

William R. Orchard

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WILLIAM R. ORCHARD, newspaper editor, died at his home in Council Bluffs October 11, 1937. He was born January 5, 1867, in Green County, Iowa, the son of Philip and Mary Jane (Ford) Orchard. He began his newspaper career with the Glidden Sentinel in 1878. After a period of years elsewhere, he returned in the 1890's to become a partner, and later the sole owner, of the Glidden Graphic. In 1910 he went to Council Bluffs as editor of the Nonpareil, in which capacity he remained until his death. Mr. Orchard served as a member of the State Printing Board Commission from 1923 to 1931. He also had taken a prominent part in the hard roads program in the state.

JAY SIGMUND, poet and writer, died October 19, 1937 at Waubeck, Iowa, from injuries received in a hunting accident, burial was at Central City, Iowa. The son of Herman and Sarah Jane (Bruce) Sigmund, he was born on December 11, 1885, at Waubeck, Iowa. A resident of Cedar Rapids, where he was engaged in insurance business, Mr. Sigmund's reputation rested largely upon his varied writings in verse, drama, and the short story, having had works published almost continuously since the publication of his first book of verse, "Frescoes", in 1921. He was a member of the Midland Author's Society and of the Iowa Press and Authors' Society.

LOUIS JOSIAH LEECH, former state commander of the G. A. R., pioneer resident of Cedar County, and veteran practicing physician died at Madison, Wisconsin, September 23, 1937, from injuries received from an accident suffered while attending the national convention of the G. A. R. in that city. Burial was at West Branch. Born of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Leech, August 3, 1846, he accompanied his parents in their migration to Iowa in 1855. Throughout the Civil War he served with Company B, 2nd Iowa Cavalry. He was graduated from the Medical College of the State University in 1881, and commenced his practice in West Branch in March of 1882. As a representative of Cedar County, he served in the 29th, 30th, and 31st General Assemblies of Iowa. In 1934 he was elected state commander of the Iowa Department of the G. A. R. At the time of his death he was the last surviving member of the Civil War in Cedar County.

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