

Robert H. Spencer

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Although having no desire for political preferment, he was devotedly interested in the welfare of the city of Des Moines, and contributed liberally to that cause with his energy and talent. He was a graceful and eloquent public speaker and presided at many of the city's most important functions. He was a charter member of the Greater Des Moines Committee and was its president at three different times. He headed drives in the city for the Y. M. C. A., Drake University, Public welfare, and the Chamber of Commerce. After the sale of the *Capital* February 12, 1927, he devoted himself to the interests of the Young Realty Company. He was the last survivor of the immediate family of Senator Young.

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ROBERT H. SPENCER was born in Perry County, Ohio, September 20, 1840, and died in Algona, Iowa, February 16, 1930. He grew to manhood in the neighborhood of his birthplace, removed with his parents to Dane County, Wisconsin, and engaged in farming. In November, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Tenth Wisconsin Infantry, became a captain and served three years, was mustered out and re-enlisted in the Forty-seventh Wisconsin Infantry, in which he was made lieutenant colonel, and served in that position to the end of the war. In 1868 he engaged in business in Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin, but in 1870 removed to Algona, Iowa, and entered mercantile business there. In 1872 he was appointed postmaster and served in that position thirteen years, or until 1885. That year he was elected representative from the Kossuth-Palo Alto-Emmet District. In 1893 he was elected county treasurer of Kossuth County, was re-elected two years later and served four years. He was prominent in the business, political and social life of his town and county.

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CORNELIUS G. MCCARTHY was born at Toledo, Ontario, Canada, January 29, 1843, and died in Denver, Colorado, April 26, 1930. His parents were Florence and Elizabeth (Moore) McCarthy. He was educated in common schools of the vicinity of his birth. In 1864 he removed to Story County, Iowa, and followed school-teaching a few years. In 1867 he located at Ames and engaged in farming and stock raising, and for many years was connected with the Central Importing and Breeding Company, which carried on a large business in importing French and English horses. In 1881 he was elected auditor of Story County, and was three times re-elected, serving from 1882 to 1889 inclusive. In 1889 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-third General Assembly. In 1892 he was elected auditor of state and was twice re-elected, serving from 1893 to 1898 inclusive. He was one of the organizers of the Iowa Savings and Loan Association and for many years served as its president. In about 1910 he retired from active business and removed to Denver. He was an efficient public official and was for years influential in the councils of the Republican party of the state.

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