

The Grinnell Herald

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OBITUARY.

J. Murray Flanagan.

J. Murray Flanagan was born at Clinton, Iowa, July 31, 1888. He died at Colorado Springs, March 31. He graduated at Grinnell in the class of '09. He carried his college work with ease. He was a leader in athletics, the Glee Club, in Dramatics, in the Student Council. After graduation he was director of religious work in the Y. M. C. A. at Cedar Rapids from '09 to '12. He also worked to organize the Iowa cities in the Men and Religion Forward Movement. He organized the work at Cedar Rapids in preparation for the Billy Sunday revival. So thoroly was this organization done that Mr. Sunday offered Mr. Flanagan a place on his staff.

In 1912 Mr. Flanagan went into insurance work with the Northwestern Mutual at St. Louis. In 1915 he was made manager of the Massachusetts Mutual office at Omaha. In six months time he had so thoroly organized the work that he was retained manager of the Omaha office for the two years he was absent in Colorado on account of ill-health.

In 1912 he married Hallie Ferguson of Grinnell. There are two children, John Murray, 4, and Frederick, 2 years old. He leaves three sisters, one with a son in France; two brothers, one in France; a father and mother. The community extends its sympathy to the wife and family. Murray Flanagan was a man of brains, a man of ideals. When he left the "Y" work to go into insurance he did so with the conviction that insurance was a means of necessary social service.

For two long years he has carried on a silent, and, as we see, a losing fight. But he died a hero. He faced a terrible enemy—an enemy that kept away his little boys. But he had many friends and a family bound together by unusual sympathy and a wife who has stood like a rock through two years of terrible uncertainty.