

Necrology of Notable Iowans ...

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was Washington correspondent for the *Philadelphia Times* and several midwest newspapers; came to Dubuque, Iowa in 1897 as private secretary to Col. David B. Henderson, congressman from the Third Iowa District, also serving as assistant clerk to the Judiciary committee, 1897-1899; was speaker's clerk during Henderson's two terms as Speaker of the House, 1899-1903, continued in that capacity under Speaker Uncle Joseph Cannon, 1903-05, taking on the same duties for Benjamin P. Birdsall, who succeeded Col. Henderson, and for Congressman Wiley of New Jersey; served as secretary to Iowa's Senator William B. Allison from 1905 till the latter's death in 1908; married at Dubuque May 4, 1910 to Marian Kent Hurd, a recognized author and poetess, who was fatally injured in a traffic accident December 18, 1930; took up homesteading in Tripp County, South Dakota in 1908, became a small town merchant, developed real estate interests working for a land company, edited the *Winner, South Dakota Journal*, and was postmaster at McNeely; named a stenographer for the chairman of the Republican national committee in New York during the presidential campaign of William H. Taft, and was appointed clerk of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Iowa by Judge Henry T. Reed in November, 1912, beginning his duties and forty-five years in this position on December 12th; served as food administrator and member of Liberty Bond drives during World War I; came to be greatly admired and respected for his integrity, efficiency and helpfulness, and was honored by a special session of his court on the fortieth anniversary of his clerkship, December 13, 1952, attended by a number of judges and federal officials and over one hundred attorneys of the district; enjoyed horticulture before and after his retirement in 1957; was a past president of the National Association of Federal Court Clerks, the Dubuque Humane Society, a life member of El Kahir Shrine, and was active in the Elks, Masons, York Rite and Knights Templar; a daughter, Mrs. Carol Willis, died recently, but is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Barbara Lee Mueller, Madison, Wisconsin, Mrs. Silvia Rodenbach, Columbus, Ohio, and a son, Lee McNeely, Jr., Boston, New York.

RUSSELL A. PATRICK, farmer, cattle feeder and former state representative, died October 5, 1959 at Hawarden, Iowa; born on a farm near Hawarden December 6, 1899, the son of J. A. and Ima Hastings Patrick; graduated from the local high school, attended the University of Minnesota, and was an outstanding athlete in his youth; was a veteran of World War I; married Stella McAninch in 1922, who preceded him in death; became a farm owner and engaged in extensive farm and cattle feed-

ing operations the remainder of his life; participated in community affairs, serving as treasurer of the school board and township assessor for many years; was active in the rural electrification administration, being secretary of the Sioux Electric Cooperative association since its organization; a firm believer in local self-government, was successful Republican candidate for representative in the state legislature in 1946 and re-elected four consecutive terms, serving as chairman of the house appropriations committee, in addition to sitting on a number of other important committees; cited by the press and radio as the outstanding member of the house of representatives during the 1955 session for "his vigor, courage and desire to do the right thing despite his poor health"; retired from public life that year; was a past master of the Masonic lodge, a past noble grand of the Odd Fellows lodge, member of the American Legion, and belonged to the Methodist church; married Bernita Conway of Garner in 1953; survived by his wife and four of five children: Mrs. Charles Bickett, Akron, Ohio; Mrs. Jerry Skogman, Hawarden; Ronald Patrick, a student at Iowa State University; and Jon Patrick, Glenwood, Iowa.

WALTER H. BEAM, long-time state official, farmer, businessman and community leader, died at his home in Martensdale, Iowa January 3, 1960; born on a farm in Warren County, Illinois, September 4, 1875, the son of Orlando John and Emma Adelaide (Lofftus) Beam; went to country school for about two years, moved with his family to Avon, Illinois, and then five years later to Abingdon, Illinois, attending the North Abingdon high school two years, graduating at sixteen; worked as a printer for the local Abingdon paper while in high school and the old Hedding college there, 1892-3; also took a year at Illinois State Normal University at Normal, Illinois and began teaching in Illinois; came to Iowa and with his sister, Grace, helped to buy the family farm near the present town of Martensdale, teaching two winters at Middle Valley, one at Social Plains and one at Reddish, but rented the farm and returned to teach two more years in Illinois where the salaries were higher, before returning to Iowa to farm; took some three months work in the commercial department at Simpson College in Indianola and in 1903 helped to organize the Wick Field Association which conducted the forerunner of today's widely publicized state and national plowing matches; married to Katie Ruth Darling at Bedford, Iowa, December 28, 1910; resided in Indianola three years following his election as Warren County auditor in 1908, serving four years; began 27 years on the county board of education in 1913, giving much

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