Iowa's Notable Dead

EDWIN F. LEE, Methodist missionary, chaplain and bishop, died at Rochester, Minn., September 14, 1948; born at Eldorado, Fayette county, Iowa, July 10, 1884, son of Andrew and Carrie Anderson Lee; received his B.S. degree in 1909, and S.T.D., in 1945 from Northwestern University, D.D. in 1918 and LL.D. in 1939 from Upper Iowa University, B.D. in 1924 and D.D. in 1928 from Garrett Graduate School of Technology, M.A. in 1924 from University of Chicago; married Edna Dorman of Fayette, June 8, 1909; ordained in the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal church in 1908; served as pastor of the M.E. church at New Hampton, Iowa, 1908-1910; became a missionary serving in southeast Asia for thirty-one years, finally becoming resident bishop of the Singapore area, his work in the Philippines and Malaya placing him at the head of 125,000 Methodists in 600 congregations; served as chaplain of the U. S. army 1917-1919, with the A.E.F. from January 1918; decorated by France for bravery, and postwar service won further citations from Great Britain, Jugoslavia, the United States and Serbia; became senior chaplain A. E. F. with rank of captain, and director general of communications army and navy chaplains, at Washington, D. C. in 1944, representing the chaplains' interests in the war and navy departments, recruiting chaplains and maintaining contacts with them in the field; widely-known as a public speaker, told of the danger of Japanese invasion of the Philippines in a Des Moines speech Oct. 10, 1932—ten years before Pearl Harbor. Dr. Lee is survived by his wife, the former Edna Dorman, of Fayette; his sister, the late Agnes Lee Herman- sen, served as Polk county, Iowa, recorder for several years.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN KAUFFMAN, banking and insurance, died at Des Moines, Iowa, July 14, 1948; born here in 1874, son of Ben. F. and Anna O. Kauffman, the father a prominent Des Moines attorney, the paternal grandfather being Daniel W. Kauffman, from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, coming to Van Buren county, Iowa, becoming a nurseryman at Keosauqua, and on the maternal side the grandfather was Henry Le Bosquet, removing from Virginia to Iowa; attended the public schools of Des Moines, Iowa Wesleyan college and Amherst college, a fellow student of Calvin Coolidge, at the latter, graduating in 1896; entered the employ of the Des Moines Savings bank the next year, remaining until 1900, when he embarked in the real estate and insurance
business as a member of the Witmer & Kauffman agency, continuing an interest in that firm until the present; became one of the founders of the Bankers Trust Company of Des Moines in 1917 and served as president twenty-nine years, the last two years as chairman of the board; attained prominence in the business and financial circles of Des Moines, a director of numerous local institutions; served as president of the Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Des Moines committee, a member of the St. Paul's Episcopal church; headed liberty loan and Red Cross drives; married Oct. 10, 1900, to Mell Howell, daughter of J. W. Howell, who survives with three children, Mrs. E. T. Meredith, Jr., John H. Kauffman, Eustis, Florida, and Ray Kauffman.

Mr. Kauffman devoted much time to public affairs, though never seeking office; headed the committee of insurance agents of Iowa in securing in 1915 the enactment of a fire rating anti-discrimination law; also a few years later assisted in movement for the establishment of the state department of banking separate from the state auditor's office; served as an arbitrator in labor-management disputes, strongly believing in conciliation and cooperation; served as president of the Iowa banker's association, and was also vice-chairman of the Iowa loan committee of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and a member of the Iowa banking board, a former president of the Des Moines Pioneer club, a member of the University club, Des Moines club, and Wakonda club; a trustee of Drake University, the Edmundson Memorial Foundation, and the Methodist hospital, a director of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Co., the Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. and the Equitable Life Insurance Co. of Iowa; a member of the Masonic order; originally a Republican, but during the Herring state administration became affiliated with the Democratic party; a member of the Amherst alumni council and the Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

SUSAN GLASPELL (COOK), novelist and playwright, died at Provincetown, Massachusetts, July 27, 1948; born at Davenport, Iowa, July 1, 1882, the daughter of the late Elmer and Alice Glaspell; educated in the Davenport schools and was a reporter upon the Davenport Morning Republican, when Charles Eugene Banks was city editor; attended Drake University at Des Moines, and later at Chicago University; became a political and legislative reporter on the Des Moines News and later on the Des Moines Capital before writing features for magazines, her writings occasioning favorable comment.