries, Idaho, 1920-22, and obtained an M.A. degree from Columbia University the following year; joined the faculty of the University of Rochester as an instructor, advancing to assistant professor of education in 1924, professor in 1927, and was director of extension and summer session, 1928-30; studied at the University of Chicago and Beane University in France, obtained his doctorate from New York University in 1932, remained there as associate professor of education, advanced to professor of educational sociology in 1937, took a leave of absence, 1940-1945, to become a consultant for the American Council on Education, and was appointed a staff associate in 1945; married Helen Cecilia Greenwalt January 24, 1944; gave intersession lectures at the University of Cincinnati in 1947, taught summer sessions and was professorial lecturer at George Washington University, 1947-48, conducted the International Conference of Universities at Utrecht, Holland, in 1948, and served as executive secretary of President Truman's commission on Higher Education which prepared policies for the mobilization of American colleges and universities, selective service procedures and programs of international education; became professorial lecturer at Johns Hopkins University in 1951, consultant on research at George Washington University in 1952, visiting professor and educational consultant at American University in 1953, and since 1954 had been director of the American Council on Education committee on leaders and specialists which arranged tours of the United States for exchange visitors of the State Department; also served as secretary of the Advisory Committee for the United States Armed Forces Institute and the Commission on Education and Interna-

tional Affairs, consultant for the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, a member of the President's Committee on Employment of Physically Handicapped, the advisory committee of the National Nursing Accrediting Service, the National Citizens Council for Agricultural Life and Labor, the Commission on Educational Organizations, vice president of the National Council of Naturalization and Citizenship, Payne Educational and Sociological Foundation, a director of the National League of Nursing, 1953-1957, inter-session lecturer at Syracuse University in 1956, and was one of 12 American education specialists to tour the Soviet Union in the summer of 1959; edited the American Council on Education periodic pamphlet series, *Racial and National Minorities* and *On American and Contemporary World Politics*, was a member of the editorial staff of the *Journal of Educational Sociology*, since 1937 had written several books, including *Sociology of Childhood*, *Educational Opportunities for Veterans*, with J. S. Roucek, 1952, *Educational Sociology*, 1953, revised in 1954, *One America and Principles of Sociology With Application to Health and Nursing Education*, 1957; was national president of Kappa Phi Kappa, 1952-55, member of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, American Association for the Advancement of Science, National Academy of Politics and Social Science, Solvay Institute (Brussels, Belgium), New York Schoolmasters Club, Federal Schoolmens Club, and Presbyterian Church; survived by his wife and one son, James of New York.

VICTOR FELTER, horticulturist, farmer and former state legislator, died May 15, 1960, at Indianola; born on a farm and nursery near Crystal, Tama County, Iowa, April 7, 1877, the son of Harvey and Anna Hillman Felter; received his high school education at Washta in Cherokee County, purchased a farm near Cherokee, exhibited purebred swine at the Chicago International Live Stock Exposition in 1900; attended the first farmers' short course at Ames in 1901, and was secretary of the Cherokee County Farmers Institute, 1898-1903 and one of the first county corn clubs, 1903-1908; married Edith Green at Washta June 8, 1904; directed the famous Iowa "Horn of Plenty" agricultural exhibit which won the grand prize at the San Francisco Panama-Pacific International Exposition in 1915; farmed in Dallas County three years, judged agricultural and horticultural products at numerous county and district fairs in Iowa and other states, and had a fifty-year association with the state fair as an exhibitor, judge of county exhibits for ten consecutive years, and superintendent of the agricultural building; helped organize several Iowa farm bureaus in 1917, and was Pottawattamie County agricultural agent at Oakland from 1918 to 1926 before purchasing and establishing a large commercial orchard north of Indianola; resigned as president of the Warren County Farm Bureau to become a successful Republican candidate for state representative in 1930, was re-elected to the state legislature in 1932 and 1934, also being president of the Warren County Farmers Institute, 1930-1932, Warren County Fair, 1932-1934, continuing as

secretary of the latter till 1939; was a past president of the Iowa State Horticulture Society, receiving its Gold Merit award in 1953, Iowa Fruit Growers Association, Iowa Fair Managers Association, Iowa Bee Keepers Association and served as director of the school district 27 consecutive years; ceased his fruit growing operations in 1951, and removed to Indianola in October, 1957; elected president of the Indianola Garden Club, and was an active member of the Methodist Church; survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Harold Hopkins, St. Cloud, Minnesota, Mrs. Marvin Cone, Moscow, Idaho, and two of three sons, Victor of Missoula, Montana, and Donald of Cainsville, Missouri.

DAVID O. MCCOY, research engineer and authority in radio astronomy, died at Rochester, Minnesota February 3, 1960; born at La Porte City, Iowa, March 18, 1911, and obtained his advanced education at Iowa State College, earning his B.S. degree in mechanical engineering, M.A. in physics and Ph.D. in applied physics in 1938; then became associated with the United States Naval Research laboratory at Washington, D.C., for nine years, receiving the Navy's meritorious award in 1946; joined the Collins Radio Company at Cedar Rapids in 1947 where his work led to basic research and development of the radio sextant, an instrument which permits navigation in any type of weather because it does not operate by means of visual sighting of the sun or moon; as assistant director of the firm's research division, was also active in antenna research and other areas in the field of radio communication; in 1959 was elected a fellow of the Institute of Radio Engineers for his contribution to the development of the radio sextant, and was installed as chairman of the Cedar Rapids section in January, 1960; spoke on the field of radio astronomy before many professional and lay groups, wrote a number of technical publications, was a member of several professional fraternities and active in the Methodist Church; survived by his wife, Viola, and two sons, Richard, a student at Cornell College, and David McCoy.

SILAS JACK GALVIN, businessman, civic and Democratic party leader, died at Hampton, Iowa March 28, 1960; born in Marion County August 7, 1878, the oldest son of James Allan and Margaret Haynes Galvin; attended country schools in Marion and Calhoun Counties, graduated from Knoxville high school in 1897, took a short commercial course at Northern Illinois Normal School, Dixon, Illinois and also studied at Highland Park College in Des Moines; taught rural school in Calhoun County in 1896 and in Marion County the next year; married at Des Moines to Ethel L. Craig of Knoxville June 7, 1899; was employed as a stenographer and accountant by the Iowa Pipe and Tile Company in Des Moines for four years before becoming secretary of the Des Moines Brick & Tile Company upon its organization in 1903; purchased a brick and tile firm at Iowa Falls in 1907, operating it as the Galvin Brick & Tile Company till 1911; advanced to assistant manager of the John Deere Plow Company of Moline, Illinois, after two years traveling as a

salesman for them; was sales manager of the American Brick & Tile Company at Mason City, 1914-17, general manager of the Auburn Brick & Tile company, 1917-23, moved to Hampton on becoming secretary and general manager of the Sheffield Brick & Tile Company in 1923, and had been president and general manager since 1938, also being president of the Cayuga Brick Corporation of Cayuga, Indiana; served as a member of the Iowa Emergency Relief Administration from 1933 to 1938; had long been an active supporter of the Democratic party, being a nominee for state railway commissioner in 1923, former chairman of Franklin County central committee, Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor in 1940, alternate delegate to the Democratic national convention in 1936, delegate three times since, and manager of the Estes Kefauver presidential campaign in Iowa in 1956; appointed to fill the unexpired term of Claude R. Porter on the state board of education in 1929 with the support of the Iowa Manufacturers' Association and Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, and was reappointed in 1933, serving until 1939; was a past president of the National Association of University and College Regents, the Iowa State Manufacturers' Association, 1939, the Rotary Club, widely known for his work in the Des Moines Consistory and Shrine, and member of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, survived by his wife, a daughter, Mrs. Ruth Gwendolyn Thornburg, Carmel-By-The-Sea, California, and a son, Richard Jack Galvin, Sheffield.

FRANK M. HANSON, former banker, state official and legislator, died at his home in Clear Lake, Iowa, May 17, 1960; born on a farm near Dike in Grundy County March 28, 1873, the son of Jens and Marie Peterson Hanson; attended country schools, graduated from Waterloo Collegiate Institute in 1891, was a bookkeeper with the Citizens State Bank at Goldfield, Iowa, till October 1, 1893; held positions with banks at Waterloo, Belmond and Klemme before organizing the State Savings Bank of Kanawha in 1898; married to Ada Adel Huyck September 12, 1906; became cashier of the First National Bank of Garner in July, 1905, was active president upon its later merger with the Farmers National Bank, a director of the First National Bank of Kanawha, the State Savings Bank at Goodell, and president of the State Savings Bank of Ventura, Iowa; elected a Republican member of the state house of representatives in 1924, was deputy comptroller and assistant state budget director from 1929 to 1933, and unsuccessful Republican candidate for state auditor in 1934 and 1936; appointed deputy state auditor to C. B. Akers in 1939, serving as assistant state building and loan supervisor; had resided in Clear Lake since his retirement in 1954; was a member of the Congregational Church, Verity Masonic Lodge, Royal Arch Masons, Shriners, Odd Fellows and Woodmen; survived by his wife, a daughter, Mrs. Jenevieve Flynn of Lafayette, Indiana, and a son, Morris Frank Hanson of Des Moines.

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