

Ralph Preston Howell

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RALPH PRESTON HOWELL was born in Washington Township, Johnson County, Iowa, December 12, 1870, and died at Iowa City, October 15, 1923. He attended country school until 1883 when he entered grade school in Iowa City, was graduated from Iowa City High School in 1890, and from the Law Department of the State University in 1893. He then entered the practice of law in Iowa City. In 1906 he was elected judge of the Eighth Judicial District composed of Johnson and Iowa counties and served from January, 1907, until he resigned May 23, 1918, because of his military duties. His military record which covered over thirty years, including active service in the Spanish-American War, War on the Mexican Border, and the World War, may be summarized as follows: When in high school in 1890 he enlisted in Company C, Third Regiment, Iowa National Guard, later transferred to Company I, Second Regiment; promoted to corporal in 1893 and to sergeant in 1894; commissioned major and judge advocate of the First Brigade in 1895; commissioned captain and commissary of subsistence of United States volunteers May 17, 1898, and mustered out September 10, 1898; commissioned captain of Company I, Fiftieth Regiment, Iowa National Guard, in 1900; major of the Fifty-fourth in 1904; colonel of the Fifty-fourth in 1909; major of the First Calvary in 1915; mustered into United States service as major of cavalry on July 19, 1916, and resigned March 1, 1917; commissioned major in the judge advocate general's section, United States Reserve, World War, December 6, 1917; served over seas from September 22, 1918, to May 5, 1919, and was discharged May 12, 1919; commissioned colonel of Fourth Infantry, Iowa National Guard, June 21, 1919.

NICHOLAS J. SCHRUP was born on a farm in Mosalem Township, Dubuque County, Iowa, August 23, 1853, and died in Dubuque November 11, 1924. His parents were John and Mary Schrup who immigrated to this country from Germany in 1852. Nicholas was educated in common school and in the St. Francis Normal School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, being graduated therefrom in 1874. He taught school at Mattoon, Illinois, and Cascade, Iowa, and from 1880 to 1883 served Dubuque County as deputy auditor, resigning in 1883 to become secretary and manager of the Dubuque Fire & Marine Insurance Company on its organization. He held that position until 1917 when he was elected president of the company. He was also president of the Pioneer Trust and Savings Bank, president of the American Trust & Savings Bank, a director in the Consolidated National Bank, as well as being active in many other Dubuque business concerns. He was a member of the city board of education for ten years, was a devout Roman Catholic, and a public spirited citizen. He was elected senator on the Democratic ticket in 1910, and re-elected in 1914, serving in the Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth, Thirty-sixth, and Thirty-seventh general assemblies, and took high rank as a legislator. He was a member of the Allison Memorial Commission in 1913.

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