

Oliver James Fay

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MATTHEW HENRY CALDERWOOD, farmer, banker and legislator, died at Eldridge, Iowa, May 22, 1945; born May 4, 1863, in Winfield township, now a part of Sheridan township, Scott county, Iowa, the son of Henry and Nancy Ann Calderwood. The father came to America from Ireland in 1847 and for one year operated a sawmill at LeClaire before moving to the farm. A rural resident all his life, Mr. Calderwood served his community in many capacities, a champion of improved farming, better roads and good schools; attended rural schools in his youth and studied one year at Northern Indiana Normal school, Valparaiso, Indiana; married Sarah Ritchie Brownlie of Long Grove, Iowa, on September 20, 1887, and they went upon the farm at Eldridge, where his life was spent; aided in the organizing of the Eldridge Savings bank in 1889, serving as vice-president until 1901 when he became president and continued until 1931; was Scott county's representative in the Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth and Thirty-first General Assemblies; first secretary of the Scott county Farmer's Institute, also secretary of the Eldridge Mutual Telephone company since 1902, and director and past president of the Mississippi Valley Fair and Exposition; a former justice of the peace and president of the local school board for many years; a member of the Christian church and numerous fraternal societies. Six children survive him, a son and a daughter residing at the home in Eldridge.

OLIVER JAMES FAY, physician and surgeon, died in Des Moines, Iowa, June 2, 1945; born in Postville, Iowa, July 2, 1874; graduated from Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, in 1898, and received his medical degree from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the University of Illinois in 1902; after internship at Augustana hospital, Chicago, Illinois, came to Des Moines in 1904; married in the same year to Helen Knapp, of Charles, Iowa; became eminent as a surgeon and practiced his profession in Des Moines forty-one years; built a noteworthy medical library of 1,500 volumes which he presented to Iowa Methodist hospital at Des Moines as a nucleus for additional gifts from the profession; achieved leadership in Des Moines medical circles; served as president of the Iowa State Medical society in 1924 and a member of the trustees since that time; was a past president of the Polk county Medical society, a staff member of the Iowa Methodist hospital and also of the Broadlawns general hospital; became chief district surgeon for the Rock Island railroad, consultant surgeon for the Burlington and Northwestern railroads, and retired medical director of the Northwestern Bell Telephone company; served as medical director of the Iowa Industrial Commissioner from the date of its establishment in 1913 until his death; was a fellow of the American Medical association, fellow and charter member of the Amer-

ican College of Surgeons of the United States and Canada, a member of founders of the American Board of Surgery, a past president of the Northwest Conference of Medical Service, and a member of the Western Surgical society, the American Association of Railway Surgeons and the American Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons; was a Mason and various local clubs, and is survived by his wife and two daughters.

WILLIAM H. GEMMILL, educator and public official, died at Osceola, Iowa, May 22, 1945; born at White Lake, in Ontario, Canada, March 14, 1871, and brought to the United States in infancy, his parents removing that year to a farm in Keokuk county, Iowa, near South English; attended rural schools and graduated from the South English high school in 1889; entered Iowa State college at Ames and graduated in 1894, with degree of Bachelor of Science; during same years taught several terms of county schools; took educational work in history and economics in Drake university, Des Moines college and Highland Park college, receiving his Master of Arts degree from the latter in 1911; served as principal of the schools at Gibson, Iowa, two and one-half years, of the schools at Mechanicsville, Iowa, two years; was county superintendent of schools of Keokuk county, Iowa, four years, superintendent of schools at Dallas Center from 1901 to 1911, superintendent of the Carroll, Iowa, schools from 1914 to 1917, and resigned to become secretary of the Iowa State Board of Education, which position he held 23 years, resigning in 1936 and was appointed superintendent of documents for Iowa State College at Ames; married in 1895 to Birdia D. Richards, who survives, with a son, Dr. John Gemmill, a member of the faculty of City College, New York; and three daughters, Mrs. James Davenport, Osceola, Iowa; Mrs. Robert Morris, Des Moines, and Mrs. W. H. Brown, Burlington. Mr. Gemmill was a Republican, a member of the Methodist church, a Mason and an Odd Fellows; also to National Education and Iowa State Teachers Association.

GEIS BOTSFORD, former newspaper man and realty broker, died at his home in Alburg, Vermont, May 20, 1945; born in Fort Dodge, Iowa, April 9, 1869, son of Austin N. Botsford, attorney; spent his entire life in Iowa until removing to Vermont five years ago; educated in the Fort Dodge schools, and in 1890 as a young man became a reporter upon the *Sioux City Journal*; came to Des Moines 46 years ago and first was police reporter upon the *Des Moines Leader*; married Stella VanPelt in 1889; served as secretary of the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce from 1908 to 1916; became active in real estate circles and president of the Des Moines Realty Board in 1929 and chairman of the taxation com-

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