

Necrology of Notable Iowans ...

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wife preceded him in death, passing away in 1944; described as a generous, public-spirited, high-minded man.

EMMET DOUGHERTY, public relations director and former newspaper reporter, died at his home in Washington, D.C., January 6, 1961; born at Ottumwa, Iowa in 1884; began his newspaper career as a reporter on the *Ottumwa Courier*, left the St. Paul *Pioneer-Press* to become a reporter and day city editor for the Washington, D.C. *Times* in 1913, joined the Washington Bureau of International News Service in 1917, and the Washington bureau of the New York *Herald-Tribune* the following year, being remembered by the press as "a gentleman of the old school"; became director of public relations for the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment and had charge of its Washington office from 1928 to 1933; later was public relations director for the Distilled Spirits Institute, and the Millers' National Federation; retired in 1955 after fourteen years as director of public relations for Catholic University, and had since been engaged in general public relations work and free lance writing in Washington; served two terms on the board of governors of the National Press Club; survived by his wife, Margaret J., a daughter, Jane, and two sons; Robert E., Silver Spring, Maryland, and John C. Dougherty with the Department of the Army.

William Becker, retired pharmacist and former state legislator, died at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, January 22, 1961; born in Elkader, Iowa, March 26, 1874, the son of German-born parents, John and Caroline Stemmer Becker; graduated from Elkader high school in 1890, attended the State University of Iowa college of pharmacy and became a registered pharmacist in 1891; established a drug store at Elkader in partnership with his brother, John, January 18, 1892; married to Mollie Schmidt in 1899, a daughter being born to them in 1907; assumed sole ownership of the business in 1907 and operated the pharmacy until its sale to his nephew, George H. Schmidt, in 1916; was a member of the Elkader school board ten years, elected Republican state representative from Clayton County in 1914, and re-elected in 1916, 1918 and 1920; served as mayor of Elkader from 1922 and 1924; named an Iowa Pioneer Lawmaker in 1935, continued to make his home in Elkader, had been in semi-retirement in recent years, but remained interested in pharmacy and periodically assisted in the prescription department of Schmidt's Rexall Drug store; qualified as a 50-year pharmacist in 1941, would have completed 69 years as a registered pharmacist in March, was one of the oldest registered pharmacists in Iowa, and also was a 50-year member of the Masonic lodge and Eastern Star; his wife, Minerva, died April 5, 1953; survived by a step-son, Dr. H. D. Meyer, Evanston, Illinois.

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