

Horace Mann Towner

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NOTABLE DEATHS

WELKER GIVEN, journalist and public official, died March 6, 1938, in Clinton, Iowa. He was born in Millersburg, Ohio, May 17, 1853, the son of Judge Josiah and Elizabeth (Arnor) Given. He came to Iowa in 1868. He began his newspaper career with the *Iowa City Republican*, later was associated with the *Des Moines Register*, the *Des Moines Capital*, the Peoria, Illinois, *Transcript*, and the *Marshalltown Times-Republican*. It was while editor and publisher of the latter paper that he launched the agitation which resulted in the mullet law of 1894 and the absent voter's ballot law of 1895. After serving in several capacities in the United States Treasury Department, Mr. Given later became secretary of the Iowa Employment Liability Commission, and later still, secretary of the Iowa Industrial Commission. His first political position was that of secretary to Governor Buren Sherman, 1882-86. He was the author of several books, and a member of the Iowa Press and Author's Society.

CHARLES BUNDY WILSON, university professor, died in Iowa City February 21, 1938. He was born in Syracuse, New York, May 9, 1861, the son of Willis and Melissa (Van Buren-Bundy) Wilson. Educated in the public schools of Syracuse, he received an A.B. from Cornell University in 1884, and an A.M. in 1886. In 1885-86 he studied in Leipzig and Paris on a travelling fellowship from Cornell, in 1897 he studied at Berlin, and in 1907 he again studied in Germany. After two years of teaching at Cornell University he came to the State University of Iowa in 1888 as head of the German department, a position he held until 1932 when he resigned to become senior professor. He was the author of numerous texts and a frequent contributor to literary magazines, he was associate editor of the *Philological Quarterly*. In 1900 he was president of the central division of the Modern Language Association of America, secretary of that division from 1905 to 1915, and was vice president in 1901 and again in 1916. He also was a past president of the Iowa branch of the American Folk Lore Society.

HORACE MANN TOWNER, former member of Congress and former governor general of Porto Rico, died November 23, 1937, in Corning, Iowa. He was born October 23, 1855, the son of John Loop and Keziah (Brownell) Towner, in Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois. Educated in the high school at Belvidere, and at the University of Chicago, he took his law work at the Union College of Law. He was admitted to the bar in 1877, settling in Corning in 1880. In 1890 he was elected judge of the Third Judicial District of Iowa, which position he continued to hold until January 1, 1911, resigning to enter the sixty-second Congress, to

which he had been elected the preceding fall. He served the eighth Congressional district continuously from 1911 until April 1, 1923, when he was appointed governor general of Porto Rico, serving in that capacity until 1929. Mr. Towner was president of the Iowa Bar Association 1905-06, a lecturer at the State University of Iowa on constitutional law from 1902 to 1911. He was much interested in music and literature, and has to his credit several original musical scores.

MRS. FRANCES EDMUND WHITLEY, conservationist and club-woman, died at Webster City, December 30, 1937. She was born May 7, 1862, at Rowlesburg, Virginia, the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. L. N. (Guyon) Call. She came to Iowa in 1867, was educated at Cedar Valley Junior College and by private tutors, and was married in 1883. She was president of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs 1915-17, and took a prominent part in women's activities during the war years as a member of the state food administration, vice-chairman of the Liberty Loan drive. An outstanding conservationist, she was a member of the American Forestry Association, the Izaak Walton League, and the Garden Club of America, of which she served as chairman of the Iowa unit after 1930. She was a frequent contributor to magazines of conservation and out-door articles.

ULYSSES GRANT WHITNEY, supreme court reporter and code editor of Iowa, died in Des Moines, March 7, 1938. He was born July 10, 1864, on a farm near Union, Hardin County, Iowa, the son of Mr. and Mrs. (Maria Row) Whitney. He was graduated from the Drake University school of law in 1890, and began practice in Sioux City in the same year. He was justice of the peace from 1892 until his election as County Attorney for Woodbury County in 1901; he continued in the latter office until his election to the Thirty-fourth General Assembly of Iowa, serving in the following legislative session as well. In 1914 he was appointed reporter to the Supreme Court; in 1919 he was made a member of the Iowa code commission, and later made the editor. He was serving as supreme court reporter and code editor at the time of his death.

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