

Iowa's Notable Dead

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LLB degree in 1901; practiced law in Davenport, served as city attorney from April, 1908, to December, 1912, and on January 1, of the following year became a judge of the Seventh judicial district; elected Iowa supreme court justice and served a six-year term from 1933 to 1939 inclusive; chief justice in 1936; appointed United States attorney for the southern district of Iowa in 1940 and retired in 1949; married to Mary I. Martin November 29, 1905, who survives him with three daughters and one son; active in church and community affairs; a Democrat, a member of the Catholic church and the Knights of Columbus, being master of the fourth degree for Iowa for many years.

PAUL W. SCHMIDT, legislator and steel contractor, died February 20, 1950, at Iowa City, Iowa; born in that city June 29, 1886, a son of George W. and Augusta Schmidt, and has always resided there; a graduate of St. Mary's high school, attended the engineering college, State University of Iowa in 1904-5, and Purdue University in Indiana; associated with his father in the ownership and management of the Iowa City Iron & Construction Co., which was sold to the Putnam interests; married June 4, 1913, in Iowa City, to Laura M. Englert, who survives him; served as a Democrat member of the Iowa state senate in 1932-1936, and assisted in the enactment of the law authorizing the establishment of the Iowa highway patrol; served as exalted ruler of the Elks in 1915, and for a time as president of the Iowa Elks association, as well as deputy of that body for southeastern Iowa district; a charter member of Marquette council, Knights of Columbus at Iowa City and the only Iowa Citian to become a member of Alhambra, the fifth degree organization of the Knights of Columbus; affiliated with the Chicago Athletic club, the Holy Name society and the Catholic church; surviving besides his wife are a son, Donald W., Iowa City; a daughter, Mrs. Joyce Dixon, and a grandson, Jeffrey Craig Dixon, both of Norfolk, Virginia.

DANIEL C. STEELSMITH, physician, public health official and legislator, died March 12, 1950, at Des Moines, Iowa; born June 11, 1877, in Grundy county, Iowa, and when five years old moved with his parents, to Arcadia, Ohio, where they resided for thirteen years, returning to Iowa, near Liscomb and Conrad; graduated from the medical division of the State University of Iowa in 1902, and practiced medicine fourteen years thereafter at Melvin, Osceola county, which he represented in the Iowa legislature in 1913 and 1915; received his degree in public health from Harvard

University in 1918, after which he spent a year in Alabama public health work and another year as an instructor in that subject at the University of Iowa; served seven years as commissioner of public health at Dubuque, and became Iowa State Commissioner of Health upon the death of Dr. Henry Albert in 1930; married June 29, 1904, to Maude Ralston, of Conrad, where in later years they have maintained a summer home, and have resided since Dr. Steelsmith's retirement; survived by the widow and two daughters, Mrs. Chestern Crum of Des Moines, and Mrs. Burton Jobe of Pasadena, California, two sons having preceded him in death.

WENDELL W. CORNWALL, attorney, legislator and official, died at Spencer, Iowa, February 9, 1950; born at Albion, Dane county, Wisconsin, February 10, 1857, and was educated at the Albion Academy there, and Alfred University, Alfred, New York, his law degree being from The University of Wisconsin; first practiced law at Huron and Leola, South Dakota; then located at Spencer as a young man and has since continuously practiced law there, more recently being a member of the firm of Cornwall & Cornwall, a partnership with his son; served as city attorney of Spencer, and a member of the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth General Assemblies of Iowa, chairman of the judiciary committee of the house of representatives, and a member of the legislative committee which had in charge the annotation and publication of the code of Iowa of 1897; the oldest former legislator of Iowa at the time of his death; elected reporter of the supreme court of Iowa at the general election in 1902 and re-elected in 1906; married in 1885 to Marion Wilson, who with three sons and two daughters survives him; a member of the Episcopal church, the I. O. O. F and a Republican.

IRA B. WILSON, composer, died at Los Angeles, Calif., April 3, 1950; born in Bedford, Iowa, in 1881; removed to Dayton, Ohio, where the greater part of his life was spent; became widely known in his profession, having more than 1,500,000 copies of his cantatas published, according to the Lorenz Publishing Company there; used the pen name of Fred B. Holton for some of his music, which was played throughout the world, his best known religious works being "Music of Christmas," "The Christmas Kind," "The First Easter," and "The Living Lord," and secular music including "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," "Rip Van Winkle," and "Childhood of Hiawatha;" survived by his wife, Louise, and son, Roger, in Dayton, and two other sons, Dr. Robert and Dr. Walter Wilson, both M.D.'s, of Los Angeles.

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