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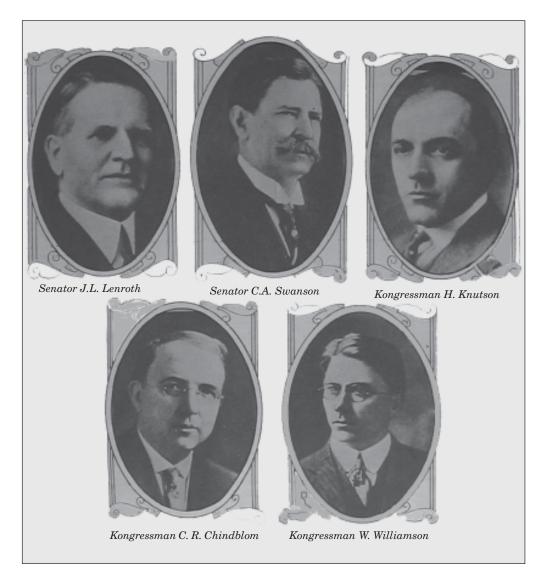
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Prominent Swedish Congressmen in 1923



In a local thrift store in Filipstad I found this summer a bound volume of the weekly magazine *Vecko-Journalen* from 1923. During the summer months there were a few stories on Swedish-American personalities.

Senator Irvine Lenroot (1869– 1949) represented Wisconsin. His father, Lars Lönnrot, was from Skåne, and his mother from Värmland.

Senator Claude A. Swanson (1862-1939) from Virginia, seems to have been descended from the Old Swedes. He spent 33 years in congress, was governor of Virginia, and Navy Secretary under Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Congressman Harold Knutson (1880–1953) of Norwegian(!) origins, represented the citizens of Minnesota for more than 30 years.

Congressman *Carl Richard Chindblom* (1870–1956) was born in Chicago of parents from Åsbo, (Östg). He represented the citizens of Illinois for 13 years.

Congressman *William Williamson* (1875–1972) was born near New Sharon, Mahaska County, Iowa, but moved as a small child to South

Dakota. He represented the citizens of South Dakota for 11 years, and during that time helped the efforts to get the carvings at Mount Rushmore done. His official biography does not mention his ethnicity, but the 1910 Census discloses him as being of Norwegian(!) descent. So *Vecko-Journalen* did not do its homework correctly!

Source: *The Swedish Heritage in America*, by Allan Kastrup (1975). Biography web site, see p. 30.

Elisabeth Thorsell