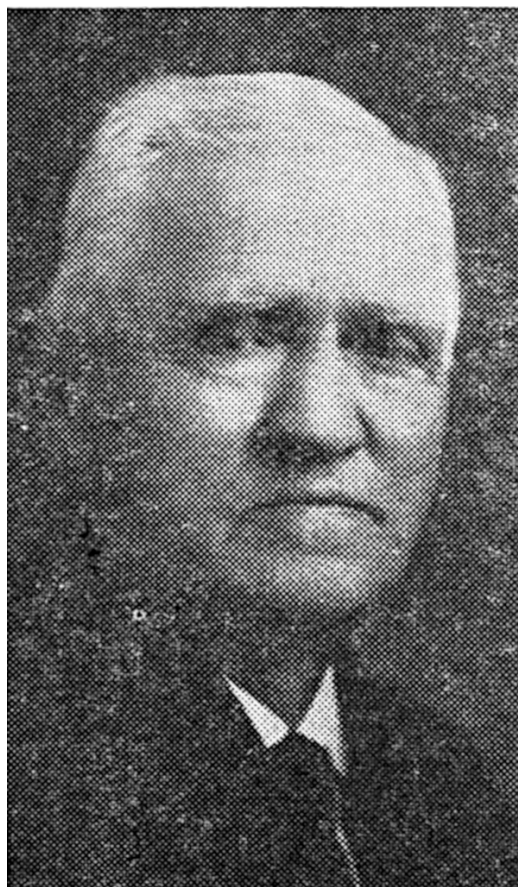


ALSON WINTERS STOUT
Dec. 20, 1849 – April 1939

Through unavoidable circumstances the photo of Alson Winters Stout, Monticello's oldest resident, who passed away Saturday, April 22, could not be printed in The Messenger last week when the obituary appeared. Although mailed at the post office by the engraving house in ample time there was obviously a slip-up by a mail.



**Passes After Brief Illness;
Had Colorful Career In Early Days**

Funeral services for Alson Winters Stout, 89 years of age, oldest Monticello resident, who passed away at 10:15 Saturday night following a number of months of declining health, were conducted at 2 Tuesday afternoon in the home with Rev. A. R. Achtemeier, pastor of the Zwingli Evangelical and Reformed church, officiating.

Burial was in Highland cemetery. Pallbearers were: J. W. Barlow, Frank G. Clark and Olin Mitmoen, Monticello, R. W. Nelson, Madison, Merle Frautschy, Albany, and Harold Gordon Monroe.

Had Been Active

Although unusually strong and active despite his advanced years "Al," as he was familiarly known to old and young folks alike, began to show unmistakable signs that old age was creeping up about two years ago when he suffered a slight stroke. He rallied, however, and once more appeared to have regained his former strength. He stood the past winter unusually well and was a daily visitor over in the business district until about two weeks ago when he began to fail noticeably. He had been in an unconscious condition for several days prior to his death.

Sad Blow

Mr. Stout's sudden death came as a great shock to friends and acquaintances because his excellent mental condition and great stamina seemed to indicate that he might well live another several years.

Born in Illinois

Mr. Stout was born in Oneco, Ill. Dec. 20, 1849, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Stout. He took his leave from his birthplace at the age of 14 years and spent a year as a drug store employee in Monroe.

Colorful Career

Mr. Stout's career was most colorful and interesting. He grew up to see the west developed, saw the buffalo disappear and the Indians move farther west. During his younger days he had his fill of ranch life and later embarked in the carpenter business.

Leaving Monroe "Al" went to Ohio where he resided a year with relatives while attending school in the Buckeye state. The call of adventure again lured him and he went to Lexington, Mo., where he obtained employment in the hemp fields along the Missouri river. Then he spent a year in Colorado, employed by a company engaged in floating railroad tie lumber down the Colorado river. His colorful career as a cowboy was his next experience.

Leaving Missouri where he stayed for a short time after his stay in Colorado, Mr. Stout traveled to Texas in a covered wagon with three other youths. "Al" was then a strapping young man of 22 and punching cattle in those days was a real man's job. He remained in Texas for more than four years. In these days redskins roamed the range in large numbers and there was a constant danger of being scalped by them. One of the three cowboys with whom the Monticelloan went to Texas was found dead one day with a fatal wound inflicted by Indians. He had driven a bunch of thirsty cattle to a water hole out on the range and had been ambushed by the redskins,

Participated in Drives

During his stay in Texas Mr. Stout participated in the big cattle drives every fall into the north toward Kansas and Nebraska, to Ellsworth and Ft. Hayes and up along the Platte river, crossing the wilderness then known as the Indian territory and later to become the, state of Oklahoma. From 15 to 25 cowboys took part in the drives which numbered as high as 1,000 cattle. The animals were sold to ranchers along the way. Mr. Stout recalled, with interest when nearly 10 different herds, each numbering 1,000 head, and driven at well spaced intervals along the northern trail, were stampeded by a heavy storm and ran together in a huge milling herd of nearly 10,000 frightened, bellowing steers. It required nearly three weeks before the ranchers could separate their herds.

Buffalo and other wild game were abundant in the Texas territory in those rugged days and "Al" had many thrilling stories to relate concerning his experiences as a hunter in the old southwest.

A whirl at the carpentry trade, which had more lasting appeal to him than any other previous occupations, next engulfed Mr. Stout and he spent two years working on the state capitol building at Austin, Texas. In 1893 he came to Monticello and was united in marriage to Elizabeth Tone on Sept. 12, 1894. Soon after his arrival here, Mr. Stout built the Advent church and had since built or assisted in the erection of more than 20 residences in Monticello. He also constructed the Stout building, located on the corner of Main street and Railroad avenue, and for three years he operated a restaurant and ice cream parlor on the first floor, which was remodeled a number of years ago and has practically ever since been occupied by the Voegeli Tire & Service building. Mr. Stout also served as rural mail carrier out of Monticello for two or three years.

List of Survivors

Surviving to mourn the death of Mr. Stout are the widow, a step-daughter, Mrs. Vola Jordan, an adopted daughter, Mrs. Clifford Rood, Minneapolis, Minn.; sons, Clarence Stout, San Antonio, Texas, and Edward Stout, Washington, D. C.; one brother, Steve Stout, 92, Novelty, Mo. He was preceded in death by his parents and five brothers and sisters.