

mindful citizen, influential in his section of the state; after retirement from business removed to California, where three sons are living—George, a Los Angeles banker, Gordon, a lawyer there, Ewart, residing at San Mateo, and the only daughter, Mrs. William del Valle (Vina Saunders), has been in California with her family, but soon will remove to Seattle, Washington.

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SETH BENJAMIN DURANT, farmer, teacher and legislator, died at his home in Madison township, Hancock county, Iowa, January 22, 1947; born in Madison township just west of the township school, within one-half mile of the present home place, January 9, 1873, of pioneer parents, John and Matilda Durant; educated in the rural schools and at Garner business college; at age of seventeen took the teacher's examination and was given a certificate to teach, which he followed for twelve years; united in marriage to Edith A. Howland, of Madison township, November 5, 1902, and to them were born two daughters, Doris and Velma, and two sons were adopted, Donald and Duane Leo; continued upon the farm since 1903, and assisted in sponsoring a rural telephone line, a farmer's co-operative elevator, the Farm Bureau and the Farmer's Mutual telephone company; energetic and active in community affairs; served as a member of the Iowa House of Representatives in the Thirty-sixth General Assembly, the Forty-fourth, Forty-fifth and Forty-fifth extra sessions; served as school treasurer twenty years, chairman of the official board of the Calvary Baptist church at Forest City, Iowa, and as an officer or director of numerous local organizations.

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JOHN M. RAMSEY, publisher and legislator, died February 23, 1944, at Clarksville, Iowa; born February 25, 1869 at Clarksville, residing there his entire life; educated in the local schools, graduated from the high school and a private college; learned the printer's trade early in life, and almost continuously since had been connected with the *Clarksville Star*, of which he had long been the publisher; served as town clerk, assessor, and Butler county treasurer; was senator from the Thirty-ninth Iowa district consisting of Butler and Bremer counties in the Forty-first, Forty-second and Forty-second extra sessions; also was a member of the House of Representatives from Butler county in the Thirty-ninth, Fortieth and Fortieth extra sessions; at time of death was serving as justice of the peace at Clarksville; married to Della Shafer September 30, 1893 and at time of death was divorced, with two daughters surviving, Mrs. Gay Jackson of Clarksville and Mrs. Lavon Anderson of Des Moines, and two sons preceding the father in death; a member of the Presbyterian church and of the Knights of Pythias and Odd Fellow orders.

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