

ANNALS OF IOWA

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

NOTABLE DEATHS

WILLIAM SQUIRE KENYON was born in Elyria, Ohio, June 10, 1869, and died at Sebasco, Maine, September 9, 1933. Burial was at Fort Dodge, Iowa. His parents were the Rev. Fergus L. and Hattie A. (Squire) Kenyon. The family removed to Iowa City in 1878, the father becoming pastor of the Congregational Church at that place. William received his education in public school, in Iowa (now Grinnell) College, and in the State University of Iowa, being graduated from the Law Department of that institution in 1891. He entered practice of the law at Fort Dodge having for a time a partnership with Captain J. O. A. Yeoman, and also with J. F. Duncombe. He served for five years as county attorney of Webster County, 1892-96, and as a judge of the Eleventh Judicial District for two years, 1900-02. He again applied himself to his professional practice, becoming a member of the firm of Kenyon, Kelleher & O'Connor. He was general attorney for the Illinois Central Railroad Company for three years, 1906-09. From March, 1910, to April, 1911, he was assistant to the attorney general of the United States, which place he resigned in April, 1911, to become United States senator. Senator Dolliver had died October 15, 1910, and Lafayette Young had been appointed to fill the vacancy until there should be an election. The Thirty-fourth General Assembly convened January 9, 1911, and on January 23 balloted in joint session for senator but did not elect until the last day of the session, April 12, when Mr. Kenyon was chosen. This was for the remainder of the Dolliver term which only reached to March 3, 1913, which required an election by the Thirty-fifth General Assembly. A law enacted in 1907 provided that when United States senators were to be elected their nominations should be submitted at a state-wide primary along with candidates for state offices. Mr. Kenyon was nominated in the primary of June, 1912, his only Republican opponent being Mr. Young. Daniel W. Hamilton was nominated by the Democrats. When the General Assembly met in January, 1913, it elected Mr. Kenyon. In the 1918 primary Mr. Kenyon was renominated without opposition, and won in the general election over his Democratic opponent, Dr. Charles Rollin Keyes. His service in the Senate was ended by his resignation February 24, 1922, when President Harding appointed him judge of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit. In March, 1929, President Hoover appointed him a member of the Law Enforcement Commission, popularly known as the Wickersham commission. This appointment was a recognition of Judge Kenyon's outstanding character, but it brought him much hard labor when he already was sufficiently

burdened. While assistant United States attorney general he had charge for the Interstate Commerce Commission of cases arising under the Hepburn rate act. While on the Circuit Court he wrote a decision in the Teapot Dome oil lease case condemning the transaction, and while in the Senate became leader of the so-called farm block contending for measures to better agricultural conditions. These were a few of the many important things he did which marked him as a real friend of the people. He was an idealist, though practical, and was one of the finest characters in American public life. The pregnant language of former Governor N. E. Kendall at the funeral is literally the voice of the people: "He came out . . . unspoiled and unsoiled." He maintained his home at Fort Dodge, though in late years he had a summer home at Sebasco on the coast of Maine.

GILBERT N. HAUGEN was born near Orfordville, Rock County, Wisconsin, April 21, 1859, and died in Northwood, Iowa, July 18, 1933. His parents were Nels and Carrie Haugen, natives of Norway. He spent his early years on his father's farm and in attending public school. At fourteen years of age he began his own support, becoming a farm hand in Winneshiek County, Iowa. For a time he attended Breckenridge College at Decorah, and later the Academic and Commercial College, Janesville, Wisconsin. At the age of eighteen he purchased a farm of 160 acres in Worth County. Besides farming he engaged in the implement and furniture business at Kensett. In 1887 he was elected treasurer of Worth County and removed to Northwood and was twice re-elected, serving six years. In 1893 he was elected representative, was re-elected in 1895, and served in the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth general assemblies, being chairman of Private Corporations Committee during the Twenty-sixth. In August, 1898, he received the Republican nomination for congressman from the Fourth District in a convention that required 366 ballots to nominate. At the beginning of the balloting the then Congressman Thomas Updegraff and James E. Blythe were the leading contestants, but neither was able to obtain a majority. He was elected in November and was regularly renominated by his party and re-elected each two years for sixteen more congresses, making seventeen in all, or thirty-four years of continuous membership, the longest in the history of the House, and after receiving the eighteenth party nomination was finally defeated at the polls in 1932 by Fred Biermann, his Democratic opponent. On entering Congress in 1899 Col. D. B. Henderson had just reached the speakership and Mr. Haugen was given membership on the Committee on Agriculture and Committee on War Claims. The membership on the Committee on Agriculture he retained throughout the seventeen congresses, and when the Republicans regained control in the House in 1919 he became chairman of that committee, only to relinquish it when the Democrats regained the majority in the House in 1931. Mr. Haugen was the joint author with Senator McNary of the famous McNary-Haugen bill, and was the author of more legislation relative to

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