

## Parley Sheldon

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# ANNALS OF IOWA

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## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

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### NOTABLE DEATHS

WILLIAM E. ALBERT was born on Washington Prairie, Allamakee County, Iowa, March 19, 1868, and died at Lansing June 25, 1932. Burial was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Lansing. His parents were George W. and Agnes (Gilbert) Albert. The family removed to Lansing during 1868 and there William E. grew up, attended public school and was graduated from Lansing High School. Soon thereafter he went to Keokuk, where he learned the watchmaking and jewelry trade. The several following years were spent by him perfecting himself in the jewelry and watchmaking arts, working in West Virginia, and in La Crosse, Wisconsin. He returned to Lansing and established himself there in business, which he followed until his public duties required his time. He served as a member of Lansing Town Council, and was for years a member of Lansing School Board. From boyhood he was interested in wild life and the forests, streams and lakes of his native region, and gradually became an ardent conservationist. He became connected with the State Fish and Game Department, being a deputy warden for his portion of the state from 1909 to 1914. From 1915 to 1919 he was superintendent of the Mississippi River District for that department. On April 11, 1919, Governor Harding appointed him state fish and game warden, and he was still serving in that position at the time of his death, having administered it longer than any of his predecessors. He was admirably qualified for the position and his personal qualities endeared him to the public.

PARLEY SHELDON was born near Cleveland, Ohio, June 7, 1844, and died in Ames, Iowa, May 22 1932. His parents were Parley and Elvira (Litch) Sheldon. He lived on his father's farm until the Civil War, when he enlisted in the One Hundred and Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers. He was honorably discharged in August, 1865, returned home and gave his attention to the breeding of standard trotting stock. In 1874 he removed to Cedar County, Iowa, and in 1875 purchased and located on 330 acres of land adjoining and south of the then new town of Ames, where he engaged in breeding horses and feeding cattle and hogs and farming. In 1882 he became a resident of Ames and bought and shipped livestock. In 1890 he purchased the Story County Bank, which ran as a private bank until 1917, when it was reorganized as the Story County Trust and Savings Bank. In 1929 he retired from banking. One year after he became a resident of Ames, or in 1883, he was elected a member of the Town Council. In 1884 he was elected mayor, and although not serving continuously, he was mayor for eighteen years,

ending with April 3, 1916. In 1885 President Cleveland appointed him postmaster and he served until 1890, and was again postmaster from 1894 to 1898. From 1900 to 1908, and again later for many years, he was chairman of the Story County Democratic Central Committee. In 1902 he was the Democratic candidate for Congress in the Seventh District, being defeated by J. A. T. Hull. In 1904 he was the Democratic candidate for presidential elector in the Seventh District, and in 1910 was the Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor. In 1912 he was a delegate-at-large to the Democratic National Convention, as he was to the convention of 1920. He was a Seventh District delegate to the 1924 national convention of his party. He achieved noted success as a business man and became of great service to his community. The principal municipal improvements of Ames were secured under his administrations as mayor, or largely by his helpfulness. He was a leader in promoting highway building, in building and sustaining the Ames Chautauqua, in aiding the State College and in numerous other enterprises that were beneficial to Ames and to the state. He belonged to numerous organizations, was president of the Iowa League of Municipalities in 1914, and president of the Iowa Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in 1920. For years he was Ames's most noted man, and was held in affection by the public for his integrity, unselfishness and public service.

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WILLIAM DAYTON BOIES was born in Boone County, Illinois, January 3, 1857, and died in Sheldon, Iowa, May 31 1932. Burial was in East Lawn Cemetery, Sheldon. His parents were William Dayton Boies, Sr., a brother of Governor Horace Boies, and Sarah (Bugbee) Boies. He attended rural schools near his birthplace, and later, grade and high schools in Belvidere, Illinois. The family removed to near Quasqueton, Buchanan County, Iowa, in 1873. He was graduated from the Law Department of the State University of Iowa in 1880, was admitted to the bar in 1881 and began practice at Sheldon with George W. Roth as Boies & Roth. During the following thirty years he built up an extensive practice in the state and federal courts, achieving outstanding success as a lawyer. For ten years he was a member of the local school board. In 1890 he was a candidate for district judge, running on the Democratic ticket. In 1896 he was the Democratic nominee for attorney general of the state. January 1, 1913, he became district judge by appointment by Governor Carroll to fill a vacancy, and in 1914 he was elected to the same position. He resigned the judgeship in March, 1918, to become a candidate for the Republican nomination for Congress in the Eleventh District. He was nominated and elected, as he was in the four succeeding congressional elections, serving from March 4, 1919, to March 4, 1929. He stood high in the estimation of the people of his district and doubtless would have remained in Congress much longer except for failing health which prevented him from again being a candidate.

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