

Iowa's Notable Dead ...

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in Des Moines in 1905, continuing among its leaders since with the exception of the years he served as pastor of the new College Avenue Christian church, beginning January 1, 1925, leading it in the erection of the building, completed and paid for that year; became a world traveler, making extensive trips to various countries in Europe, crossing the Atlantic ocean 32 times, and made five trips around the world, the last at the age of 71; became celebrated as a lecturer and author of articles of religious and historical nature; was a 33rd degree Mason, and a member of Adelpic lodge and the Des Moines consistory of that order, also a member of the Kiwanis club of Des Moines for 20 years; a teacher of the large Loyal Married Folks class of University church for many years and an honorary member of its board of elders; survived by three daughters, Florence Nichols and Mrs. Edna Goss, both of Des Moines, and Iva Nichols of New York, N. Y., a son, Clark Nichols of Buffalo, N. Y., two grandsons and six great-grandchildren.

JAMES MONROE BELL, insurance and bond broker, public official and legislator, died at Burlington, Iowa, August 3, 1953; born in New Boston, Illinois, March 28, 1876, the son of Omer H. and Vashti Willets Bell; came to Burlington as a boy and spent most of his life there; employed for a time by Marshall Field & Co., Chicago; also traveled out of New York for the Borden Milk Company as a salesman and supervisor of branch establishments; beginning in 1901, served as deputy county auditor of Des Moines county, Iowa, and twice elected as Mayor of Burlington from 1916 to 1920; served as state senator one term from 1934 to 1938; engaged in the insurance and bond brokerage lines in Burlington for many years, and was a Democrat candidate for various official positions, usually unsuccessful excepting when he ran for mayor and for state senator; married Mrs. Julia Leake Steinbrecher in 1925, who survives as also do two married daughters by a previous marriage, Mary and Betty of Los Angeles, a stepson Richard E. Steinbrecher of Chicago and three grandchildren; formerly a member of the Iowa National Guard and served in Company H.; a Methodist, and held membership in the Eagles, Elks, Odd Fellows, Rebeccas and A.O.U.W.

STEPHEN RAY EMERSON, building contractor and legislator, died at Creston, Iowa, August 1, 1953; born in Union county, Iowa, February 25, 1889, son of Lincoln Jasper and Verna Shaw Emeson; and grandson of the Rev. Stephen and Mary

Peek Emerson of Union county; graduated from Creston high school in 1908 and from Central college at Pella in 1910; married Meta F. Raney, Marengo, at Fairfield, Iowa, October 13, 1913, who survives him with three daughters, Mrs. Gail Brown, Mrs. Joseph G. Knock and Mrs. Jane James, all of Creston; engaged in building contracting for 27 years with his brother, Donald Emerson, at Creston; was president of the State Savings bank of Creston a number of years and chairman of its board of directors at the time of his death; served in two sessions of the Iowa senate from the Fifth senatorial district, two years as president of the Master Builders association of Iowa, two terms as a member of the Iowa highway commission, two terms on the Creston school board, eight years as the mayor of Creston and as a delegate from Iowa to the national Republican convention at Cleveland in 1916; a member of the Congregational church, the Rotary club, the Elks and Masonic order.

JOHN J. BOYLAN, bishop of Rockford See and educator, died July 20, 1953, at his summer home at Bonnet Shores, Narragansett, Rhode Island, where he was recuperating from an operation; born in New York, N. Y., October 7, 1889, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Boylan; attended La Salle Academy, Providence, Mount St. Mary's College in Emmittsburg, Md., and St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester, N. Y.; ordained in Providence in 1915; attended the Catholic University of America in Washington, from which he was graduated as a Bachelor of Sacred Theology in 1917, and the Pontifical Atheneum in Rome, where he obtained his Doctorate in Philosophy in 1923; also studied in the summer at Harvard University and the State University of Iowa; appointed in 1917 assistant pastor of the Church of St. Francis in Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he remained but a brief period, until he joined the faculty of Dowling College at Des Moines, Iowa, in 1918, and served as its president from 1923 to 1942; also served as diocesan director of charities in Des Moines, 1920-23; as diocesan superintendent of schools, 1924-34, and as vicar general of the Des Moines diocese, 1934-42; a member of the summer faculty of the Sisters Teachers College in Providence, 1935-42; named Bishop of Rockford, Illinois, and was consecrated at Des Moines in February, 1943; surviving are two brothers and five sisters.

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