

## Necrology of Notable Iowans ...

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County, Simpson Academy, and taught school in Taylor County, 1906-07; graduated from Simpson College in 1913, obtained his masters degree from Northwestern University in 1915, and taught a year at Montana Wesleyan University, 1916-17; married to Fanny Caroline Steves in San Francisco, California June 6, 1918; commissioned a first lieutenant of infantry at the 2nd training camp in San Francisco, served at Camp Fremont from January, to September, 1918, and with the American Expeditionary Force in Siberia till discharged May 6, 1919; returned to teach at Montana Wesleyan, 1919-20, taught at Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois, 1920-21, then began 32 years as professor and head of the history department at Simpson College, gaining recognition for his knowledge of church history; took graduate work at the University of Chicago, 1923-24, was on leave of absence as acting assistant professor of history at Northwestern University, 1925-26, and received his doctorate from the University of Iowa in 1926; became chairman of the social science division and chairman of the lecture course in 1925, and was also dean and director of the inaugural program at Simpson College from 1936 to 1939; joined the staff of the Iowa State Department of History & Archives for a short period following his retirement from the faculty at Simpson in January, 1953; wrote several articles and monographs, including "Rise of Methodism," for the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, and "Can We Elect Minor Public Officials" which appeared in the *Des Moines Register*, took part in County Forum Speakers work, and was a delegate to the Republican state convention in 1934; was a member of the American Historical Association, Mississippi Valley Historical Association, American Political Science Association, Indianola Chamber of Commerce, the Lions, Elks, and promotion group of the Boy Scouts; had been a past post and Warren County American Legion commander, president of the Indianola Garden Club, member of the school board, and on the city park commission eight years prior to his resignation in 1959; honored together with Mrs. Moats for their many years in developing flower gardens in Indianola by the renaming of North Park for them in July, 1957; survived by his wife and two sons, Robert Ryder, Saratoga, California, and William Alden Moats, College Park, Maryland.

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CLARENCE ADOLPH KNUTSON, insurance and banking executive, former hardware dealer and state legislator, died at Rochester, Minnesota September 27, 1960; born in Clear Lake, Iowa June 16, 1885, the son of pioneer residents, Peter and Hannah Olson Knutson; graduated from Clear Lake high school and the former Memorial University at Mason City; went into business as a partner in his father's retail hardware store in 1905; married to Hazel Irene Wood of Mason City June 2, 1908; owned and managed the Knutson Hardware Company with his brother following the death of their father in 1919; was local food administrator during both world wars, greatly influenced the progress and growth of the community, serving two terms as mayor of Clear Lake, 1918-20, president of the Iowa Retail Hardware Association, 1921-22,

president of the Rotary Club, 1921-23, district governor, 1929-30, member of the Greater Clear Lake Committee, Chamber of Commerce, and a director of the Commercial Club; elected Cerro Gordo County representative to the state legislature for three consecutive terms, 1923-1929, supporting good roads legislation, and sponsoring the first gasoline tax laws in Iowa; upon leaving the hardware business in 1934 organized and was chosen president of the First National Bank, which in 1939 became the Clear Lake Bank & Trust Company, was a Republican candidate for governor of Iowa in 1934, a delegate to the Republican national convention in 1944, and managed the successful senatorial campaign of Governor George A. Wilson in 1942; elected a member of the board of directors of the Iowa Hardware Mutual Insurance Company in 1923, directed its growth into one of the leading firms of its kind upon being chosen president in 1931, and was also chairman of the board of the Iowa Hardware Mutual Casualty Company from 1925 till its consolidation with the former company September 1, 1951; became chairman of the board of the Clear Lake Bank & Trust Company in 1941 and the Iowa Hardware Mutual Insurance Company in the spring of 1960; had been an active member of the American and Iowa Bankers Associations, past president of the Mason City-Cerro Gordo County Bankers Association, master of the Masonic Lodge, chancellor commander of Knights of Pythias, member of Scottish and York Rites, Shrine, the Consistory, Knights Templar, Odd Fellows, Elks, and Gospel Tabernacle; survived by his wife and a daughter, Mrs. Emily Mae Lewis of St. Charles, Missouri.

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JOSEPH NYE WELCH, lawyer and legal consultant, died at Hyannis, Massachusetts October 6, 1960; born in Primghar, Iowa October 22, 1890, the son of English immigrant parents, William and Martha (Thyer) Welch; was a superior student at Primghar high school, worked as a carpenter for two years before entering Grinnell College, elected to Phi Beta Kappa in his junior year, waited tables and sold maps and books during the summers to graduate in 1914, and then worked his way through Harvard law school, scholastically ranking second in the class of 1917; married to Judith Lyndon of Washington, Georgia September 20, 1917; served in the judge advocate general's department of the army during World War I, attended Officer's Training School, and was commissioned at Camp Taylor; admitted to the Massachusetts bar and joined the Boston law firm of Hale and Dorr in 1919, becoming a member four years later, and eventually the senior partner; specialized in trials before state and federal courts, excelled in cross examination with his wry wit and effective, quiet, self-effacing manner; other attorneys and law firms often called upon him for consultation in their cases and was highly regarded as a "lawyers' lawyer" in the legal profession; gained national prominence as special counsel for the Department of the Army during the televised McCarthy hearings in 1954; married in July, 1957 to Agnes Rogers Brown of Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts after the death of his first wife December 21, 1956; removed

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