

George D. Thompson

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brary, Memorial Union; at Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls—Dormitories, Gymnasium, Library; at Grinnell College, Grinnell—Dormitories, Library, Recitation Building; in Des Moines—Fort Des Moines Hotel, Chamberlain Hotel, First Methodist Church, Plymouth Congregational Church, Equitable Life Building, Liberty Building, Valley National Bank Building, Register and Tribune Building, Polk County Court House, Iowa Methodist Hospital, Broadlawns Tuberculosis Hospital; Hotel Ottumwa, Ottumwa; Hotel Hanford, Mason City; Sheldon-Munn, Ames; Jasper County Court House, Newton; Greene County Court House, Jefferson; Dallas County Court House, Adel; Pocahontas County Court House, Pocahontas. It has been said these buildings are his monuments. He was regarded as the leading architect of the state.

GEORGE S. ALLYN was born in Clinton, Illinois, March 9, 1847, and died in Mount Ayr, Iowa, July 17, 1928. His parents were Henry and Emily E. (Forman) Allyn. George spent his boyhood in various towns to which his father, a Methodist minister, was called to preach, and during that time obtained a fair education in public schools. When eighteen years old he began teaching school in winters and working on farms in summers, and the next year, 1866, removed to Ringgold County, Iowa, continuing the same work. In 1872 he was elected clerk of the District Court, and was twice re-elected, serving six years. He served two years as postmaster at Mount Ayr during the Hayes administration, but resigned and engaged in the real estate, abstract and loan business with C. B. Morris. In 1880 they organized the Mount Ayr Bank, and Mr. Allyn was either cashier or president of that institution until 1915. He served as a member of the Mount Ayr City Council, and as a member of the local school board. In 1895 he was elected senator, and was re-elected in 1899, serving in the Twenty-sixth, Twenty-sixth Extra, Twenty-seventh, Twenty-eighth, and Twenty-ninth general assemblies. In 1904 he was elected by the General Assembly a member of the Board of Trustees of the Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts and served until the duties of the trustees were taken over by the State Board of Education in 1909. In 1918 he was elected representative, and was re-elected in 1920, serving in the Thirty-eighth and Thirty-ninth general assemblies. He was a prominent lay member of the Methodist Episcopal church, was useful to his community in numberless ways, and filled his positions of honor and trust with fidelity.

GEORGE D. THOMPSON was born in Bureau County, Illinois, June 12, 1867, and died in Webster City, Iowa, February 25, 1928. His parents, Hiram E. and Mary L. (Studley) Thompson, removed with their family from Illinois to a farm in Hamilton County Iowa, in 1873. The son attended country school, Webster City High School, and Iowa State

Teachers College at Cedar Falls, from which institution he was graduated in 1890. He then adopted teaching as a profession, and for six years was principal of the schools at Rippey, Greene County. While teaching he read law and was admitted to the practice in 1898. However, for two years he followed banking, being president of the Lehigh Valley Bank at Lehigh. In 1900 he removed to Webster City and with J. H. Richard formed the law firm of Richard & Thompson. Two years later Mr. Richard went on the bench after which Mr. Thompson practiced alone. When the Thirty-seventh General Assembly in 1917 provided for an additional judge in the Eleventh Judicial District, Governor Harding appointed Mr. Thompson. He was regularly elected thereafter as his terms expired, and was serving at the time of his death.

EDWARD M. CASSADY was born at Painesville, Lake County, Ohio, September 25, 1848, and died at Whiting, Iowa, February 1, 1928. He attended common school during his youth and in February, 1864, enlisted in Company A, Tenth United States Infantry, at Cleveland and served in the Army of the Potomac until the close of the war when he was transferred to Minnesota in the Indian country where he served the remainder of his three years' enlistment. He removed to Fremont County, Iowa, the fall of 1867, and to Monona County the spring of 1868, where he became a farm hand, but soon bought some wild land and began breaking and farming it. He farmed until 1880 when he removed to Whiting and formed a partnership with Will C. Whiting where they became dealers in general merchandise, lumber, implements, and grain. Mr. Cassady assisted in founding the Whiting Bank of which he became president. At the same time he continued to conduct very extensive farming operations, the breeding of Hereford cattle, and cattle feeding. He held several township offices and in 1906 was elected representative, and was re-elected in 1908, serving in the Thirty-second and Thirty-third general assemblies. He was father of Raymond W. Cassady, Iowa's first secretary of agriculture, who died in 1924.

RALPH OTTO was born in Iowa City, Iowa, July 18, 1876, and died in Iowa City, February 24, 1928. His parents were Max and Katherine (McInnery) Otto. His early education was obtained in the public schools of Iowa City. In 1898 he obtained his A. B. degree from the Liberal Arts Department of the State University of Iowa, and in 1900 his LL. B. degree from the Law Department. He then entered the practice in Iowa City, but relinquished it in 1902 and acted as court reporter for District Judge Byington from 1902 to 1906, returning to practice at the end of that time. In 1909 he was elected mayor of Iowa City, serving two years. In 1910 he became an instructor, and in 1911 a professor in the Law Department of the University, continuing in that capacity until 1918 when, on the resignation of Judge R. P. Howell in May, 1918, he was appointed by Governor Harding a judge of the

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