



## The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa (Bur Oak Book)

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Iowa has been blessed with citizens of strong character who have made invaluable contributions to the state and to the nation. In the 1930s alone, such towering figures as John L. Lewis, Henry A. Wallace, and Herbert Hoover hugely influenced the nation's affairs. Iowa's Native Americans, early explorers, inventors, farmers, scholars, baseball players, musicians, artists, writers, politicians, scientists, conservationists, preachers, educators, and activists continue to enrich our lives and inspire our imaginations.

Written by an impressive team of more than 150 scholars and writers, the readable narratives include each subject's name, birth and death dates, place of birth, education, and career and contributions. Many of the names will be instantly recognizable to most Iowans; others are largely forgotten but deserve to be remembered. Beyond the distinctive lives and times captured in the individual biographies, readers of the dictionary will gain an appreciation for how the character of the state has been shaped by the character of the individuals who have inhabited it.

From Dudley Warren Adams, fruit grower and Grange leader, to the Younger brothers, founders of one of Iowa's most successful department stores, *The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa* is peopled with the rewarding lives of more than four hundred notable citizens of the Hawkeye State. The histories contained in this essential reference work should be eagerly read by anyone who cares about Iowa and its citizens.

Entries include Cap Anson, Bix Beiderbecke, Black Hawk, Amelia Jenks Bloomer, William Carpenter, Philip Greeley Clapp, Gardner Cowles Sr., Samuel Ryan Curtis, Jay Norwood Darling, Grenville Dodge, Julien Dubuque, August S. Duesenberg, Paul Engle, Phyllis L. Propp Fowle, George Gallup, Hamlin Garland, Susan Glaspell, Josiah Grinnell, Charles Hearst, Josephine Herbst, Herbert Hoover, Inkpaduta, Louis Jolliet, MacKinlay Kantor, Keokuk, Aldo Leopold, John L. Lewis, Marquette, Elmer Maytag, Christian Metz, Bertha Shambaugh, Ruth Suckow, Billy Sunday, Henry Wallace, and Grant Wood.

Excerpt from the entry on:

Gallup, George Horace (November 19, 1901–July 26, 1984)—founder of the American Institute of Public Opinion, better known as the Gallup Poll, whose name was synonymous with public opinion polling around the world—was born in Jefferson, Iowa. . . . A *New Yorker* article would later speculate that it was Gallup's background in "utterly normal Iowa" that enabled him to find "nothing odd in the idea that one man might represent, statistically, ten thousand or more of his own kind." . . . In 1935 Gallup partnered with Harry Anderson to found the American Institute of Public Opinion, based in Princeton, New Jersey, an opinion polling firm that included a syndicated newspaper column called "America Speaks." The reputation of the organization was made when Gallup publicly challenged the polling techniques of *The Literary Digest*, the best-known political straw poll of the day. Calculating that the *Digest* would wrongly predict that Kansas Republican Alf Landon would win the presidential election, Gallup offered newspapers a money-back guarantee if his prediction that Franklin Delano Roosevelt would win wasn't more accurate. Gallup believed that public opinion polls served an important function in a democracy: "If government is supposed to be based on the will of the people, somebody ought to go and find what that will is," Gallup explained.

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#### **Nathan Lawhorn:**

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them household or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read any book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day every day to reading a e-book. The book The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa (Bur Oak Book) it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book possesses high quality.

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