

By a vote of the Committee of Judges that he has WORKED HARD BIVED HONORABLY THOUGHT SOUNDLY INFLUENCED UNSELFISHLY

and is enlitted to highest honor in his profession

Published Monthly by The State Historical Society of Iowa Iowa City Iowa APRIL 1951





The Meaning of Palimpsest

In early times a palimpsest was a parchment or other material from which one or more writings had been erased to give room for later records. But the erasures were not always complete; and so it became the fascinating task of scholars not only to translate the later records but also to reconstruct the original writings by deciphering the dim fragments of letters partly erased and partly covered by subsequent texts.

The history of Iowa may be likened to a palimpsest which holds the records of successive generations. To decipher these records of the past, reconstruct them, and tell the stories which they contain is the task of those who write history.

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Cover

- Front Scroll awarded in 1945 (when World War II metal shortage prevented presentation of bronze plaque) with pictures of the 1951 winners superimposed.
- Back Past Presidents of Iowa Press Association taken at Iowa State College on October 21, 1945. Left to right: Jesse M. Beck, Tom W. Purcell, James W. McCutcheon, W. C. Jarnagin, J. G. Lucas, G. E. Whitehead, Don Berry, L. B. Watt, Lester Benz, Leon Barnes, Harold Ellis, Leslie G. Moeller, [S. E. Tennant — recording secretary since 1929], and Fred W. Hill.
- Centerspread Fifty of the fifty-eight pictures were furnished by the Des Moines Register and Tribune and the University of Iowa School of Journalism. The remainder came from private individuals or newspapers.

ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER JULY 28 1920 AT THE POST OFFICE AT IOWA CITY IOWA UNDER THE ACT OF AUGUST 24 1912

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History of the Award

Many plaques and trophies adorn the office walls of various Iowa newspapers. The practice of recognizing outstanding achievement for editorial writing, typography, general excellence, news pictures, and other branches of the diverse newspaper field is not new. Iowa newspapers have been consistent winners in regional and national contests and vigorous competitors in the annual contests staged by the Iowa Press Association. But of all these trophies, none is more highly prized than one which bears the following inscription: "Annual Master Editor-Publisher Award of the Iowa Press Association." By a vote of the Committee of Judges, this award is a recognition that the editor has worked hard, lived honorably, thought soundly, influenced unselfishly, and is entitled to the highest honor in his profession.

The plaque hangs in less than sixty newspaper offices, and nearly half of the men in whose honor it was bestowed have long since departed from this life. Among these latter are the three men who 153



were the first to receive the award: Harvey Ingham of the Des Moines *Register* and *Tribune*, Elmer E. Taylor, Sr. of the Traer *Star-Clipper*, and J. F. Grawe of the Waverly *Bremer County Independent*.

The custom of making the award started in 1932. The idea originated with Grant Caswell, then managing director of the Iowa Press Association and himself a winner of the award in 1934. The presentation, in 1951 in its 20th year, is one of the traditional "highlights" of the annual convention banquet of the Iowa Press Association.

The idea back of the award can be expressed in the words with which the late G. L. Caswell described it. In 1932 he wrote:

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Since development of newspaper and press organization has brought the newspaper business to the point of a profession and since the schools of journalism have sought to set up standards of editorial and journalistic merit and the management of newspapers has become a science of business efficiency as well as of public progress, it seems to the donor of these awards that active editors and publishers should determine for their own time those who are entitled to the designation of Master Editor-Publisher; that this decision should not be left to posterity or arbitrary opinion. To follow this plan will be to honor their fellow editors and publishers and thus permit them during their lives to receive due recognition that they have worked hard, lived honorably, influenced unselfishly, with a sincere view to the betterment of their communities.

No story of the Master Editor-Publisher award

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would be complete without a few special paragraphs about the man who originated it. A former state senator and a publisher from Denison, G. L. Caswell was employed by the Iowa Press Association as its managing director shortly after the Association was organized in 1915. He remained almost continuously with it in that capacity, until his retirement in December, 1937. It was the first time in history that the publishers of any state, alone and unaided, had set up an office and hired a man to run it for the sole purpose of helping them produce better newspapers. Other states have followed suit, and there are now thirty-three which have an active newspaper trade association with a paid managing director or executive secretary. It can truthfully be said of Caswell, therefore, that his life's work was in the cause of producing better newspapers. He believed that a newspaper should be a vital force in its community. He also subscribed to the thought that without sound business practices it could not achieve that objective. A publisher who could not pay his rent, Caswell reasoned, was not in position to achieve anything, either for the good of his paper or for the good of the community which it served. The selection of the phrase "Master Editor-Publisher," rather than "Master Editor" or "Master Publisher," was almost inevitable. An "editor," obviously, represents the constructive force which he desired in all newspapers; the "publish-



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er," or owner of the invested capital, represents the economic solvency which he believed was a necessary attribute of any good newspaper. In setting up the personal attributes which he wanted in the winners of his award. Caswell chose these words: "to have worked hard, lived honorably, thought soundly, influenced unselfishly." Many newspaper people have one, or even several, of these characteristics; a master editor-publisher, Caswell thought, should have all four. And it might be well noted that in listing the various desired characteristics, he puts "hard work" first. Most publishers will agree that whatever else it takes in the newspaper business, hard work should certainly be ranked at the top. Believing sincerely that while bouquets for the dead are fine, a few flowers for the living would not be amiss, Caswell personally donated the awards during the early years, until relieved of that cost at the insistence of the officers and directors of the Iowa Press Association. Recipients of the award are determined annually by a committee, usually of five, set up along lines prescribed by Caswell. He reasoned that it takes a publisher to recognize merit in a fellow-publisher; therefore a majority of the members of the annual committee are always active publishers. Permanent members are the heads of the schools of journalism at the State University of Iowa and Iowa State College. Professor Leslie G. Moeller of the University and

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Professor Kenneth Marvin of the College are currently serving as the permanent members of the committee. They alternate annually as chairmen and in making the formal presentation.

Identity of the remaining members of the committee is never revealed; they are selected annually by the president of the Iowa Press Association. Frequently the committee includes men who have previously won the award and thus, being ineligible for consideration themselves, can view with reasonable detachment the qualities and qualifications of the men who are to join them in what is virtually an Iowa newspaper "hall of fame."

The presence of two semi-permanent members of the committee gives its work continuity from

year to year. Nominations for the award are submitted by any publisher or any other person who may desire to do so; the committee may also make nominations. Through the Iowa Press Association's weekly bulletin, publishers are reminded annually of the impending meeting of the committee and that nominations may be sent either to Professor Marvin or Professor Moeller, or to the central office of the Iowa Press Association. There is no dearth of nominations.

Deliberations of the committee usually require several hours, even though most members are fairly familiar with the lives and activities of the publishers who have been nominated. The usual custom is for the committee members to study the



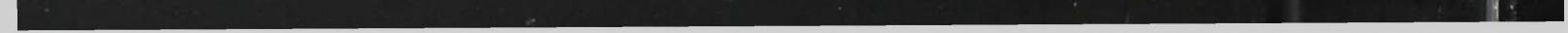
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nominations at home, before the actual meeting. On a prescribed day the members will assemble in Des Moines from all over Iowa. The meeting proper begins with a luncheon; as soon as the dishes are cleared, they "have at it."

The author of this article, while usually present for the preliminaries as a representative of the Association, retires before the balloting begins, but he can assert truthfully that the committee scans its list of nominees as carefully as if they were hiring them. Among other things, they are interested in ascertaining how the "home town folks" regard the publisher who is being considered.

While no age limit is set on the winners, it can be observed that the awards usually go to the "older" men of the profession. As one committee member remarked one time, rather grimly, "Before a man gets this award, we ought to make sure that most of his mistakes are behind him!" However, age alone will not win the award, nor lack of age keep a publisher from being considered. Such men as James McCutcheon of the Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Paul C. Smith of the Lyon County Reporter were in their early forties when they won the nod of the judges.

The committee may name three recipients each year, or fewer, as it chooses. Both daily and weekly editor-publishers are considered. More often than not, the committee names one daily and two weekly publishers, but this is not a "rule," and is



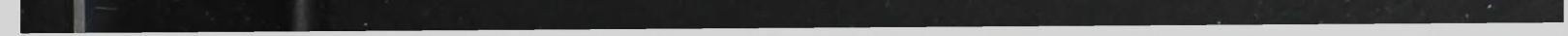
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not invariably followed. Only once has the committee given more than three awards, and that was in 1934, when the committee named G. L. Caswell, founder of the award, to stand and receive a plaque, along with W. C. Jarnagin of the Storm Lake *Pilot-Tribune*, William P. Wortman of the Malvern Leader, and F. A. Moscrip of the Marshalltown *Times-Republican*.

When Duane E. Dewel of the Kossuth County Advance was named to receive one of the 1951 awards, it was the first time that a "father and son" had each won the plaque.

The high standing in which the award is held by those who receive it, and by those who may aspire to receive it, is a tribute to the good judgment of the committees which have made the selections through the years. Once the selections have been made, the names are carefully withheld from the recipient and all others until the evening of the annual banquet which climaxes the state convention of the Iowa Press Association. Meanwhile, between the time that the committee makes its selection and the date of the banquet, the Iowa Press Association's central office is quietly gathering pictures and biographical material, usually with the help and connivance of the wife or some member of the firm or family of each man designated.

It is a tribute to the ingenuity of the wives, that the recipients are almost invariably present for the banquet to receive the award in person. Most



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Iowa publishers attend the annual banquet as a matter of course, but when the convention date conflicts with a fishing trip, or a business trip, as occasionally happens, it has sometimes been necessary to enlist the help of the whole family to get the new Master Editor-Publisher to the banquet without letting him suspect that it is to be his "day of days."

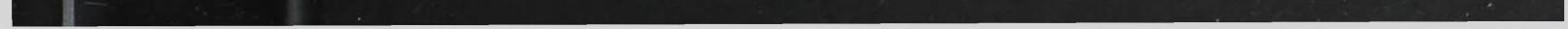
It is always a proud moment, not only for the recipient but for his family, his friends, and all members of the Association, when each newly named Master Editor-Publisher is asked to arise and come forward to receive the handsome plaque in the presence of his fellows.

The occasion this writer remembers best is the

presentation as it was made at the annual banquet in April, 1948, when the names of Phil Hoffmann and C. S. Walling of the Oskaloosa *Daily Herald* were called, each to receive the award. Mr. Hoffmann and Mr. Walling had been associated together on the *Herald* for over sixty years — a long partnership that in itself is a record — and had brought that paper to a position of eminence in the Iowa newspaper field. The big, packed banquet hall at the Hotel Fort Des Moines has seldom heard a more spontaneous ovation than when these two fine old men arose and with steady steps, arm in arm, made their slow way to the platform. Don REID

What Makes a Master Editor?

The journalist nominated for preliminary consideration for an Iowa Master Editor-Publisher award is himself a chosen man. He has in a sense passed a long, almost continuous screening by his fellows, who have watched him in action and who have seen his product through the years — and have judged the product and the man behind it. This process, seldom conscious, seldom thoughtout, puts the nominee into a group of "possibles" good prospects to meet the standards of the award's founder, the late Grant L. Caswell, that the Master Editor-Publisher must have "worked hard, lived honorably, thought soundly, and influenced unselfishly." The nominee, who must be "living and active," usually comes into this preliminary list through a letter written in response to a request for nominations in the Iowa Press Association bulletin. These letters go to the two men who alternate, year by year, as chairman of the selection committee — the head of the Department of Technical Journalism at Iowa State College at Ames, currently Professor Kenneth R. Marvin, or the director of the School of Journalism at the State University of Iowa, currently Professor Leslie G. Moeller, and to the



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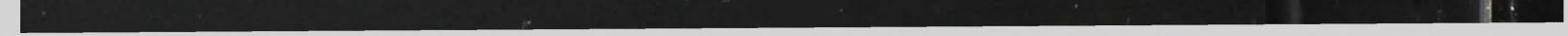
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three or four or possibly five other Iowa newspapermen (usually including two or more Master Editor-Publishers) who complete the committee.

At the group's session, in February or March, the committee also considers nominations remaining from earlier years; nominations are also infrequently made during the meeting itself. The committee comes to its work with a century or more of experience in and contact with Iowa newspapering, and in most cases all or nearly all members will have known each nominee for many years.

With this background, the committee does not normally spend much time in discussion of each candidate. Generally, after talking over such points as community service, work for the profession, achievements in journalism, and journalistic honors earned, the balloting begins. Usually a succession of secret ballots is taken on a gradually smaller list of nominees. In this process, the great concern, although it is not usually put formally into words, is, "How does he measure up as a good editor and publisher?" There is little discussion of such matters as character and honesty, presumably because the quality of the nominees is such that this discussion would not particularly be in point. Nor is attention paid to size of paper or of community, degree of financial success, extent of holdings, or education.

Age is a factor always considered. The first eight men named had an average age of 69.5 years,



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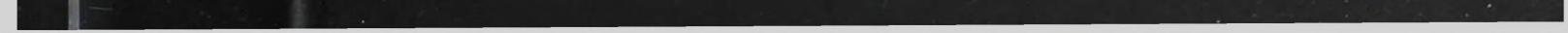
and the youngest was 55. At the same time, age has not outweighed other factors. The average age at time of election was 65.9 for the first 29 men selected and 63.9 for the 29 most recently chosen. The oldest man to receive the award was Joseph F. Grawe of the *Bremer County Independent*, who was 89 when he was honored in the first group chosen, in 1932, and the youngest was James W. McCutcheon of the Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record, 42 when he was named in 1945.

Of the 58 Master Editor-Publishers named from 1932 through 1951, 25 are now dead. Of the first 29 named, 18 are now dead, with an average age of 76.5 years at time of death. Of the most recent 29, 7 are dead, with 67.4 years the average

age at death.

The 58 award winners averaged 42.5 years in journalism at the time of receiving the award. C. S. Walling of the Oskaloosa *Herald* was active for the greatest number of years, 63; and Paul A. Olson of the Story City *Herald* and John W. Haggard of the Algona *Upper Des Moines* were next in line with 61 years each. The shortest such periods of service are those of James W. Mc-Cutcheon, with 20 years, and Paul C. Smith of the Rock Rapids *Lyon County Reporter*, with 23.

One man, J. F. Grawe, was born in Westphalia, Germany. Of the others, 39 were born in Iowa and 18 elsewhere in the United States. Biographical data are not always clear, but it appears that



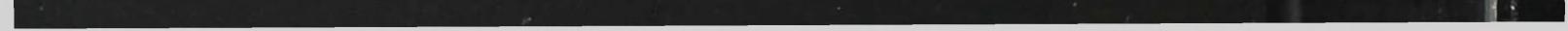
22 were born in towns under 1,000; 12 in towns of 1,000 to 2,500; 4 in towns of 2,500 to 5,000; 5 in towns of 5,000 to 25,000; and 2 in towns over 25,000; 12 were born in "X" county, with no fur-ther description, presumably therefore on farms.

Of the first 29 chosen, 6 at the time of selection were publishers in communities of 1,000 to 2,500 population; 14 from 2,500 to 5,000; 5 from 5,000 to 25,000; and 3 over 25,000. (Caswell was not a publisher at the time of his selection). In the second 29 there is a shift toward both the smaller and the larger communities, with 8 chosen from towns 1,000 to 2,500; 6 from 2,500 to 5,000; 13 from 5,000 to 25,000; and 2 over 25,000.

Eighteen Master Editor-Publishers were on dailies at the time of their selection. Of this number at least five had previously worked on weeklies. The ratio suggested by the founder of the award, that "not more than one daily newspaper editor or publisher shall receive such award in any one year, while all three awards may be made to editors or publishers of papers issued less frequently," has been carefully observed except for 1948, when the judges decided that the parallel careers of Phil Hoffmann and C. S. Walling for 60 years on the same paper, the Oskaloosa *Herald*, required their being honored at the same time.

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All of the 58 were married, and all but six had children. This group had 75 sons and 69 daugh-ters, an average of 2.48 children for the 58 men.



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Of the 58 Master Editor-Publishers, 23 received the B.A. or other four-year college degree. One received two honorary LL.D. degrees, four earned the LL.B. degree, and one the M.A. Fourteen received college training, but no degree; 13 list education as "high school" or "academy," and 8 list their education as "grammar," or rural schools, or public schools. Of the 37 who attended college, 33 attended colleges or universities in Iowa. Of the 29 most recently chosen, 13 have college degrees and 8 others attended college. Of those attending college, only 3, all 51 years old or younger at the time of receiving the award, obtained degrees in journalism.

Twenty-eight of the Master Editor-Publishers are members of Sigma Delta Chi, the national professional journalism fraternity; of these, five apparently became members as students.

Records show at least 29 Master Editor-Publishers were members of a chamber of commerce, commercial club, or other comparable organization. Since such membership would be taken for granted by almost every Iowa newspaperman, especially in the weekly field, it is probable that as many as 55 are or were members of such groups. At least 7 were members of Rotary, 7 of Kiwanis, and 5 of Lions.

How does the Master Editor-Publisher, on the average, measure up against the standards set by the founder?



Very probably the conscientious social critic or social philosopher, in his necessary search for perfection, would find shortcomings. He would perhaps wish that more of these men had been conscious of the pressure of social change, had been more concerned with the impact of those changes on the community, and had interpreted the impact of these changes to the community. He would perhaps wish that more of them had displayed an ability to stand outside the community, and to look at it impartially, with a greater breadth of vision. He would perhaps wish for less adherence to the status quo. He might wish more interest in and reliance upon research as a way of finding the deeper causes of such problems as juvenile delinquency, rather than dealing with one or two situations which may have been more or less surface indications, effects rather than causes. He might wish that more of these men had had adequate time for thinking, and for meditation, and for reading and discussion — to make them fuller men, and men of greater understanding. But the social critic would know, too, that a man is part of his environment, that he cannot always stand apart to look at it, that the economic pressures of everyday life often work against adequate time for thinking, and that the man who moves too rapidly for his own day and for his own people is not necessarily the person who has the greatest forward-moving impact upon them.

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The social critic would agree also that there is evidence that these men had in considerable measure lived up to the founder's injunctions, and certainly to the first, that they "work hard." Many of them began work when wages were very low; in fact, one Master Editor-Publisher says he received no wages for the first year, and others received only a few dollars a week. At least 25 of the men, most of them among those first chosen for the honor, got their start as printers in a day when a work week of 55 or 60 hours was not uncommon.

With their hard work these men in most cases combined managerial ability. They knew the procedures and practices which would make a news-

paper commercially successful. Indirect evidence of this is found in the manner in which all of them, exposed to one or more of the depressions of 1907, of the early 20's, and of the early 30's, came through financially, even though they survived with difficulty, and probably with heavy losses. Most of them earned their own money for the purchase of their first newspaper plants. In many cases, this purchase was very much a shoestring operation, and the margin of profit, if any, was probably thin for the first years. Only a comparatively few (probably not more than 8 or 10) inherited all or any part of a newspaper property.

As for the requirement that the nominee must have "lived honorably," no scandal seems to have

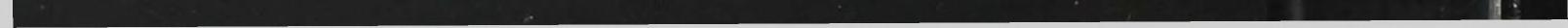


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touched any of these men, and encounters with the law have usually involved only such matters as traffic violations or the civil actions occasionally found necessary in settling business disagreements.

Records which are probably incomplete list 45 as having some church affiliation; some 10 denominations are represented. Twenty men are listed as Methodists, ten as Congregationalists, and five as Presbyterians; other denominations with two or more members include Lutheran, Baptist, and Christian.

The typical Master Editor-Publisher has taken rather seriously the injunction that he must have "thought soundly." This characteristic has shown itself in many ways — in the man's actions and in community life, and often most directly in his writing. Many of these men were great writers of editorials. E. P. Chase of the Atlantic News-Telegraph won the 1933 Pulitzer prize for editorial writing. Many, including Joseph F. Grawe, Elmer E. Taylor, Sr., Harvey Ingham, Ed M. Smith, W. C. Jarnagin, Tom Purcell, Ward Barnes, W. C. Dewel, Don L. Berry, Frank A. Moscrip, W. Earl Hall, Ralph E. Shannon, Paul C. Smith, Vic Lovejoy, Ralph Overholser, and George C. Tucker, have won renown with their editorials, whether for vigor, good thinking, forthrightness, sharp writing, or other qualities.



. a ANNIJAL. MASTER EDITOR PUBLISHER AWARD DF THE IOWA PRESS ASSUEIATION INC. 1945

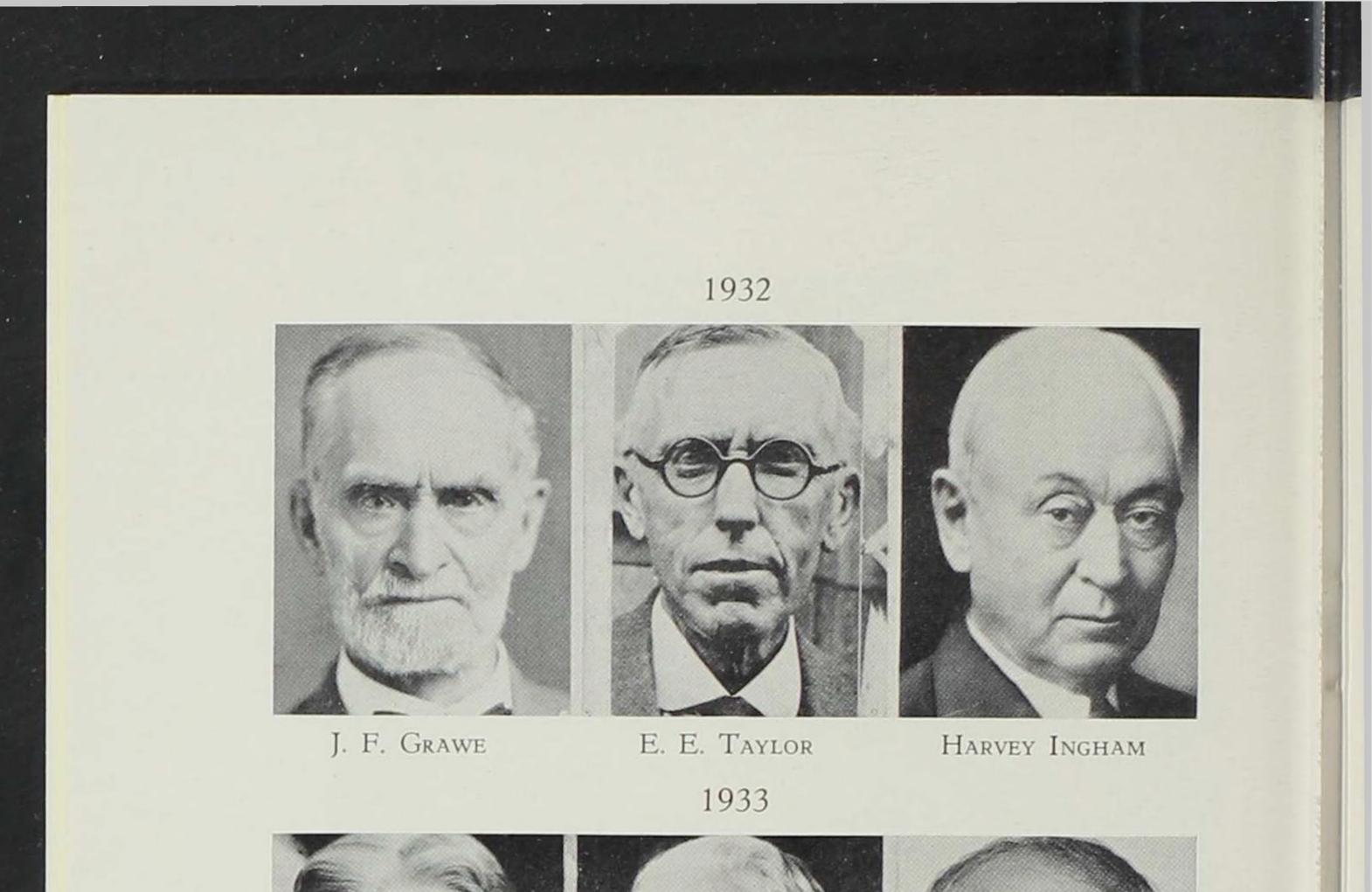
JAMES W. MCCUTCHEON

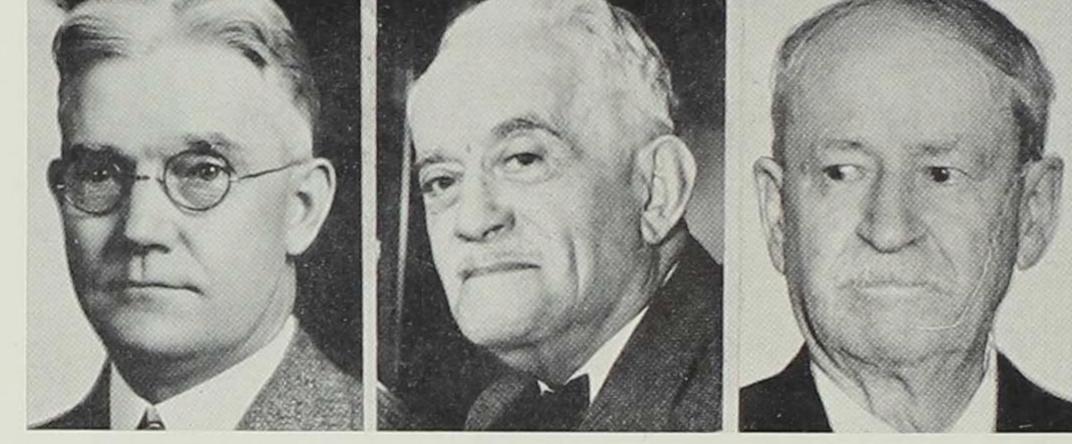
MOUNT VERNON HAWKEYE RECORD BY A VOTE OF THE COMMITTEE OF JUDGES THAT HE HAS WORKED HARD LIVED HONORABLY THOUGHT SOUNDLY

INFLUENCED UNSELFISHLY

AND IS ENTITLED TO HIGHEST HONOR IN HIS PROFESSION.







E. M. Smith

E. P. Adler

W. G. Ray

1934



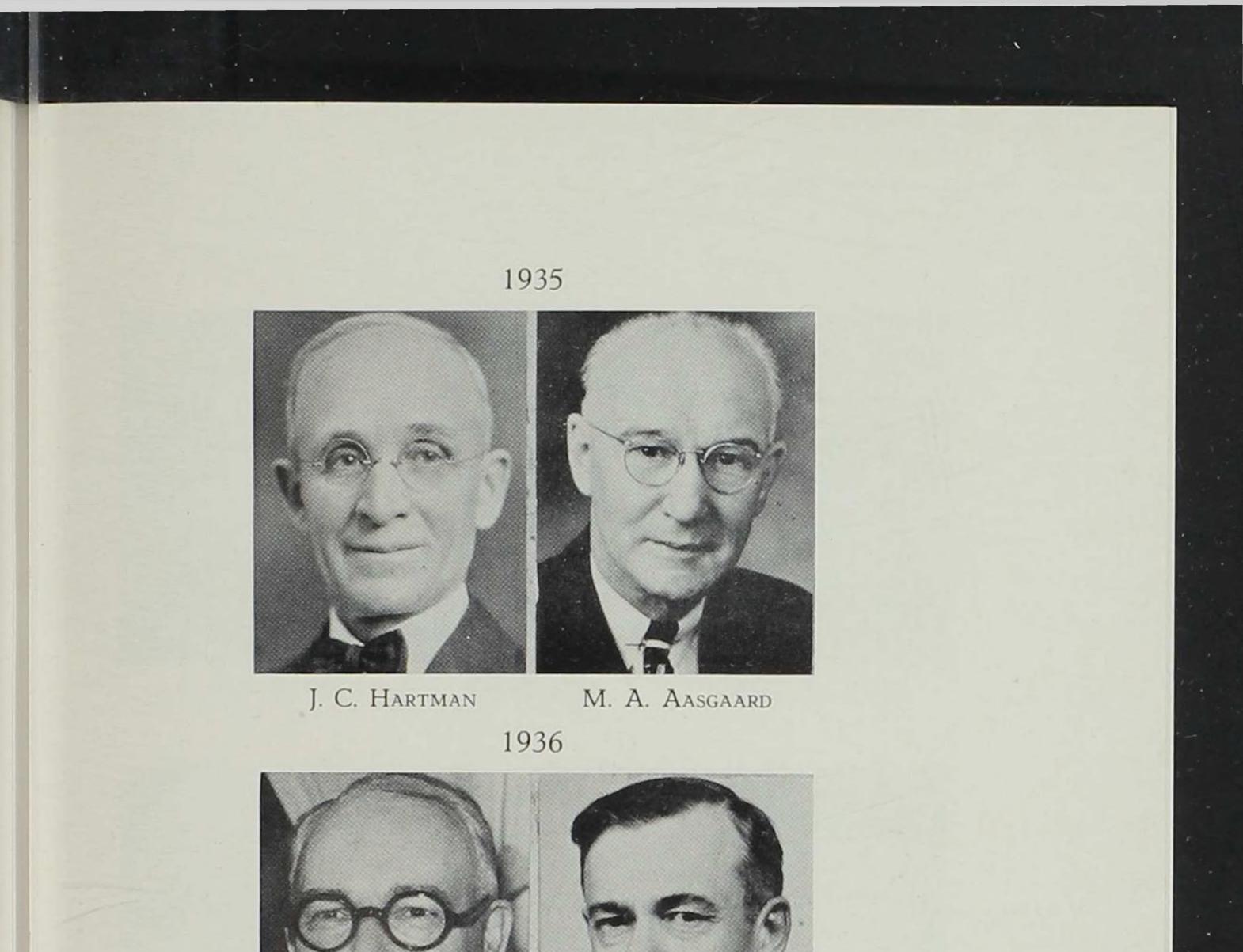
W. C. Jarnagin

W. P. Wortman

F. A. Moscrip

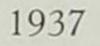
G. L. CASWELL

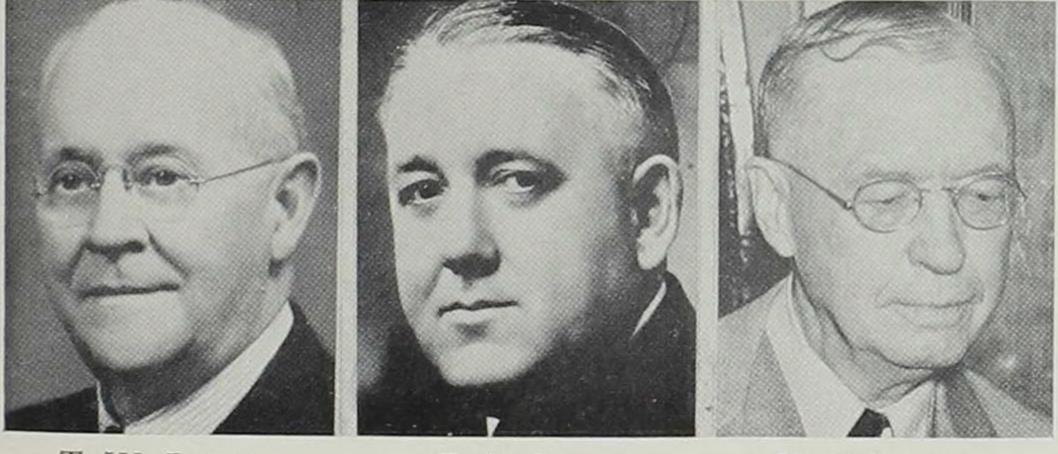






J. R. RHODES K. F. BALDRIDGE





T. W. Purcell

ELL

E. P. CHASE

V. H. LOVEJOY



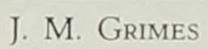






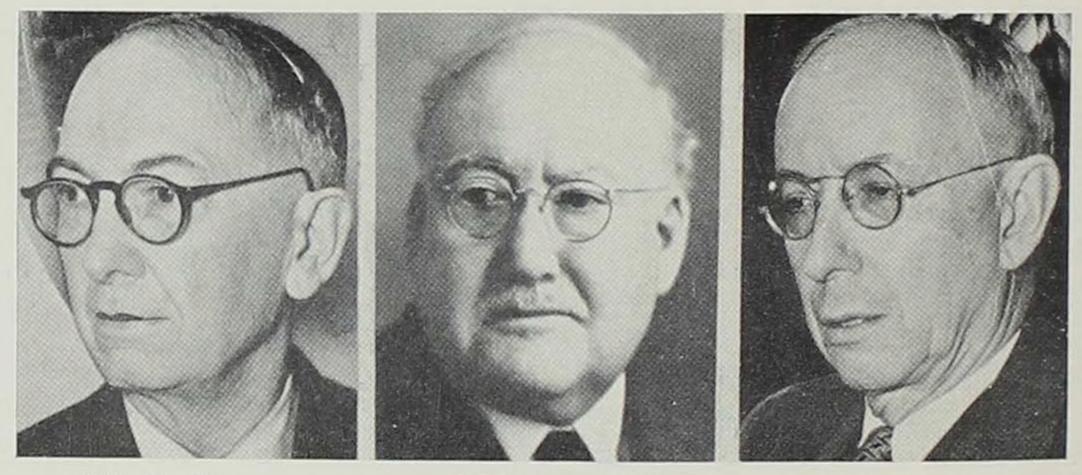


 $J. \ M. \ Beck$



SCOTT SNYDER

1940



C. S. ROGERS W. C. Dewel

P. C. Woods





C. N. MARVIN



1941

Frank Jaqua

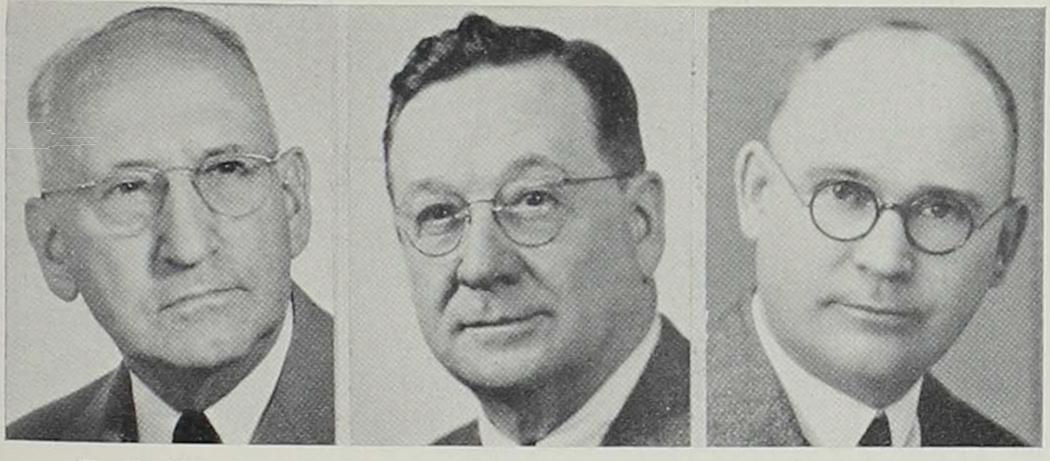


E. P. HARRISON

1942



J. L. Papes, Sr. L. S. Barnes 1943

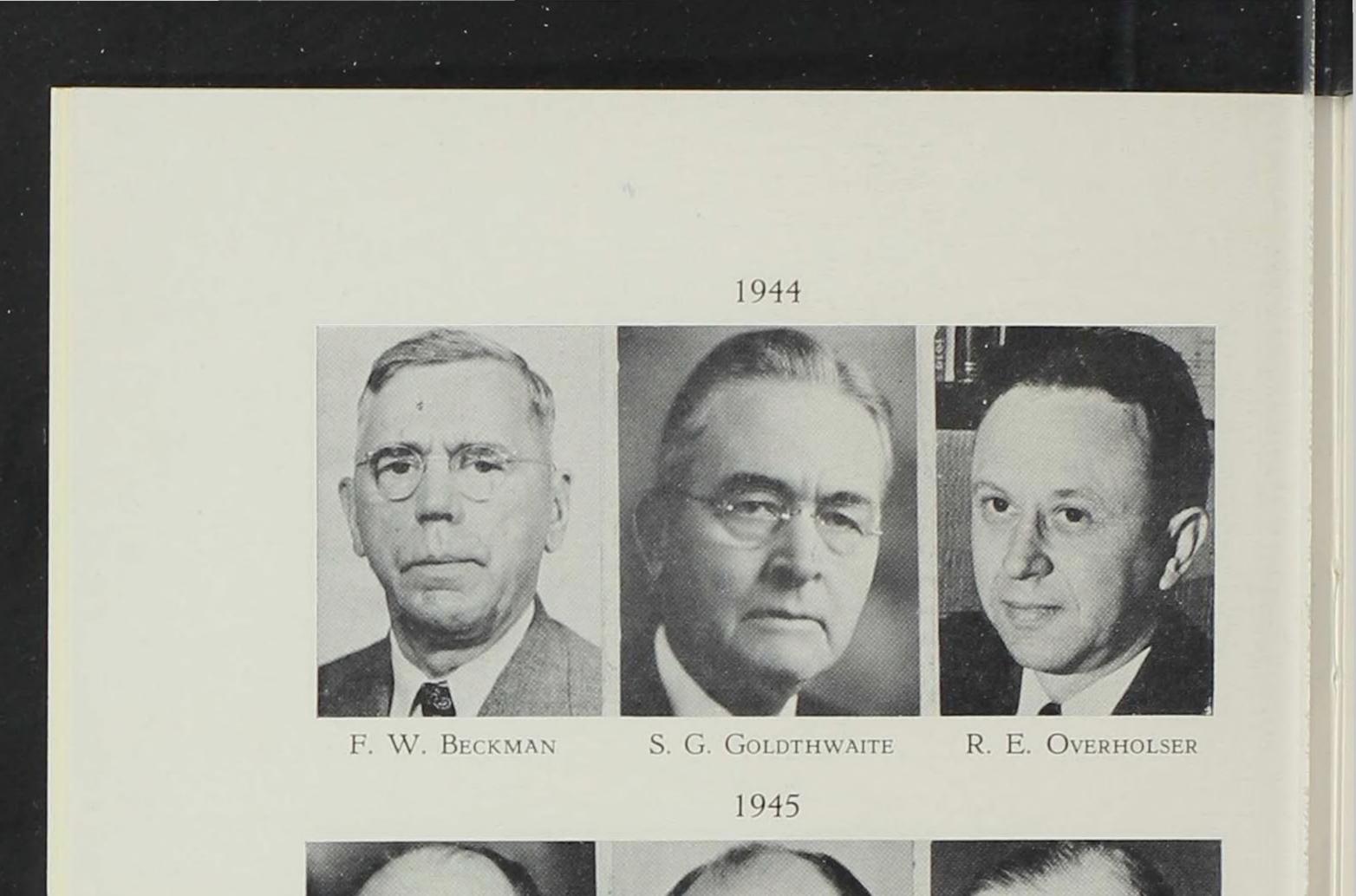


D. L. Berry

S. W. NEEDHAM

G. C. Tucker









F. W. HILL

J. W. McCutcheon

W. S. Rupe

1946



P. A. Olson

J. W. HAGGARD

W. E. HALL

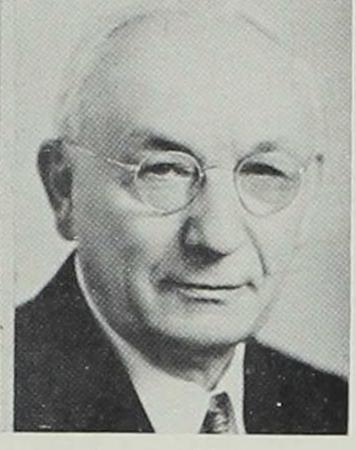


C. A. Doxsee



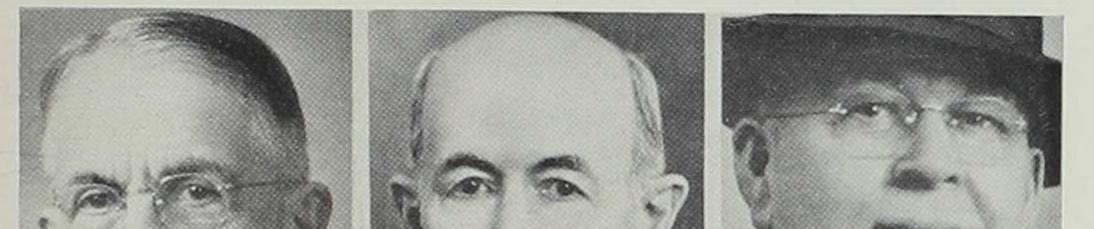
1947

H. H. SADLER



JUSTIN BARRY

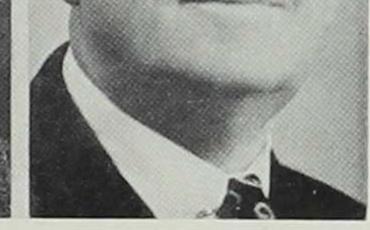
1948





J. C. GILLESPIE





C. S. WALLING

1949

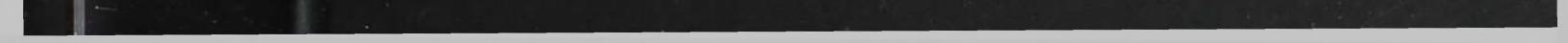
Phil Hoffmann

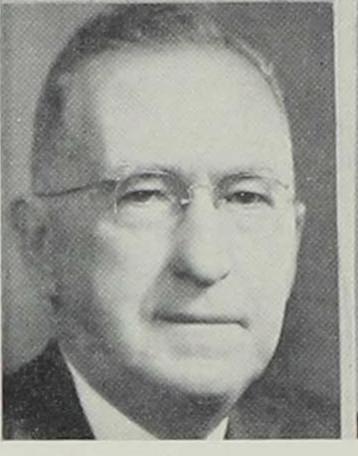


C. V. CAMPBELL

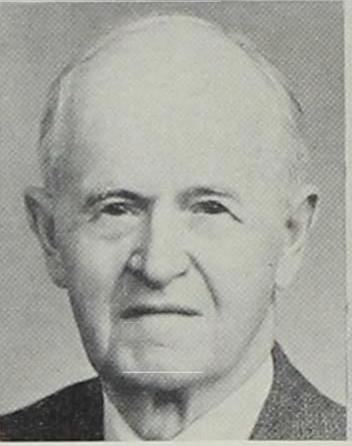
R. E. SHANNON

P. C. Smith



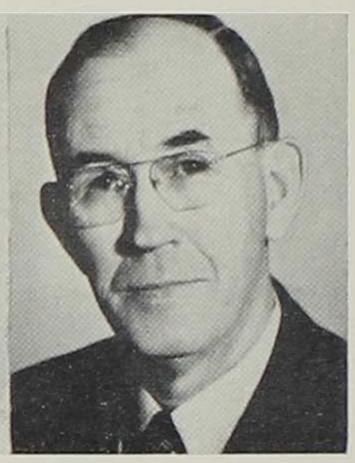


John Huston



1950

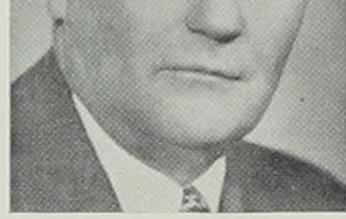
W. W. Overholser



S. E. TENNANT

1951





DAVID SUTHERLAND



D. E. Dewel



J. W. WILSON



WHAT MAKES A MASTER EDITOR? 169

To some extent this writing has been political in nature. As might be expected in a state so long consistently Republican, most of the Master Editor-Publishers are Republicans. Two of the 58 are listed as Democrats, two as Independents, one as Independent-Republican, and 53 as Republicans. A number have been active in party affairs. E. P. Adler of the Davenport Times and the Lee Syndicate was for two years secretary of the Republican State Central Committee. James Rhodes of the Newton Daily News was a district committeeman for four years. A great many publishers have been delegates frequently to state political conventions; and Ward Barnes and Don L. Berry, among others, have been delegates to national Republican conventions. Leon Barnes of the Northwood Anchor has served on the Republican state platform committee; Ralph Overholser of the Red Oak Express in 1936 was Republican state publicity director. Paul C. Smith was chairman of the Republican State Convention in 1942. In general, these men have conducted their news columns vigorously, with the aim of providing intensive coverage of their communities. One of the earlier Iowa Master Editor-Publishers, in a direct phrase which perhaps expresses the philosophy of life for many, wrote that his goal was "to live up to high standards, do one's best and not worry about the consequences." Another said: "I have thought that my chief duty as a citizen



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was to produce an excellent newspaper, thereby serving the community well."

A concern for the general welfare is apparent in any measurement against the qualification that the men must have "influenced unselfishly." One Master Editor-Publisher has written that "generally speaking, we strive for anything that will aid the community in a constructive sense, or at least what our judgment makes us believe is constructive."

Most have been leaders in community thinking. Many have wielded an influence felt beyond local communities, as with Don L. Berry, of whom the Des Moines *Register* said editorially on April 18, 1943, at the time of his selection, that he "has not only done a unique job of reporting to and counseling his neighbors in Warren county about their local affairs; he has also made the attitudes and needs of the people in this typical rural county felt in many broad national circles. The ethical standards he has set and followed are about as sound as any we know of, and they have certainly contributed measurably to the character of and respect for the newspaper as an institution in this state."

In an editorial comment appearing April 17, 1950, the *Register* remarked that these "are men who have distinguished themselves in both jour-nalism and community affairs. This is, of course, a redundancy, as Iowa newspapermen well know,

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for distinguished service in newspapering means distinguished service in community affairs. Iowa publishers looking over their associates in other communities know that the man who is doing the best job of newspapering usually is also the man doing the best job of helping his community, through the performance of various sorts of civic duties."

Civic activities have been varied. Many winners have served as presidents or secretaries of chambers of commerce, and probably at least 40 have held directorships in such organizations. Many have been active in service clubs. Tom W. Purcell was district governor of Rotary in 1930-1931, and Duane E. Dewel of the Kossuth County Ad-

vance at Algona served two years as governor of his Iowa-Nebraska Kiwanis district.

Many have served on school boards, several have been elected presidents of school boards, and W. Earl Hall was a member of the State Board of Education for several years. W. G. Ray of the Grinnell Herald-Register, W. C. Jarnagin, W. P. Wortman of the Malvern Leader, J. M. Beck of the Centerville Iowegian, and Charles S. Rogers of the Mount Pleasant News have served as college trustees.

Others have been active in municipal office. Paul C. Smith is currently mayor of Rock Rapids; and W. G. Ray, M. A. Aasgaard of the Lake Mills *Graphic*, V. H. Lovejoy, and J. M. Grimes



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of the Osceola Sentinel and Tribune have been mayors. A number have been councilmen or held appointive city offices.

Many have been elected to other government office. Ed M. Smith was Iowa's Secretary of State from 1928 to 1931. J. M. Grimes served as Iowa's State Treasurer from 1943 to 1950; previously, from 1906 to 1910, he had been a state senator in Missouri. Ed M. Smith, Grant L. Caswell, and Duane E. Dewel have been state senators; E. P. Harrison of the Oakland Acorn, W. G. Ray, and Justin M. Barry of the Cherokee Daily Times have served in the Iowa House of Representatives.

Even more important has been the continuing concern of Iowa Master Editor-Publishers with the day-to-day operation of government, for the most part at the local and the state levels, but also at the national level. This has come about in part through a natural concern with material which is live news, as well as from a direct interest in participating in civic affairs. The group has also been distinguished by its attitude toward the profession of journalism. Probably 80 per cent have consistently attended state conventions of the Iowa Press Association or of the Iowa Daily Press Association, and nearly as many have been active in these groups.

These 21 Master Editor-Publishers have been presidents of the IPA: S. G. Goldthwaite (1917), W. P. Wortman (1918), J. C. Gillespie (1921),

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Ed M. Smith (1922), George C. Tucker (1923), E. P. Harrison (1924), Kenneth F. Baldridge (1925), Thomas W. Purcell (1926), W. C. Jarnagin (1928), W. G. Ray (1929), J. G. Lucas (1930), Don L. Berry (1931), Jesse M. Beck (1932), Victor H. Lovejoy (1933), Ralph E. Overholser (1934), Charles A. Doxsee (1936), Leon S. Barnes (1939), Ward Barnes (1940), Fred W. Hill (1941), James W. McCutcheon (1942), and Paul C. Smith (1950). Grant Caswell served as managing director, W. Earl Hall, Ralph Shannon, and Duane E. Dewel as directors, and S. E. Tennant of the Colfax *Tribune* as recording secretary (since 1929).

John Huston of the Ottumwa Courier has been

president of the Iowa Daily Press Association, W. S. Rupe of the Ames *Daily Tribune* has been vice-president, and James R. Rhodes has been a director. E. P. Adler was president of the Inland Daily Press Association in 1917-1918, Rhodes has served as a vice-president, and Ralph Shannon and John Huston have been committee members.

Kenneth Baldridge of the Bloomfield Democrat was president of the National Editorial Association in 1934-1935, and Fred W. Hill of the Hamburg Reporter was president in 1946-1947. Baldridge also served as chairman of the national code authority for nonmetropolitan printing and publishing industries in the early 1930's.

Fred W. Hill won the National Editorial Asso-



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ciation outstanding community service award in 1937-1938, and in 1949 received that association's annual Amos Award "for distinguished service to nonmetropolitan newspapers of America and to the National Editorial Association." Baldridge received the award in 1950 for his work with the NRA code and as NEA president. Only 12 men have been so honored since the Amos Award was first given in 1938.

In addition to their interest in professional associations, the Master Editor-Publishers on the whole appear to have had a clear-cut feeling of the over-all responsibilities resting on journalists. They have taken their work in journalism seriously, and the social critic might well agree that their performance has for the most part been enlightened, well thought-out, and planned in what the Master Editor-Publishers conceived to be the best public interest. Checked against the record of performance, the Iowa Master Editor-Publisher stands up well. He has set a good pattern for his contemporaries in the practice of journalism, and he has also set a good pattern for his fellows in the practice of everyday citizenship.

Leslie G. Moeller

Sketches of Master Editors

Biographical material on the Iowa Master Editor-Publisher has not been available in complete form, so that political and religious affiliation and business and professional memberships are not necessarily all-inclusive. This pertinent and valuable material was gleaned from the Iowa Press Association's Who's Who in Iowa, The Iowa Publisher, and from personal correspondence, by two graduate students from the School of Journalism of the State University of Iowa.

The staff position listed is that held at the time the award was made; in most cases, especially on weeklies, an award winner listed as "editor" or "publisher" was actually serving in both capacities.

BPOE — Elks DPA — Daily Press Association IOOF — Odd Fellows IPA — Iowa Press Association KC — Knights of Columbus KP — Knights of Pythias KT — Knights Templar

MWA — Modern Woodmen of America NEA — National Editorial Association RNA — Royal Neighbors of America SAR — Sons of American Revolution Scot Rite — Scottish Rite SDX — Sigma Delta Chi WOW — Woodmen of the World

MARTIN A. AASGAARD (1880–1948) — born Albert Lea, Minn.; educ. Lake Mills HS; married Ragna Mykleby; three sons, one daughter; editor, Lake Mills Graphic; in professional journalism, 1896–1948; member, IPA, Lions; Lutheran.

- E. P. ADLER (1872–1949) born Chicago, Ill.; educ. Ottumwa; married Lena Rothschild; one son; publisher, five Lee Syndicate papers, ten Midwest dailies; in professional journalism, 1885–1949; member, IPA, Inland DPA, president, 1917-18; Republican.
- KENNETH F. BALDRIDGE (1886–) born Bloomfield; educ. Bloomfield HS, Drake U., LL.B.; married Kate McClure; one son, one daughter; editor, Bloomfield Democrat; in professional journalism, 1909–

; member, IPA, NEA (50th pres.), SDX, KP, Mason, KT, Shrine; Disciples of Christ; Democrat. H. WARD BARNES (1883–1947) — born Fedora, S. D.; educ. Eagle Grove HS, SUI, B.A.; married Maude Morford; one son, one daughter; editor, Eagle Grove

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Eagle; in professional journalism, 1909–1947; member, IPA, NEA, SDX, WOW, Mason, IOOF, Rotary; Congregational; Republican.

JUSTIN BARRY (1873–) — born Lamotte; educ. Walker HS; married Adelaide Luthera Haight; one son; editor, Cherokee Daily Times; in professional journalism, 1891– ; member, IPA, Inland DPA, Mason, KT, Rotary; Methodist; Republican.

LEON S. BARNES (1894–) — born Northwood; educ. Northwood HS; married Stella Minor; one son, one daughter; editor, Northwood Anchor; in professional journalism, 1912– ; member, IPA, NEA, SDX, Mason, KT, Lions; Baptist; Republican.

JESSE M. BECK (1873–) — born Ottumwa; educ. Wapello County rural schools, Penn College, Iowa Wesleyan, B.Sc.; married Edna Needham; three sons; editor, Centerville Daily Iowegian and Citizen; in professional journalism, 1899– ; member, IPA, Mason,

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Phi Delta Theta, Kiwanis; Methodist; Republican.

FRED W. BECKMAN (1873–) — born Clayton County; educ. SUI, Ph.B.; married Anna McCulloch; one son, one daughter; editor, Knoxville Journal; in professional journalism, 1898– ; member, IPA, NEA, SDX; Congregational; Republican.

DON L. BERRY (1880–) — born Indianola; educ.
 Simpson College, Ph.B.; married Bertha Sloan; one son, two daughters; editor, Indianola Record-Herald and Tribune; in professional journalism, 1903– ; member, IPA, SDX, Rotary; Methodist; Republican.

CLAUDE V. CAMPBELL (1882–1950) — born Story County; educ. Ames HS, Iowa State, B.S.; married Emma Jacobsen; one son, one daughter; editor, Jewell Record; in professional journalism, 1904–1950; member, IPA, SDX, Kiwanis; Lutheran; Republican.

GRANT L. CASWELL (1869–1948) — born Boone;

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educ. Moingona, Iowa; married Evalena Clark; three sons, one daughter; managing director, IPA; in professional journalism, 1882–1943; member, IPA, SDX, Mason, Scot Rite, BPOE; Republican.

- EDWIN PERCY CHASE (1879–1949) born Anita; educ. Atlantic HS; married Jane Colton; editor, Atlantic News-Telegraph; in professional journalism, 1900– 1936; member, IPA, Rotary; Republican; Pulitzer Prize for best editorial, 1933.
- DUANE E. DEWEL (1901–) born Burt; educ.
 Algona HS, SUI, U. of Mo., B.J.; married Dorothy G.
 Snodgrass; one son, one daughter; co-editor, Kossuth
 County Advance, Algona; in professional journalism,
 1924– ; member, IPA, Kiwanis.
- W. C. DEWEL (1875–) born St. Lawrence County, N. Y.; educ. Goldfield HS, SUI, Ph.B., Drake U., LL.B; married Emma Louise Patton; five sons; edi-

tor, Kossuth County Advance, Algona; in professional journalism, 1898– ; member, IPA, NEA, SDX, MWA, Yeomen, RNA, Sigma Nu, Rotary; Methodist.
CHARLES A. DOXSEE (1888–1948) — born Monticello; educ. Monticello HS, Cornell College, B.Sc.; Drake U., LL.B.; married Alma O. Korslund; two sons, one daughter; editor, Monticello Express; in professional journalism, 1915–1948; member, IPA, NEA, SDX, KP, Mason, SAE, Rotary; Methodist; veteran, World War I.

- J. ORVILLE ELDER (1866–1940) born Alexis, Ill.; educ. Ill.; married Carolyn L. Rall (died), Josephine Babcock; one son; editor, Washington Journal; in professional journalism, 1900–1940; member, IPA, Rotary; Presbyterian.
- JAMES C. GILLESPIE (1870–1950) born Memphis, Mo.; educ. Memphis HS; married Bertha E. Bennett; one son, two daughters; editor, Le Mars Semi-Weekly



Sentinel; in professional journalism, 1888–1950; member, IPA, SDX, Rotary; Methodist; Republican.

STEPHEN G. GOLDTHWAITE (1868–1947) — born Boone; educ. Boone HS, Brown U., B.A., Des Moines U., M.A.; married Iva Bryant; one daughter; editor, Boone News-Republican; in professional journalism, 1890–1947; member, IPA, Iowa DPA, BPOE, Mason, York Rite, Scot Rite, Rotary; Baptist.

JOSEPH F. GRAWE (1843–1933) — born Westphalia, Germany; educ. Bradford HS, Bradford Academy; married Blanche Waite; four sons, six daughters; editor, Waverly Bremer County Independent; in professional journalism, 1873–1933; member, IPA, NEA; veteran, Civil War.

JOHN M. GRIMES (1873–) – born Monroe County, Ind.; educ. Monroe County, Indiana U.; married Katherine Sparkman; one son; editor, Osceola Sentinel and Osceola Tribune: in professional journalism 1802

and Osceola *Tribune*; in professional journalism, 1892– ; member, IPA, NEA, Mason, Rotary; Methodist;

Republican.

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- JOHN WILLIAM HAGGARD (1869–) born Kossuth County; educ. Algona; married Segrid Lavold; editor, Algona Upper Des Moines; in professional journalism, 1885– ; member, IPA, NEA; Congregational; Republican.
- W. EARL HALL (1897–) born Jefferson; educ. Jefferson HS, SUI, B.A.; married Ruth Reeves; one son, two daughters; editor, Mason City Globe-Gazette; in professional journalism, 1920– ; member, IPA, SDX, Sigma Nu; Republican.
- E. P. HARRISON (1883–1948) born Wittman, Md.; educ. Wittman HS; married Ethel Brubaker; one son, two daughters; editor, Oakland Acorn; in professional journalism, 1910–1948; member, IPA, NEA, SDX, KP, Mason, KT, Scot Rite; Republican.



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- JOHN C. HARTMAN (1861–1941) born Waterloo; educ. West Waterloo; married Ida M. Hummell; editor, Waterloo Courier; in professional journalism, 1879– 1941; member, IPA, SAR, KP, BPOE; Republican.
- FRED W. HILL (1883–1950) born Grand Junction; educ. Woodbine Normal School, Simpson College; married Edna E. Heckel; one daughter; editor, Hamburg *Reporter;* in professional journalism, 1906–1950; member, IPA, SDX, IOOF, Kiwanis; Methodist.
- PHIL HOFFMANN (1868–) born Oskaloosa; educ. Oskaloosa HS, Penn College; married Anna M. Glaze; one daughter; editor, Oskaloosa Daily Herald; in professional journalism, 1885– ; member, IPA, Mason, KP, Rotary; Episcopalian; Republican.
- JOHN HUSTON (1881–) born Ottumwa; educ. Ottumwa HS; married Rose Meany; one son, one daughter; editor, Ottumwa Daily Courier; in professional journalism, 1897– ; member, IPA, Iowa DPA, Inland DPA, BPOE, KC; Catholic; Republican.
- HARVEY INGHAM (1858–1949) born Algona; educ. Algona HS, Algona College, SUI, BA., LL.B., Grinnell, LL.D., Morningside College, hon. LL.D., Drake U.; married Nellie E. Hepburn; three sons; editor, Des Moines Register and Tribune; in professional journalism, 1882–1949; member, IPA, SDX, Phi Beta Kappa; Congregational; Republican.
- FRANK JAQUA (1870–1948) born Traer; educ. Traer; married Alice L. McCaffrey; two sons, one daughter; editor, Humboldt Republican and Independent, Wright County Monitor; in professional journalism, 1890–1948; member, IPA, NEA, Rotary; Congregational.
- WILLIAM C. JARNAGIN (1879–) born Colfax; educ. Montezuma HS, ISTC, M.Di.; married Jean Gilchrist; in professional journalism, 1901– ; editor,



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Storm Lake *Pilot-Tribune*; member, IPA, NEA, SDX, KP, IOOF, Mason, Scot Rite, Shrine, Kiwanis; Presby-terian.

- VICTOR H. LOVEJOY (1871–1944) born Rippey; educ. rural schools; married May Elden; one son, three daughters; editor, Jefferson Bee; in professional journalism, 1893–1944; member, IPA, Rotary; Presbyterian.
- J. G. LUCAS (1879–) born Boone County; educ. Madrid HS, Palmer College, Le Grande; married Maude Halsey; two sons, two daughters; editor, Madrid Register-News; in professional journalism, 1895–

; member, IPA, Mason, Lions; Christian; Republican.

JAMES W. McCUTCHEON (1903–) — born Mount Vernon; educ. Mount Vernon HS, Cornell College, B.A.; married Ruth Lynch; editor, Mt. Vernon Hawkeye Record and Lisbon Herald; in professional journalism, 1925– ; member, IPA, SDX, Mason,

Rotary; Methodist; Republican.

CHARLES N. MARVIN (1857–1941) — born East Orange, N. J.; educ. Marshalltown HS; married Bertha L. McCausland; one daughter; editor, Shenandoah Sentinel; in professional journalism, 1886–1941; member, IPA, Mason, BPOE; Congregational; Republican.

FRANK A. MOSCRIP (1859–1941) — born Rockton, Ill.; educ. Eagle Point, Ill.; married Louise S. Stapley; one son, three daughters; editor, Marshalltown Times-Republican; in professional journalism, 1899–1941; member, IPA; Congregational; Republican.

SHERMAN W. NEEDHAM (1881–) — born Sigourney; educ. Sigourney HS, Iowa Wesleyan, B.Sc.; married Grace Darland; one son, one daughter; editor, Ames Milepost; in professional journalism, 1905– ; member, IPA, SDX, Mason, York Rite, Shrine, BPOE, Phi Delta Theta.



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- PAUL A. OLSON (1873-) born Chicago, Ill.; educ. Story City; married Hildora Jensen; two sons, one daughter; editor, Story City Herald; in professional journalism, 1885- ; member, IPA, MWA; Evangelical; Republican.
- RALPH E. OVERHOLSER (1894-1944) born Correctionville; educ. Sibley HS, Morningside College, SUI, B.A.; married Alice Sprague; one son, one daughter; editor, Red Oak Express; in professional journalism, 1920-1944; member, IPA, SDX, Rotary; Methodist; Republican; veteran, World War I.
- WILLIS W. OVERHOLSER (1868-) born Lancaster County, Penna.; educ. Correctionville HS, Cornell College; married Bertha L. Lathion; three sons, one daughter; editor, Sibley Gazette-Tribune; in professional journalism, 1893- ; member, IPA, MWA, Rotary; Methodist; Republican.
- J. L. PAPES, SR. (1869–) born Peoria, Ill.; educ. Keota HS; married Bessie B. Burress; one son, two daughters; editor, Marion Sentinel; in professional journalism, 1885-1949; member, IPA, SDX, Mason, Lions; Methodist; Republican.
- THOMAS W. PURCELL (1875-) born Anamosa; educ. Anamosa; married Nellie L. Babcock; four sons, six daughters; editor, Hampton Chronicle; in professional journalism, 1890- ; member, IPA, NEA, SDX, KP, IOOF, Mason, KT, Scot Rite, Shrine, Rotary; Republican.
- W. G. RAY (1857-1936) born Grinnell; educ. Grinnell College; married Sarah Haines; two sons, one daughter; editor, Grinnell Herald; in professional journalism, 1890-1936; member, IPA, SDX; trustee, Grinnell College; Congregational; Republican.
- JAMES R. RHODES (1882–1944) born Newton; educ. Newton HS, Monmouth, Ill. College, B.A.,



Princeton U., B.A., M.D.; married Helen L. Atkins; editor, Newton *Daily News*; in professional journalism, 1903–1944; member, IPA, Iowa DPA, Inland DPA, SDX, Mason, York Rite, Shrine, BPOE, Yeomen, Rotary; Presbyterian; Republican.

CHARLES S. ROGERS (1868–) — born N. Windham, Me.; educ. Concord, Mass. HS, Iowa Wesleyan, B.Sc.; married Lillian O. Kendig; two sons, three daughters; editor, Mount Pleasant News; in professional journalism, 1891– ; member, IPA, BPOE, IOOF, KP, Kiwanis; Methodist; Republican.

WILLIAM S. RUPE (1886–) — born Dickinson, Kans.; educ. Robinson, Kans. HS, Lane U., B.A., Campbell College, B.A., Kansas U., B.Sc., B.A.; married Minta Warner; one daughter; editor, Ames Daily *Tribune;* in professional journalism, 1922– ; member, IPA, Iowa DPA, Mason, Scot Rite, Shrine, Rotary; Methodist; Republican.

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 H. H. SADLER (1882–) — born Beckley, W. Va.; educ. Huntington, W. Va., and Humeston, Central College; married Leona Hunt; one son; editor, Pella *Chronicle;* in professional journalism, 1899– ; member, IPA, Rotary; Baptist; Democrat.

RALPH E. SHANNON (1888–) — born Washington County; educ. Washington HS, Washington Academy, U. of Chicago; married Fannie E. Harwood; two sons, one daughter; editor, Washington Evening Journal; in professional journalism, 1906– ; member, IPA, SDX, Mason, Rotary; Methodist; Republican.
EDWARD M. SMITH (1870–) — born Jackson County; educ. Dexter Normal, Drake U.; married Eva-

lyn Crossley; four daughters; editor, Winterset Madisonian; in professional journalism, 1899– ; member, IPA, NEA, SDX, KP, Mason, Scot Rite; Presbyterian; Republican.

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- PAUL C. SMITH (1904–) born Rock Rapids; educ. Rock Rapids HS, SUI, B.A.; married; one daughter; editor, Rock Rapids Lyon County Reporter; in professional journalism, 1926– ; member, IPA, NEA, SDX, Kiwanis; Methodist; Republican.
- SCOTT SNYDER (1876-) born Dallas County; educ. Adel HS, Drake U.; married Pearl Hughes; editor, Adel Dallas County News; in professional journalism, 1904- ; member, IPA, BPOE.
- DAVID SUTHERLAND (1890-) born Beatrice, Nebr.; educ. Grinnell HS, Grinnell College; married Helen Jordan; one son, one daughter; editor, Montezuma Republican; in professional journalism, 1914- ; member, Mason, KP, BPOE, American Legion, Lions.
- ELMER E. TAYLOR, SR. (1861–1943) born Traer; educ. Traer Academy, Cornell College; married Ella Canfield; three sons; editor, Traer Star-Clipper; in professional journalism, 1878–1942; member, IPA, NEA; Congregational; Republican.
- S. E. TENNANT (1889–) born Delphos; educ. Mount Ayr HS; married Ernestena Beckman; editor, Colfax Tribune; in professional journalism, 1909– ; member, IPA, NEA, Mason; Presbyterian; Republican.
 GEORGE C. TUCKER (1879–1947) — born Hamilton County; educ. Webster City HS, SUI; married Grace E. Stuart; one son; editor, Webster City Freeman-Journal; in professional journalism, 1900–1946; member, IPA, SDX, BPOE, Rotary.
- C. S. WALLING (1867–) born Oskaloosa; educ. Oskaloosa HS; married Mary Knight; one son, four daughters; publisher, Oskaloosa *Daily Herald;* in professional journalism, 1885– ; member, IPA, BPOE; Congregational; Republican.

JAMES W. WILSON (1900–) — born Oskaloosa; educ. Oskaloosa, Albia HS, Coe College, U. of Mo.,

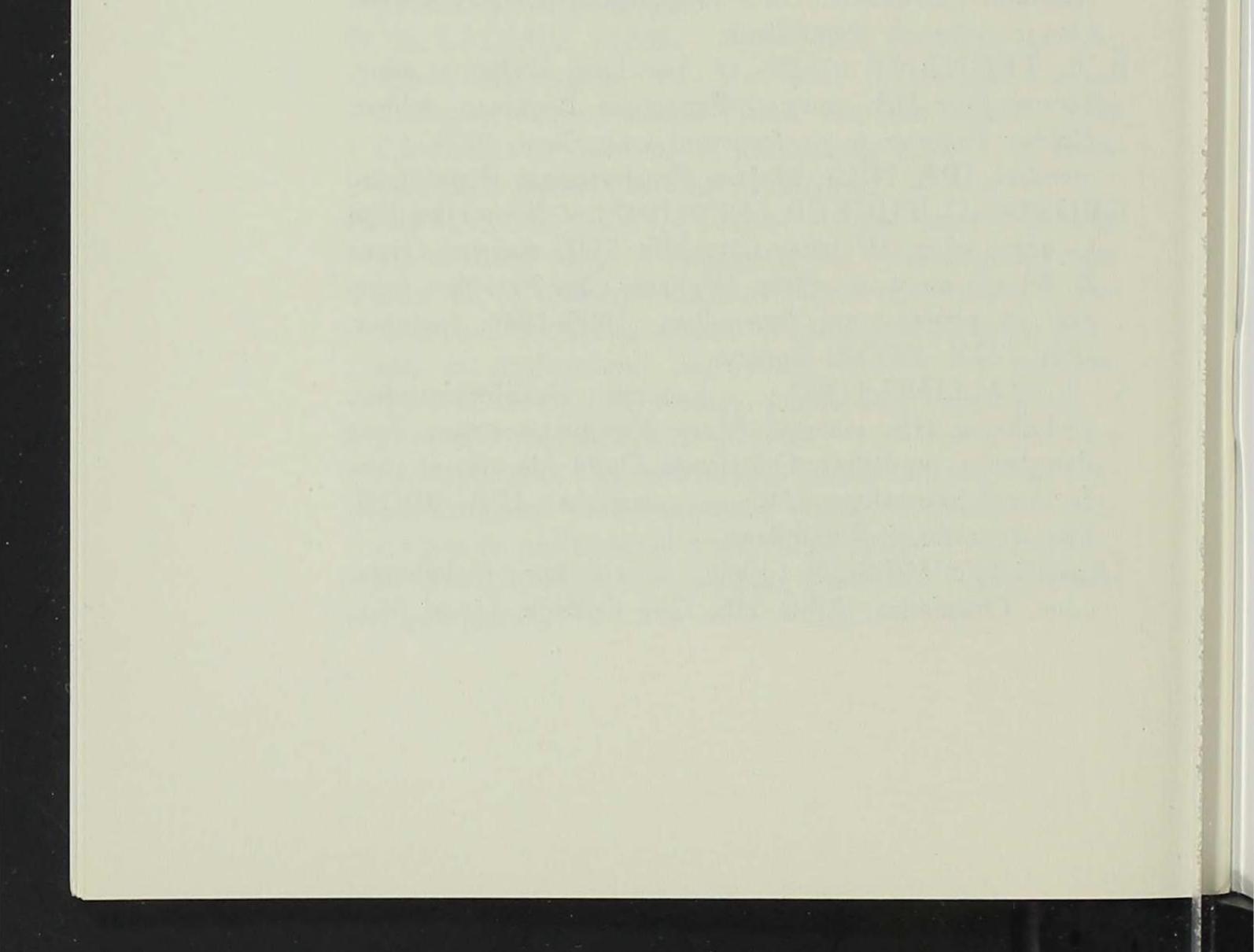


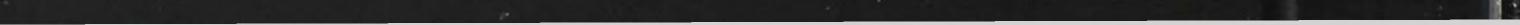
B.J.; married Constance V. Guernsey; one son, one daughter; publisher, Carroll *Daily Times-Herald;* in professional journalism, 1921– ; member, Rotary, BPOE, Mason, SDX, Iowa DPA; Methodist; Republican.

- PAUL C. WOODS (1876–) born Ossian; educ. Fayette HS, Upper Iowa U., B.Sc.; married Amy Luther; two sons, one daughter; editor, Sheldon Mail; in professional journalism, 1898– ; member, IPA, NEA, KP, Kiwanis; Methodist.
- WILLIAM P. WORTMAN (1867–1936) born Mills County; educ. Highland Park College, B.A.; married Gertrude Allen; one son, one daughter; editor, Malvern Leader; in professional journalism, 1900–1936; member, IPA, SDX, Mason; Methodist.

Luther Smith Paul J. Mahaney

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IOWA MASTER EDITOR-PUBLISHERS

1932-1951

Year	Name	Newspaper
1932	*Joseph F. Grawe	Bremer County Independent
1932	*Elmer E. Taylor	Traer Star-Clipper
1932	*Harvey Ingham	Des Moines Register and Tribunet
1933	Edward M. Smith	Winterset Madisonian
1933	*E. P. Adler	Lee Syndicate Papers†
1933	*W. G. Ray	Grinnell Herald
1934	W. C. Jarnagin	Storm Lake Pilot-Tribune
1934	*W. P. Wortman	Malvern Leader
1934	*F. A. Moscrip	Marshalltown Times-Republican†
1934	*G. L. Caswell	IPA Managing Director
1935	*John C. Hartman	Waterloo Couriert
1935	*M. A. Aasgaard	Lake Mills Graphic
1936	*James R. Rhodes	Newton Daily News†
1936	K. F. Baldridge	Bloomfield Democrat
1937	T. W. Purcell	Hampton Chronicle
1937	*E. P. Chase	Atlantic News-Telegraph†
1937	*V. H. Lovejoy	Jefferson Bee
1938	*H. Ward Barnes	Eagle Grove Eagle
1938	*J. Orville Elder	Washington Journal†
1938	J. G. Lucas	Madrid Register-News
1939	Jesse M. Beck	Centerville lowegiant
1939	John M. Grimes	Osceola Sentinel and Tribune
1939	Scott Snyder	Dallas County News
1940	W. C. Dewel	Kossuth County Advance
1940	C. S. Rogers	Mount Pleasant News†
1940	Paul C. Woods	Sheldon Mail

1941 1941 1941	*Frank Jaqua *E. P. Harrison
1942	J. L. Papes, Sr.
1942	Leon S. Barnes
1943	Don L. Berry
1943	S. W. Needham
1943	*George C. Tucker
1944	Fred W. Beckman
1944	*S. G. Goldthwaite
1944	*R. E. Overholser
1945	*Fred W. Hill
1945	J. W. McCutcheon
1945	William S. Rupe
1946	*Paul A. Olson
1946	John W. Haggard
1946	W. Earl Hall
1947	*Charles A. Doxsee
1947	H. H. Sadler
1947	Justin Barry
948	*J. C. Gillespie
948	Phil Hoffmann
948	C. S. Walling
1949	*C. V. Campbell
1949	Ralph E. Shannon
1949	Paul C. Smith
1950	John Huston
1950	W. W. Overholser
1950	S. E. Tennant
1951	D. E. Dewel
1951	David Sutherland
1951	James W. Wilson
	*Deceased

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Shenandoah Sentinel† Humboldt Republican and Independent Oakland Acorn

Marion Sentinel Northwood Anchor

Indianola Record-Herald and Tribune Ames Milepost Webster City Freeman-Journal‡

Knoxville Journal Boone News-Republicant Red Oak Express

Hamburg Reporter Mt. Vernon Hawkeye-Record Ames Daily Tribunet

Story City Herald Algona Upper Des Moines Mason City Globe-Gazette†

Monticello Express Pella Chronicle Cherokee Daily Times†

Le Mars Sentinel Oskaloosa Daily Herald† Oskaloosa Daily Herald†

Jewell Record Washington Evening Journal† Lyon County Reporter

Ottumwa Daily Courier† Sibley Gazette-Tribune Colfax Tribune

Kossuth County Advance Montezuma Republican Carroll Daily Times-Herald†

†Daily





