

John Judson Hamilton

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IOWA'S NOTABLE DEAD

JOHN JUDSON HAMILTON, editor and public official, died at Pasadena, California, on his ninety-third birthday, November 10, 1947; born at Harrisville, Penn., November 10, 1854, the son of Catherine Logan and William Hamilton, a stone mason, plasterer and farmer, a Union soldier in the Civil war, and grandson of William Hamilton, a soldier in the War of 1812; removed with parents in 1866 to a farm in Lick township, Davis county, Iowa, adjoining Salt township, where B. F. Carroll lived, and made his home there until 1879; entered the State University of Iowa and worked his way, graduating in 1877; previously served as librarian in the institution for four years; also one year as editor and one year business manager of the *University Reporter*, several terms as a tutor in Latin, a proof reader on university publications, and taught school; took a tramp of 1,000 miles through the "black belt" of Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia in the summer of 1877, and wrote a thesis upon "The Two Races in the South;" taught classes in Latin, German and physical geography in the Iowa City high school; represented the State university in an oratorical contest at Cedar Rapids, running second to S. F. Prouty, of Pella, representing Central college.

The race problem interested young Hamilton and he went to Washington in August 1878, and interviewed President Hayes; then continued investigation on the subject, and walked from there to Richmond, Virginia, making inquiries and investigations upon condition of the negro race. Returning to Davis county, with his home across the street from Gen. J. B. Weaver, he leased a one-half interest in J. A. T. Hull's paper, the *Bloomfield Republican*, for three years from April 3, 1879; became active in politics, served as chairman of the Davis county Republican committee, later a candidate for state representative, but was defeated by the Greenback party candidate; moved to Des Moines at the age of twenty-eight, and in 1883 with his sister, Mrs. Ella Hamilton Durley, purchased an interest in the *Des Moines Daily News*, with which he was connected for twenty-one years as reporter, city editor, managing editor, and editor, and after its sale to the Scripps syndicate was for two years its general manager; then retiring from the daily newspaper field, purchased an interest in and became the economic editor of the *Iowa Homestead* and other Pierce publications, including the *Wisconsin Farmer*, *Kansas Farmer and Stockman*, *Farm Gazette*, and *Homemaker Magazine*, and for nine years was actively a factor with state, regional and national publications, in behalf of which he appeared in 1906 before a congressional committee upon the "Business Freedom of the American Press."

In 1908 Mr. Hamilton became a candidate for governor, but was defeated by B. F. Carroll; an aggressive and talented man, he organized the movement in Des Moines with the help of James G. Berryhill, James R. Hanna, John MacVicar and others that resulted in the adoption of the "Des Moines Plan" of city government; and out of this experience wrote a book entitled "The Dethronment of the City Boss," which ran into three editions. Removing to California in 1911 he almost immediately renewed his public activities and with unabated vigor served successively as secretary of the charter revision commission, a member on the Pasadena board of education, member of the Board of supervisors from the San Gabriel district, and of the Pasadena city commission; later the executive secretary of the public power league of Los Angeles, which projected the Colorado river improvement and Hoover dam projects; and in 1924 directed Senator Robert M. LaFollette's presidential campaign in Southern California.

He generally affiliated with the progressive group in the Republican party; was a Presbyterian, a member of the Knight's of Pythias and A. O. U. W. society; married October 26, 1893, to Margaret George, of Des Moines, who died a month previous to his passing; and a son, John J. Hamilton, Jr., and a daughter, Mrs. Cathrine Devine, survive them.

EDWIN DILLER STARBUCK, psychologist, writer and educator, died at Santa Cruz, California, November 18, 1947; born in Bridgeport, Indiana, February 20, 1866, the son of Samuel and Luzena Jessup Starbuck; secured his early education in Indiana schools; taught in the public schools; received A.B. degree from the University of Indiana, in 1890, A.M. from Harvard in 1895, Ph.D. from Clark university in 1897, and studied at the University of Zurich in 1904-05; served Earlham college as professor in 1906, when he came to Iowa, and had a notable career as professor of Philosophy at the University of Iowa from 1906 to 1930, becoming widely known in work as an educator, perhaps the foremost authority in America in study and research in the psychology of religion, having published the first book upon that subject in 1899; attracted intellectuals in the faculty and upon the campus, and became the confidant and defender of those often in conflict with the university administration; was one of two Americans invited in 1925 to lecture in Oslo, Norway, at the second annual lecture series of the Institute for the Comparative Study of Human Culture, established in 1919 under the auspices of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, the city of Oslo, and the Nobel Institute; became head of the department of philosophy at the University of Southern California in 1930, where he remained until his retirement a few years ago; married Anna M. Diller of Lancaster, Penn., August 5, 1896, taking his wife's maiden name for his own middle name,

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