

John Edmund O'Brien

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president of the original chapter (William and Mary College, Virginia) of Phi Beta Kappa; a member of numerous clubs, and an author of note, including many articles on political science, economics and municipal government in magazines; continued his interest in Iowa until his death and although he maintained his home at Hastings-on-the-Hudson, had advised Curator Ora Williams of his gathering data for a history of his days in the Hawkeye state.

WILLIAM RAYMOND GREEN, jurist, congressman and economist, died June 11, 1947, at the summer home of his daughter, at Bellport, New York; born at Colchester, New London county, Conn., November 4, 1856, son of Timothy F. and Maria Raymond Green; attended the public schools at Malden, Bureau county, Illinois, and graduated from the high school at Princeton, Ill.; graduated from Oberlin college, Oberlin, Ohio, in 1879, after which he was principal of schools at Neponset, Ill., for two years; read law in the office of McCoy, Pratt & McCoy, Chicago, and was admitted to the bar at Ottawa, Ill., in 1881; commenced the practice of law at Dow City, Iowa, where he remained two and one-half years; later moved to Council Bluffs and continued there in the practice of law until 1885, and upon his removal to Audubon, Iowa, formed a law partnership with John A. Nash and B. S. Phelps; married Luella Washington Brown, of Creston, Iowa, in 1887, they having two children, William Raymond Green, Jr. and Margaret Thorp Green; became judge of the district court in the Fifteenth Iowa district in 1895 and served until he resigned June 5, 1911, upon being elected to a seat in congress from the old Ninth district succeeding Walter I. Smith; served as congressman until March 3, 1927, becoming chairman of the house ways and means committee, and a recognized authority upon taxation questions; resigned his congressional post to receive a presidential appointment as judge upon the U. S. Court of Claims, and retired from that position in 1940; was author of "The Theory and Practice of Modern Taxation," and wrote extensively for the magazines upon public and governmental matters; was regarded highly as an economist, and a member of the Academy of Political Science.

JOHN EDMUND O'BRIEN, war veteran, attorney and legislator, died June 20, 1947, at Waukon, Iowa; born September 16, 1860, in Oneida county, New York, the son of Michael S. and Henrietta Alice O'Brien; came to Allamakee county, Iowa, with his parents in September 1870; devoted his activities to farming and in the rural schools until 1884, when he went to northwestern Iowa and South Dakota and engaged in herding cattle; worked as a carpen-

ter in various towns in north Iowa and in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in 1891-92, later going to Birmingham, Alabama, and Jackson, Mississippi.

He served as a guard at the Chicago Columbian exposition in 1892-93, and then went to the Midwinter exposition at Golden Gate park, San Francisco, installing Canadian exhibits in 1893-94. Returning to Waukon in 1894 he followed his trade as a carpenter; enlisted in Company I, of the 49th Iowa National guard; entered the U. S. Navy at Pensacola, Florida, on May 5, 1898, and served as a first-class petty officer; at the close of the war studied law at Drake University, Des Moines, and the State University, Iowa City, and in 1899 was admitted to the bar at Waukon.

In 1902 he married Decorah Grattan at Medford, Oklahoma, and they had two children, who survive him, Henry Grattan O'Brien, Des Moines, and Lt. Col. John Gordon O'Brien, Washington D.C. He served as a representative in the Forty-third General assembly, 1929-30; and was a member of the order of Knights of Pythias and a Republican.

CHARLES FRANKLIN CURTIS, educator and agriculturist, died at his home on the campus of Iowa State college at Ames, Iowa, July 30, 1947. Dean emeritus of the institution of which he was once a leader, he was generally regarded as "the best known man in the livestock world." Born at Nora, Illinois, December 12, 1863, the son of Franklin and Margaret Schmitz Curtis, he moved to Iowa with his parents when two years old; located in Story county and spent his childhood on a stock farm ten miles from the college where he was to have a notable career. Young Curtis paid his way through Iowa State college by raising cattle and teaching in the country schools; graduated from college in 1887 with a bachelor of science degree, when at twenty-seven years of age he was made manager of the college experiment station farms; received a master of science degree in 1894 and Michigan Agricultural college awarded him a doctor of philosophy degree in 1907; became dean of agriculture in 1897, succeeding James (Tama Jim) Wilson, when the latter was appointed secretary of agriculture by President McKinley; expanded and enlarged this important division of the college and developed the experiment station, securing large added appropriations and erecting new buildings, greatly adding to the student body; established the farmers short courses long so popular and valuable; originated the department of agricultural journalism; perfected crop rotation programs, studies of farm machinery, and methods of controlling crop pests; deeply interested in live stock feeding and breeding; a good judge of horses and cattle, a showman in the livestock ring, and exhibitor of Shorthorn cattle, Berkshire hogs, Percheron horses; judged livestock in every im-

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