

Think Like Lou Henry Hoover

- Lou Henry Hoover served as First Lady from 1929 to 1933. As the spouse to the president at the start of the Great Depression, what do you think she could do in this role to help Americans?
- The Great Depression began during the Hoover presidency. How do you think the Great Depression affected the Hoovers while in the White House?
- Lou Henry Hoover answered hundreds of letters from Americans in need during her time as First Lady. Why do you think people wrote her letters asking for assistance?



Lou Henry Hoover (1874-1944)

Lou Henry Hoover was born in Waterloo, Iowa, on March 29, 1874, but left the state in 1885. In 1893, she attended Stanford University. She married another Iowan, Herbert Hoover, in 1899. During World War I, she established the American Women's War Relief Fund, the American Women's Hospital and supported many other charitable organizations. Herbert Hoover was elected president in 1929. As First Lady, she was the first one to speak over the radio and answered hundreds of letters from Americans seeking assistance. With the onset of the Great Depression, the Hoovers supported volunteerism and spent their own funds to feed the White House staff, paid for some government positions and helped finance many White House events.

Think Like Henry A. Wallace

- How do you think growing up in Iowa would help Henry A. Wallace become secretary of agriculture during the Great Depression?
- *Wallaces Farmer* was first published in 1898 by Henry A. Wallace's grandfather. Why do you think a newspaper about agriculture would become popular?
- Wallace served one term as vice president under President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Why do you think Roosevelt would have selected Wallace as his running mate?



Henry A. Wallace (1888-1965)

Henry A. Wallace was born in Adair County, Iowa, in 1888. He graduated from Des Moines' West High School and earned an agriculture degree in 1910 from Iowa State College, now Iowa State University. Following his father's appointment as secretary of agriculture in 1921, Wallace served as editor of *Wallaces Farmer*, a popular agricultural newspaper, and co-developed the Hybrid Corn Co., which became Pioneer Hi-Bred Corn Co. During the Great Depression, Wallace served two terms as the secretary of agriculture under President Franklin D. Roosevelt. During this time, he oversaw New Deal legislation to help struggling farmers. He served one term as vice president. Wallace later ran for the presidency in 1948 for the Progressive Party, but lost.

Think Like a Geographer

A person who studies the environment and how it impacts people.

- Describe details about this location. What do you notice that can help figure out where this place is located? What is unique?
- Why would people move to or leave this place?
- How would people travel to this location? How has traveling to this location changed over time?
- Describe details about people who live here and how they impact the location? How does the location impact the people who live there?



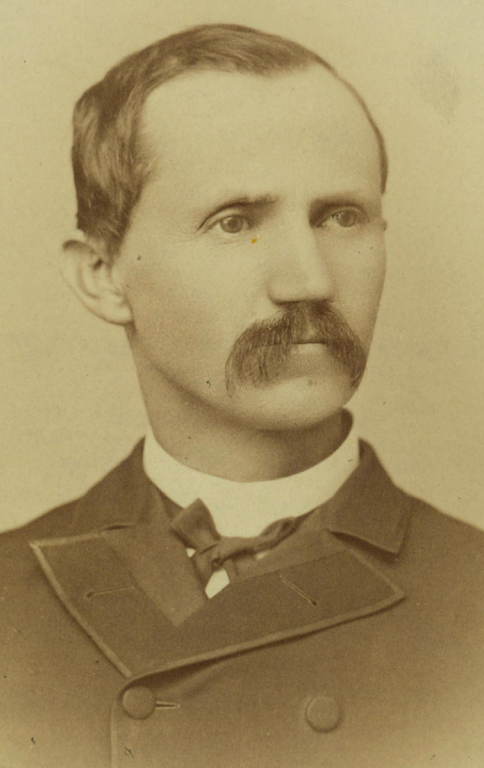
Ira Cook (1821-1902)

Much like how a geographer studies the land, a land surveyor is someone who measures land areas in order to determine boundaries for settlers to purchase. Ira Cook was one of many lowans to receive a contract from the government to be a land surveyor when Iowa territory had to be measured. Cook endured tough conditions, long journeys by foot and wagon and harsh weather from 1849-1853 as he crossed the state measuring the land. He was elected mayor of Des Moines, Iowa, in 1861 and later moved to Washington, D.C., to become Deputy United States Revenue Collector in 1864.

Think Like an Economist

A person who studies the ways people make a living.

- Describe the people in relation to the location. What jobs or occupations do you think people had? Why do you say that? How do you think they met their needs and wants?
- How do decisions made by individuals affect themselves and the economy?
- How do decisions made by businesses affect people?
- How do jobs impact people and the economy? Describe what happens when jobs are lost.



Voltaire Twombly (1842-1918)

Voltaire P. Twombly was elected Treasurer of Iowa in January 1885. The treasurer officially oversees the state's revenue and finances. He served three terms in the position before stepping down in 1891. Not only was Twombly financially savvy, he also was a war hero. During the Battle of Fort Donelson during the Civil War, he picked up and carried his regiment's national colors after three other members of his regiment were killed or incapacitated by Confederate fire while attempting to secure the flag. Twombly received a Medal of Honor in 1897 for his heroic deeds during the battle.

Think Like a Historian

A person who explains changes that happened in the past.

- What happened in the past? Why is it important to understand what has happened in the past?
- How did past decisions or actions significantly transform people's lives?
- What has changed or stayed the same over time? Who benefited from the change? Why? Who did not benefit? Why?
- Who or what made changes happen? Who supported the change? Who didn't? Why?



Louise Noun (1908-2002)

Louise Frankel Rosenfield Noun spent her life preserving and sharing Iowa history. She was born in Des Moines to Meyer Rosenfield, owner of the Younker's department store, and Rose Frankel Rosenfield, a suffrage-supporting mother. Noun and Mary Louise Smith, the former chair of the Republican National Committee, worked together to found the Iowa Women's Archives at the University of Iowa Main Library. The archives include important manuscripts and papers which record women's history in Iowa. Louise Noun also authored numerous books and papers regarding feminist history in Iowa.

Think Like a Political Scientist

A person who studies governments and how they work.

- What problems might people have faced in this society?
- What rights do people have? What rights are people missing?
- What might lead to people being treated fairly? What might lead to people being treated unfairly?
- What information can be gathered about trends at this location or time period that might change or impact the future?



George Gallup (1901-1984)

A native of Jefferson, Iowa, and graduate of the University of Iowa, George Gallup invented the now famous Gallup Poll. The Gallup Poll is a method of survey sampling (asking different people the same question for their answers) to help figure out public opinion. Polls are important for elections and helpful for political scientists. The first instance of using the Gallup Poll for politics was the 1932 campaign of Gallup's mother-in-law, Ola Babcock Miller, who successfully ran for Iowa Secretary of State.

Think Like a Journalist

A person who tells others about the story.

- What are the major headlines of this historical topic?
- What people would you want to interview? What questions would you ask?
- What details are needed to tell this particular story to people not from this area?
- Why is it important to share news about what is happening at this time period or this location?



George Mills (1906-2003)

There was not a story developing within the Iowa Capitol's hallways or chambers that George Mills did not cover for *The Des Moines Register* newspaper. Mills covered events and political news at the capitol building from 1943-1971 and later served as a reporter for television station WHO-TV. From 1943 to 1954, Mills was also the Iowa correspondent for *Time*, *Life* and *Fortune* magazines, writing Iowa stories for a national audience.