W. F. "Mont" Hunter

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Iowa counties; was an unsuccessful Democratic candidate for
governor in 1920, and for United States senator in 1922; served
as committeeman from Iowa on the Democratic national committee
from 1924 to 1928; elected governor of Iowa in November 1932
and re-elected in 1934; elected United States senator from Iowa
in 1936, and defeated for re-election in 1942; was delegate at
large to the national Democratic convention in 1940; appointed
deputy administrator of the Office of Price Administration in
February 1943, but resigned the following November, remaining
since in Washington representing various interests. The senator's
father, James Herring, died at the age of 88 in February 1945,
having resided some years at the Herring home in Des Moines.

W. F. (Mont) Hunter, newspaperman and 45 years an Iowa
editor, died September 12, 1945, at Webster City, Iowa; born in
Eldora, Iowa, June 9, 1862, son of J. D. Hunter, a pioneer editor
who came to Iowa in 1856 from Indiana, as owner and editor of
the Eldora Sentinel, later residing at Iowa Falls. The family
moved to Webster City in 1866, the father purchasing the Hamilton
County Freeman from Charles Aldrich, its founder; and there
"Mont" Hunter entered upon his life's work at fifteen years of
age, becoming first a printer, then a reporter, and finally an
editor. His grandfather, W. A. Hunter, at the age of twenty
had founded an abolition newspaper in Indiana and operated a
"station" on the "underground railroad" to help slaves escape
into Canada, until those of the opposition sentiment wrecked his
newspaper plant in 1857, when he joined his son in Iowa. In
1900 "Mont" Hunter succeeded his father in the editorial chair
and since continuously has served his community and developed
into a leader in his profession in the state. During his forty-five
years' work upon the one paper he saw twelve other weeklies and
six daily newspapers launched in Webster City, and only twice
did his paper change its name; first in 1900 after merging with
the Tribune to become the Freeman-Tribune, and in 1917 merging
with the Journal to become the Freeman-Journal. The significant
earlier name was retained from the days of the militant grand-
father, whose flaming spirit and forthrightness descended to and
oftentimes directed the thinking and utterances of his able and
worthy scion. Mr. Hunter was married December 2, 1887, to
Alletta Young, who died May 11, 1891; and on Thanksgiving day,
1899, was married to Minnie Jane Pettinger at Sioux City, the
widow and two daughters surviving. A Republican through the
years he enjoyed political leadership in his county and congression-
al district, though never seeking political office.

Clifford P. Smith, jurist and church leader, died at his home
in Newton, Massachusetts, August 9, 1945; born near Geneva,