

George Houts Ragsdale

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land trips to Colorado by ox teams before the Union Pacific Railroad was built, hauling shelled corn, bacon, flour, etc. The farmers of Audubon County furnished him these provisions, and the oxen and the wagons, and waited for their pay until his return from the trips. He was elected treasurer of Audubon County in 1869 and was re-elected in 1871, serving four years, was in real estate business from 1874 to 1876, and in 1876 started a private bank at Exira known as the Audubon County Bank. Two years later when the county seat was removed to Audubon he transferred his banking business there, and in 1893 organized it as the First National Bank of Audubon, of which he was president for many years. He was very successful in business, was helpful to his community, took an interest in public matters and in every good movement, and was a real builder of society and of the state.

HERBERT B. RUGH was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 16, 1879, and died in an automobile accident near Hazel Green, Wisconsin, July 11, 1924. Burial was at Cedar Rapids. His parents were George Stopher and Rilla Watt Rugh. He was reared in Cedar Rapids and was graduated from Washington High School there. He later studied in the University of Chicago, and the Chicago Art Institute. He enlisted in the Spanish-American War on April 26, 1898, as a private in Company C, Forty-ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He was in service in Cuba from December 21, 1898, to April 4, 1899, and was mustered out at Savannah, Georgia, May 13, 1899. He was engaged in business as an architect at Winnipeg, Canada, when the World War began and enlisted on December 4, 1914, in the Second Field Troop of Canadian Engineers; was commissioned second lieutenant January 18, 1915; was transferred to the Forty-fourth Battalion Canadian Infantry May 30, 1915; was in training at Camp Hughes, Canada, and later at Bramshott Camp, England; began service in France August 11, 1916, was promoted to captain May 15, 1917, and received his discharge June 10, 1919. He participated in operations on the Ypres Salient, in the Battle of the Somme, at Vimy Ridge, Lens, and many other places. His battalion was practically wiped out by German attacks, and he was the only one of its original complement of officers left when the armistice was signed. He received certificates signed by General Haig and by General Ashton and others thanking him for his bravery and his distinguished services. After the war he resumed his work as an architect, this time in Cedar Rapids, where he became quite successful.

GEORGE HOUTS RAGSDALE was born near Spencer, Fairfax County, Indiana, December 13, 1844, and died at the home of his daughter in Evanston, Illinois, March 13, 1924. Burial was in Des Moines, Iowa. When six years old he with his parents, Daniel and Elizabeth Lindsay Ragsdale, immigrated to Van Buren County, Iowa. When he was eleven years old his mother died and afterward for several years he worked

out for his board and clothes in Lucas County, attending school three months each winter. On October 16, 1861, he enlisted in Company C, Thirteenth Iowa Infantry. On April 6, 1862, at Shiloh, he was severely wounded in the arm. He was in many important battles, was promoted to second corporal March 1, 1865, and was mustered out July 21, 1865, at Louisville, Kentucky. He then attended Cornell College, Mount Vernon, for about three years and in 1867 became half owner of the *Chariton Patriot*, and later became sole owner. He served as postmaster at Chariton for four years and was for a time a secret agent in the Pension Department. In 1883 he purchased the *Le Mars Sentinel*, which he conducted with ability and success. He added book-binding to his printing business and, having been elected state printer, took as a partner E. D. Chassell, the firm being Ragsdale & Chassell. For a few years he retained his interest in the Le Mars business. His services as state printer were from 1889 to 1894. In Des Moines he acquired the Iowa Printing Company, and from this in 1898 organized the Iowa Lithographing Company, with which he was connected until his death, conducting it with his two sons, Edwin G. and Harry B.

ARTHUR SARGENT HAZELTON was born at Plymouth, New Hampshire, November 7, 1855, and died at Council Bluffs, Iowa, April 4, 1924. His parents were Charles and Sarah D. (Sargent) Hazelton. He attended Kimball Union Academy at Meriden, New Hampshire, and Dartmouth College, being graduated from the latter in 1881. He read law for a time in the office of Blair, Burling & Adams, the senior member of the firm being United States Senator Henry W. Blair. Alternating between reading law and teaching, he removed to Council Bluffs in September, 1884, taught one year, read law a year in the office of Jacob Sims, was admitted to practice in 1886 and became a member of the firm of Mayne & Hazelton. He was chairman of the Pottawattamic County Republican Central Committee seven years, was city solicitor of Council Bluffs from 1892 to 1898, was elected senator in 1899 and served in the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth general assemblies, was appointed postmaster by President McKinley in June, 1902, reappointed by President Roosevelt in 1906, and by President Taft in 1910, and served until 1914.

RALPH PRINGLE was born at Pana, Illinois, October 15, 1872, and died at Red Oak, Iowa, April 7, 1924. He was with his parents in their removal to Clarinda, Iowa, in 1887, and to Red Oak in 1891. He was graduated from Monmouth College in 1893 and from Yale University in 1894, was admitted to practice law in Iowa in 1896 and began at Red Oak in association, although not in partnership, with J. M. Junkin, which association continued until Mr. Junkin's death in 1913. Mr. Pringle attained a large practice and also was interested in many other activities. He was a member of the local library board,

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