

Ray Lyman Wilbur, Vernon E. Prichard, Alexander  
Fell Whitney

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DR. AUGUST ENGELBRECHT, educator, emeritus college president, died at his home at Waverly, Iowa, June 5, 1949; born at Neidersungen, Cassel, Germany; came to America in 1873 at the age of eleven and settled at Iowa City, with his mother, sister and brothers, his father having died the same year; entered Wartburg college at Mendota, Illinois, in 1875 and in 1875 enrolled at Wartburg Teachers Seminary which had just been opened in Waverly, graduating in June 1882; entered teaching profession at Paducah, Kentucky, and was later at Defiance, Ohio, where he met Maria Deindoerfer, who became his wife September 27, 1886; began house-keeping in Chicago where he was a parochial school teacher at Trinity Lutheran church; removed to Waverly in 1900 where he was called as a faculty member of Wartburg college, serving there for forty-four years, being director for twenty-four years; awarded the honorary LL.D. degree in 1948 by Wartburg college; many years served as treasurer of the Iowa Synod and on the Waverly city council from 1896 to 1909, and instrumental in securing the Lutheran Children's home for Waverly; survived by three sons and two daughters, three children dying in infancy and the wife preceding him in death on December 31, 1941.

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IRA W. JONES, lawyer and legislator, died at his home in Clear Lake, Iowa, June 7, 1949; born at Boston, Erie county, New York, February 28, 1877, the son of Murray and Amelia Jones, with whom he came to a farm near Allison in Butler county, Iowa, at three years of age, where he resided until 1899, when he entered Iowa State college, graduating in the scientific course in 1903; entered the law school at Drake university, graduating in 1905; also received law degree from Yale university; located at Clear Lake, where he has since practiced law; married Bertha Montgomery in 1906; active in civic welfare; made a member of the public library board in 1915 and became chairman in 1922, which position he continued to hold until his death; a member of various fraternal orders, and the Lions club, being a charter member of the latter and served as district governor one year; was Republican county chairman four years; represented his county in the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh general assemblies, and a member of the Congregational church; survived by his wife and a son, Dr. Lawrence M. Jones, of Baltimore, Maryland, a daughter, Betty, preceding him in death in 1930.

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BEN J. GIBSON, attorney general and legislator, died at Rochester, Minnesota, July 8, 1949; born in Adams county, Iowa, November 13, 1882; one of six children, his mother, Mrs. Virginia Gibson,

still living at Nodaway, Iowa; educated in schools of Adams county, the University of Nebraska, and received his law degree from the University of Nebraska law school; began the practice of law in 1906 at Corning, in his home county; served as county attorney from 1908 to 1912; elected state senator for the Sixth district, but did not complete the term, resigning in 1917 to volunteer in World War I, becoming a Third Iowa and 72nd U. S. infantry captain; returned to the practice of law in 1919; elected attorney general of Iowa in 1920 and re-elected twice thereafter; retired from office in 1927 and entered the practice of law in Des Moines; married September 5, 1905, to Anna Rolston, of Adams county, who with two sons, Wendell B. and Ben. J. Jr., survive him; a member of bar associations, fraternities and clubs and the Central Presbyterian church of Des Moines.

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WILLIAM HENRY GEORGE, inventor and industrialist, died at Fairfield, Iowa, March 19, 1949; born June 24, 1862, at Durant, Iowa, son of Clark and Martha Morrison George; united in marriage October 18, 1883 to Olive Nolte, who survives, the couple having celebrated their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary last year; enjoyed long and successful career in Iowa as an inventor and manufacturer; organized the Excelsior Thresher Tooth company at Dexter, Iowa, doing a nation-wide business; designed several models of hand-power washing machines shortly after 1900, when he set up the Dexter Washer firm, which was reorganized and removed to Fairfield, Iowa, in 1912, and enlarged from time to time as he originated a number of important mechanical devices connected with the washing machine business; retired in 1929 from position of general manager of the organization; survived in addition to his wife, by a son, Dr. Clark W. George, of Fairfield, Mrs. Foss Heaton, Creston, and Mrs. Cody Luce, of Moravia, Iowa, another daughter, Verna, having passed away in 1897.

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