

Iowa's Notable Dead ...

ISSN 0003-4827

No known copyright restrictions.

Recommended Citation

"Iowa's Notable Dead ..." *The Annals of Iowa* 32 (1954), 474-480.

Available at: <http://ir.uiowa.edu/annals-of-iowa/vol32/iss6/7>

Hosted by [Iowa Research Online](#)

in the Capital City Commercial college, of which Dr. J. C. Mehan was president; married on December 28, 1898, and became the father of four children; acquired an interest in the college, served as its president from 1908 to 1949, and at time of his death was president emeritus; was president of the National Association of Accredited Commercial Schools for 25 years, president of the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce in 1929, a charter member and president of the Des Moines Rotary Club in 1913, and an honorary member since removing to California; his widow, Arabelle, also died a few weeks after his demise, survived by a daughter, Mrs. Mary Alice Noonon, San Francisco, Cal., and two sons, J. Richard Williams, Des Moines, and Hillis E. Williams, Cleveland, Ohio.

NICHOLAS BALKEMA, merchant, teacher and legislator, died January 29, 1954, at Sioux Center; born April 7, 1865, at Gibbsville, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin; attended district school at Gibbsville and graduated from Sheboygan Falls high school; removed to Newkirk, Iowa, in 1884; taught school for a time and entered mercantile business at Newkirk and conducted the postoffice in connection therewith; removed to Sioux Center in 1894 and continued the same business there for many years, also owning a clothing store at Paullina; became interested in the local bank and served as its vice-president; served on the city council and ten years as president of the school board, being intensely interested in educational matters; in all was occupied by local business affairs and official interests for 54 years, retiring in 1941; served six sessions, 1909-19, as state senator from the forty-ninth Iowa district, composed of the counties of Lyon, O'Brien, Sioux and Osceola; was a Republican and a member of the Central Dutch Reformed church, of which he was a charter elder and had taught a Sunday school class for many years; married on December 9, 1886, to Clara Van Rooyen, of Newkirk, who survives with children as follows: Mrs. Fred DenBeste (Kate), Mrs. P. B. Mouw (Florence), and Clayton Balkema, all of Sioux Center, Dr. Walter Balkema, of Sheldon, Raymond Balkema, of Burlington, and Mrs. Eardly Scheutz (Lucille) of Lincoln, Nebraska, one daughter, Mrs. Wm. G. Van Roekel (Jeanette), and two grandchildren, Alice DenBeste and Dorothy Ellen Balkema, having preceded him in death.

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.