

## NOTABLE DEATHS

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LEIGH S. J. HUNT was born on a farm near Larwill, Whitley County, Indiana, August 11, 1855, and died in Las Vegas, Nevada, October 5, 1933. His ashes were deposited in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Glendale, California. His parents were Franklin Leigh and Martha Long Hunt. His primary education was obtained in public schools in Indiana, and his secondary education from a correspondence course with Middlebury College, Vermont. He also studied independently while teaching and qualified himself in the law, passing the examination for the bar in Indiana. He taught in public schools in Indiana, and in September, 1880, became superintendent of schools at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, where he remained until June, 1882. In September, 1882, he was made superintendent of schools in East Des Moines Independent School District, Des Moines, Iowa. At that time what is known as East Des Moines had a school district separate from the rest of the city of Des Moines. He held this position until he resigned to become president of Iowa Agricultural College at Ames, which position he assumed February 1, 1885, following the resignation of S. A. Knapp. He relinquished the presidency at Ames July 19, 1886, and removed to Seattle, Washington, where he acquired the *Post-Intelligencer* which grew under his management. Seattle was in a period of rapid development. Mr. Hunt acquired and developed important real estate holdings there, and became president of a leading bank as well as influential in business affairs and politics. The 1893 financial panic struck Seattle with such force that Mr. Hunt's fortune was wrecked. Loaded with debts, he left for Japan, and then went to China and finally Korea, in search of mining opportunities. He found such an opportunity in the almost inaccessible mountains of Northern Korea near the Yalu River, some 500 miles north of the coast town of Chemulpo (destined for some time to serve as the post office of his enterprise). The Korean government there owned a mine rich in gold ore but operated by primitive and unproductive methods. Mr. Hunt offered to install modern machinery, greatly increase the output, and give the government large royalties. He was granted the concession and in a few years realized handsome profits which enabled him to return to Seattle and repay his creditors. Without divesting himself of his entire interest in the Korean mines, Mr. Hunt later went for his health to Egypt and the Soudan, where he became interested in the possibilities of growing cotton. He obtained from the British government a grant to a large tract of land in the Soudan and there grew cotton so successfully that one of the most flourishing colonial enterprises of the British Empire has grown out of Mr. Hunt's vision and initiative. For American interests, Mr. Hunt visited the interior of Brazil to report on cattle-raising possibilities there, and for the Canadian Government Railways he made a similar study of the suitability of the Peace River Valley in northwestern Canada for the growing of wheat.

Most of the last ten years of Mr. Hunt's life was spent at Las Vegas, where he had entered upon familiar activities in the field of agricultural and mineral development. Educator, publisher, explorer, developer of nature's hidden resources, he was a man of varied and brilliant talents, daring and ambitious in his undertakings and world-wide in his interests. He never followed a beaten path long without blazing a new one.

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JAMES W. HOLDEN was born in Iowa City, Iowa, November 15, 1862, and died at Scranton, Greene County, Iowa, February 21, 1934. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. James Holden, who removed with their family to a farm in Jackson Township, Greene County, in 1875. When James W. reached young manhood he went to Ouray, Colorado, and engaged in mining, in which venture he was successful. He returned to Greene County, Iowa, and purchased a farm in Greenbrier Township where he successfully followed farming and stockraising and added to his acreage until he became a large landowner. In 1897 he removed to Scranton. He became president of the Bank of Scranton, also served as a member of the Town Council of Scranton. In 1906 he was elected a member of the Board of Supervisors of Greene County for the term of three years commencing January, 1907, and was re-elected in 1908 for three years commencing January, 1910, and served in that position until January, 1913. At that time he was president of the State Association of Boards of County Supervisors. In 1913 the General Assembly passed the act reorganizing and strengthening the road law, creating the present Highway Commission. Mr. Holden took much interest in formulating the law. Governor Clarke appointed him a member of the new commission and by reappointments he served fourteen years, or until 1927. He was its chairman for ten years. This was in the formation period of the work of building Iowa's present system of improved highways, when the policies were shaped and the programs were planned. He was able as an executive, had large acquaintance with his subject and with the public, had energy and enthusiasm, and was trusted for his integrity. Thus equipped he contributed a leading part in the great work.

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NORMAN NEWELL JONES was born at Vernon, Oneida County, New York, September 5, 1842, and died at Griswold, Iowa, February 22, 1919. His parents were John R. and Amanthis (Newell) Jones. He was employed for some time in the oil fields of Pennsylvania and did some railroading, but in 1864 he, in company with his father, a brother and their families, removed to Iowa County, Wisconsin, where they engaged in farming. In 1872 these Jones families removed to Cass County, Iowa. Norman Newell Jones there engaged in selling organs and sewing machines, and later, windmills. For years he bought and sold livestock, and conducted a meat market at Lewis, Cass County. He took an active part in politics and in 1885 was elected sheriff of Cass County and began his duties January 1, 1886. He was three times re-elected, serving until January 1, 1894. He served as chairman of the Republican Central Committee of Cass County for some years, and in 1893 was the Ninth

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