

Benjamin Franklin Osborn

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Moines Union Railway Company, a bookkeeper for the Prouty-Pratt Company and a salesman for Arbuckle Brothers. In 1898 he organized an insurance agency. From 1907 he was for five years with the liability department of the Travelers Insurance Company at Milwaukee. Returning to Des Moines he became secretary of the Iowa Bond and Casualty Company, and was later with the Southern Surety Company. From 1926 he was three years secretary of the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce. In 1930 he became representative of the Independence Indemnity Company of Philadelphia. He was active in public welfare work and in civic and fraternal organizations. He belonged to the Loyal Legion and to the Sons of Veterans. His father was General James Madison Tuttle, one of Iowa's most distinguished Civil War veterans, a hero of Fort Donelson and of Shiloh. The son did much to maintain the memory of his father's character and prestige. For several years he with James B. Weaver, Jr. and P. J. Mills, sons of three colonels of the Second Iowa Infantry, General Tuttle, General James B. Weaver, and Colonel Noah W. Mills, on each returning February 15, the anniversary of the charge on Fort Donelson, invited all the surviving members of the Second Iowa Infantry to a banquet. This was discontinued only a few years ago when the last survivors of the regiment had passed on.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN OSBORN was born in Westville, Indiana, July 17, 1854, and died in a hospital in Carroll, Iowa, December 27, 1932. Burial was at Rippey, Iowa. His parents were William and Charlotte (Long) Osborn. He received his high school and academic instruction in Indiana and came with his widowed mother and the family to a farm near Perry, Iowa, in 1870. He attended Iowa Business College in Des Moines for a time, and entered Des Moines University from which he graduated with the degree of B. A. in 1876, and some years later received the degree of M. A., from the same institution. For one year he was in the grain and stock business in Perry, but took up the study of medicine and pharmacy and in 1878 established a drug store at Rippey which he ran over fifty-four years, or until his death. In the early years he not only put up medicine, but acted as dentist, veterinarian, and embalmer and funeral director holding state certificates for each of these vocations. He was mayor of Rippey at different times, was a member of Greene County Board of Supervisors from 1883 for several years, was a member of the Board of Regents of the State University of Iowa from 1891 to 1896; and a member of the Board of Trustees of Iowa State Normal School, Cedar Falls, from 1902 to 1909. He was an active Republican and attended many party conventions as well as other conventions, was a charter member of the Iowa Pharmaceutical Society, and a member of the Iowa Academy of Science. One of the many fine things he did for his community was to manage for years the Tri-county Old Settlers Association which met every summer in a grove near the corners of Boone and Greene

and the north edge of Dallas counties. He was much interested in local and state history, and had a great collection of geological specimens and other treasures.

WILLIAM IGNATIUS BRANAGAN was born near Clermont, Fayette County, Iowa, January 29, 1863, and died in Emmetsburg December 7, 1932. Burial was in St. John's Cemetery, Emmetsburg. In 1875 the family removed to a homestead near Lawler, Chickasaw County. He acquired a good common school education, taught school a few years, and matriculated at Sacred Heart University, Watertown, Wisconsin. Before finishing his liberal arts course he worked for some time in the Pullman shops near Chicago, then again taught school at Lawler. In 1885 he purchased an interest in the *Emmetsburg Democrat* and in 1887 became sole owner and editor, continuing in that position until his death, although for the last several years he had associated with him his son, William T. Branagan. He was successful in his publishing business, was for years a director in the Emmetsburg National Bank, was one of the organizers of the Emmetsburg Telephone Company, and was interested in various other local enterprises. For ten years he was a member of the Emmetsburg City Council. He was postmaster at Emmetsburg during Cleveland's last term, was a delegate to three Democratic national conventions and was a member of the Democratic State Committee for eight years commencing in 1912. He was one of the outstanding editors of the state, was a member of the National Editorial Association and of the Iowa Press Association and attended many meetings of both organizations. He was strong in his convictions, but considerate of those with whom he differed. He was a prominent lay member of the Catholic church.

HOMER A. MILLER was born in La Porte, Indiana, November 13, 1860, and died in Beverly Hills, California, September 15, 1932. His parents were Benjamin F. and Rebecca (Whitlock) Miller. The family removed to Webster City, Iowa, in 1867 where the father established the first bank in that town. Homer passed through the public schools there, read law two years in the office of Wesley Martin, but gave up its further study and entered his father's bank. In 1882 he established a private bank at Eagle Grove under the name of B. F. Miller & Son. In 1886 it was changed to the First National Bank of Eagle Grove with Homer A. Miller as president. It was claimed he was the youngest national bank president in the United States. He remained its president until 1899, but from 1893 to 1899 he was also bank examiner under State Auditor McCarthy. In 1899 he removed to Des Moines and became cashier of the Des Moines Savings Bank. In 1907 it was taken over by the Iowa National Bank and not long thereafter Mr. Miller became its president. In 1917 the Iowa National also took over the Citizens National Bank. Mr. Miller remained president of the Iowa National until his retirement in 1928 when he removed to

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