

until March, 1918. He was chief clerk of the House of Representatives of the Thirty-sixth, Thirty-seventh, and Thirty-eighth general assemblies, 1915, 1917, and 1919. In the primary election of 1918 he was a candidate for the Republican nomination of secretary of state, and in a field of four candidates was second in the number of votes received, the nomination going to William S. Allen for the fourth time. Mr. Allen resigned the office in April, 1919, and Mr. Ramsay was appointed to the position by Governor Harding and assumed the duties July 1, of that year. He was elected in 1920, 1922, 1924, and 1926, thus serving as secretary of state for eight years, seven months and eight days, a longer time than any one else in the history of the state in an elective state executive office.

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OLIVER COOMES was born in Licking County, Ohio, August 26, 1845, and died in an automobile accident near Storm Lake, Iowa, June 27, 1921. Burial was in the Wiota Cemetery, Wiota, Cass County, Iowa. His parents were Isaiah and Mary Coomes. The family removed to a farm in Jasper County, Iowa, in 1856. Oliver attended common school in winters, and in summers worked in a pottery plant his father conducted. The winter of 1865-66 he was a student in Iowa College, Grinnell. In 1870 he removed to Franklin Township, Cass County, and engaged in farming. About this time he began writing vivid stories of the West which he sold to eastern publishers, the *New York Weekly*, and the *Saturday Journal* of New York publishing many of them serially, while many were published in the form of the dime novel of that period. Among the best known were *Adrift on the Prairie*, *Dakota Dan*, *Death Notch*, *Hawkeye Harry*, *Ironside*, the *Kid Bandy Series*, *Little Texas*, *The Raven of the North*, *The Dumb Spy*, and *The Scout*. He became one of the best known and most popular writers in the country of that class of adventure stories. He acted as postmaster at Wiota for some months when the office was established. Besides being a member of the local school board, he was elected representative in 1877, and was re-elected in 1879, serving in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth general assemblies. In 1905 he removed to Atlantic where he resided until his death.

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MARCELLUS LUTHER TEMPLE was born in Monongalia County, Virginia (afterward West Virginia), September 16, 1848, and died in Osceola, Iowa, February 28, 1928. Opportunities for securing an education in the locality of his youth were then meager. He attended subscription school amounting in all to 140 days, then entered West Virginia State University at Morgantown and was graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1873. The same year he removed to Osceola, Iowa. He read law a part of the time while taking his liberal arts course and was admitted to the bar at Osceola at the May term of the District Court in 1874. At first he had as partner R. B. Parott, but in 1875 he and John Chaney

formed a partnership. From 1882 to 1885 W. B. Tallman was his partner. Following 1891 for a few years T. Hardinger joined him in the practice, but in later years he and his son, William N. Temple, constituted the firm of Temple & Temple. In 1892 he was a presidential elector on the Republican ticket. In 1895 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-sixth and Twenty-sixth Extra General Assembly. In 1899 he was again elected representative, and was re-elected in 1901 and in 1903, serving in the Twenty-eighth to the Thirty-first general assemblies, inclusive. In 1907 he became United States attorney for the Southern District of Iowa and served until 1914. He was elected county attorney of Clarke County in 1914 and was re-elected in 1916, serving four years. In 1918 he was again elected representative and served in the Thirty-eighth General Assembly. He was a man of great ability, a student of the best in literature and philosophy, an orator who always commanded attention, and a lawyer of distinction.

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EDWARD LINUS CROW was born in Linn County, Iowa, October 13, 1852, and died at Mapleton, Iowa, February 27, 1928. His parents were Edward M. and Emeline N. (Lewis) Crow. Edward L. grew to manhood in Linn County and removed to Soldier Township, Crawford County, in 1882, where he followed farming. In 1885 he removed to Mapleton and engaged in the grain and live stock business, which he continued until 1907, thereafter giving his attention chiefly to his farm properties. He was for some time a member of Mapleton Town Council, was mayor one term, and was president of the local Board of Education for several years. He was chairman of the Monona County Democratic Central Committee for many years, was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention of 1908, was elected senator in 1910 and served in the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth general assemblies.

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CHARLES GRILK was born in Clinton, Iowa, February 17, 1874, and died in Des Moines March 6, 1928, while attending the Republican State Convention. Interment was in Oakdale Cemetery, Davenport. His parents were Hans F. and Margaretha Grilk. When Charles was seven years old the family removed to Davenport. There he attended public school and later went to Phillips Andover Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, and to Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, New Hampshire, being graduated from the latter in 1894. He then entered Harvard University and received his A. B. degree in 1898, following this by traveling in Europe, Egypt, and Palestine. He returned to Harvard and in 1902 was graduated from the Harvard Law School. While attending Harvard he was a member of the staff of the *Boston Globe*, and did daily newspaper work on that paper, and also achieved distinction as a student. Returning to Davenport he joined the firm of Wilson, Grilk & Wilson, lawyers. He became a prominent and successful lawyer and business man, was general counsel for the Federal Surety Company,

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