

Oscar O. Rock

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taught country school, then was deputy treasurer of Humboldt County in 1880-83, but resigned to enter employment in the Humboldt State Bank. For a few years he was employed in banks at Livermore and at Pilot Mound, but in 1888 returned to the Humboldt State Bank as cashier, which position he retained until 1917 when he retired. He was mayor of Humboldt six years, was president of Humboldt County Fair Association, and in 1894 became a director in the Iowa State Agricultural Society, being advanced to the vice presidency in 1898, and to the presidency of the State Board of Agriculture in 1900, as the first president under the new organization. In 1914 he was elected representative, and was re-elected in 1916, serving in the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh general assemblies.

OSCAR O. ROCK was born near Mount Carroll, Illinois, September 26, 1869, and died at Rochester, Minnesota, January 11, 1924. Burial was at Logan, Iowa. His parents were George M. and Almira C. Rock. The family removed to Harrison County, Iowa, in 1878. He commenced service as a peace officer as constable at Little Sioux, Harrison County. He was appointed deputy sheriff of Harrison County in 1904, was elected sheriff in 1906, and by reason of re-elections, served eight years as sheriff. In July, 1915, Governor Clarke appointed him a special state agent for the detection of crime, working under the direction of the attorney-general's office, and in January, 1917, Governor Harding reappointed him. On July 1, 1921, when the newly created department, the State Bureau of Identification, went into operation, he was made its chief. His qualities of ability as a detective and as a peace officer united with his good character made possible his remarkable success in this difficult field.

WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR was born near Hartsville, Indiana, February 8, 1847, and died at Bloomfield, Iowa, September 11, 1923. His parents were Albert and Sarah (Wann) Taylor. In 1858 the family removed to Pulaski, Davis County, Iowa. He attended Troy Academy for a time and Keokuk Medical College for a year. He tried to enlist in the Union Army but was rejected because of his slight size and youth, but he joined the home guards and took part in repelling guerrillas. Soon after the war he entered the employ of Z. Cannon, a merchant of Pulaski, and later became a partner. In 1876 he was elected on the Democratic ticket as clerk of courts and was twice re-elected, serving six years. He then engaged in general merchandising at Bloomfield. He held several local offices and in 1887 was elected senator, serving in the Twenty-second and Twenty-third general assemblies. In 1893 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-fifth General Assembly. In 1892 he associated with Baptist Hardy in the clothing business. A few years later Mr. Hardy withdrew and Mr. Taylor's son, W. B. Taylor, joined the firm, which was then known as Taylor & Son.

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