

## Francis Dana Mead

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mayor. In 1888 he was elected county attorney of Harrison County and served two years. He was city attorney several years and achieved a large general practice. From 1884 until 1923, thirty-nine years, he was secretary of the Missouri Valley School Board. He had several important business connections, one being with the State Savings Bank, of which he was president several years. He was prominent in the Republican party, and was a delegate to the National Convention of 1908. His ability and high character led to his appointment by Governor Kendall October 17, 1923, as a judge of the Fifteenth Judicial District to succeed Judge George W. Cullison, deceased. He was elected for the balance of the term at the next general election, 1924, and was re-elected in 1926 and again in 1930, and was serving in that position at the time of his death.

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EDWIN R. JACKSON was born at Avoca, Iowa, March 27, 1881, and died in Council Bluffs October 7, 1932. Burial was in Walnut Hill Cemetery, Council Bluffs. His parents were John F. and Lydia Bradshaw Jackson. He attended public school in Avoca, was a student for a time at Tabor College, and was graduated in liberal arts from the State University of Iowa in 1904 as president of his class. For the next two years he was superintendent of the schools of Oakland, Pottawattamie County, was elected county superintendent in 1906 and re-elected in 1908, but in 1909 resigned to go to Washington, D. C., to take a position in the Forestry Department. While in Washington he attended law school at George Washington University, and when he returned to Council Bluffs in 1913, was admitted to the bar. From 1915 to 1918 he was assistant county attorney, but in 1918 resigned and became trust officer of the Council Bluffs Savings Bank. In that work he had a large share of the management of the \$3,500,000 estate of the late General Grenville M. Dodge. He was for a time president of the school board of Council Bluffs, and was a leader in many activities of social service, and in civic affairs. In going through the effects of General Dodge he brought to light many items of historical interest and thus became able to generously share the information with Council Bluffs people and with the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa. A notable service of Mr. Jackson to historical literature was his effective aid to Jacob Randolph Perkins in his *Trails, Rails and War*, a biography of General Dodge, Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1929. This was in compliance by the trustees of the Dodge estate with a testamentary provision of General Dodge and under the auspices of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department, as directed in General Dodge's last will and testament. (See ANNALS OF IOWA, Vol. XVI, p. 628.)

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FRANCIS DANA MEAD was born in Cresco, Iowa, August 8, 1870, and died in Cresco November 16, 1932. His parents were Francis J. and Cynthia Ballard Mead. He was educated in the public schools of

Cresco, being graduated in 1886. For a short time he worked as a clerk in a drug store, but soon entered the printing office of the *Cresco Plain Dealer*, owned by his father and his father's brother, W. R. Mead, where he learned the printing and publishing business. In 1904 he purchased the interest of W. R. Mead in the business, and in 1905, assumed the editorship. On his father's death in 1922 he became both editor and publisher. During recent years his two sons, Donald and George, have taken over much of the detail labor of editing and publishing. Their newspaper has the unique distinction of being the only one in the state founded before the Civil War and having been owned and published continuously by the same family. It was founded in 1859 at New Oregon, then the principal town of the county, situated about two miles south of the location of the present city of Cresco. The paper was removed to Cresco in 1867. The town of New Oregon was long ago abandoned. F. D. Mead was a Democrat in politics, was postmaster at Cresco from 1915 to 1923, was elected representative in 1930, served in the Fortieth General Assembly, was re-elected in 1932, but died soon thereafter. He was a member of the School Board, president of the Community Club and was a most useful and helpful servant of his community.

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ANDREW C. RIPLEY was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, February 11, 1849, and died in a hospital in Mason City, Iowa, July 20, 1932. Burial was in Concord Cemetery, at Garner. He attended common school and at the age of sixteen years enlisted in Company C of the One Hundred and Eighty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry and served to the end of the war. Returning home he attended Mount Sterling Seminary for one year, and then entered Harlem Springs College from which he was graduated in 1869. From 1869 to 1871 he taught school in Ohio and in 1871 removed to Iowa and taught at Postville, and later at Claremont and at Rockford. During his teaching he had been reading law and in 1877 went to Mason City, continued reading and was admitted to the bar late that year and located in practice at Garner. He was elected county superintendent of Hancock County in 1880 and served one term. He also served two terms as a member of the Board of Supervisors. He soon secured a large general law practice in which he continued for thirty years, or until 1907 when he retired because of failing health, after which he devoted himself for a few years principally to farming and stock raising, although he was interested in several other important business lines. In 1908 he was elected representative and was re-elected in 1910, and served in the Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth general assemblies. In 1914 he removed to Long Beach, California, where he continued to reside, but returned each summer to look after his interests and visit his friends. It was during such a visit that his death occurred.

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