

Dr. Edward Blumer

EXPOSURE IN SERVICE AFTER RECENT MURDER FACTOR IN FATAL ILLNESS - 1930

Dr. Edward Blumer, aged 57, Monticello's village president and only physician, a citizen highly esteemed in Green county and prominent in medical circles of his section, died in his home at 6 o'clock this morning, following a valiant but futile fight against pneumonia and complications.

His illness dates from shortly after Monticello's morning of tragedy, March 7, when Dr. Blumer went out of his home, only partially clothed, to be of service to his friend and brother officer, Fred Jordan, village marshal, after he had been shot down and fatally wounded by Gottfred Gotttier, Footville, now held for murder in the Green county jail.



Exposure in his service is believed to have resulted in the physician's illness and it is known, too, that the tragedy proved a source of worry to him, since he had, as Village president, placed the call for the marshal that brought him on his final mission. Friends believe that both the exposure and the worry of the incident are factors in the fatal illness, and residents of the village are deeply grieved that in so short a space of time the community has, after an act of youthful banditry, lost two such loyal and valuable servants. Dr. Blumer was an important witness in the murder case, which will be, to some degree, affected by his passing.

Born In Adams Township

Dr. Blumer was born in Adams township, June 9, 1872. He was of Swiss parentage and the family is one that has been closely identified with Green county history for many years. Ezra Blumer, his father, was born in Canton Glarus, Switzerland, in 1839 and came here when he was 14. His mother Henrietta Crosse was also born in Canton Glarus and came here about the same time. The father was a veteran of the civil war, serving with Co. K, 16th Wisconsin infantry, and after the war he engaged in farming. Dr. Blumer was one of 11 children. He was reared on the farm in Washington township. He attended the district school and Monroe high school, finishing here with the class of 1893. He was graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1899. Elected superintendent of schools of Green county, he filled the office in a manner that assured his reelection, but with no intention of devoting his life to educational work he declined a second term to prepare himself for the practice of medicine.

He began a course of preliminary study in the office of a local physician and in 1901 entered Rush Medical college, Chicago. He was graduated in 1903. For a time he was interned at Augustana hospital, Chicago. He began practice at Monticello in 1904 and has since been actively engaged here as a physician and surgeon. His success gained for him wide recognition and he was appreciated in his community as an able physician and useful citizen. He was a member of the American and Wisconsin Medical societies and also president of the Green County Medical society. He was married July 24, 1906, to Miss Wilma Zwickley, Monticello, and they have two sons, Paul, aged 22, Madison; and Robert, 16, at home.

Dr. Blumer served Monticello as president of the village board of trustees for the past 20 years. He had been reelected last Friday night. He was on the high school board, of which he had been president for about the same period of time. He was known as a republican. He enjoyed the confidence of all who knew him and stood high in the esteem and respect of his

neighbors. Dr. Blumer was a member of the Modern Woodman lodge and attended the Swiss Reformed church of Monticello.

Was Bee Fancier

Dr. Blumer was a living example of the forceful influence of early impressions, which was indicated in his interest in bees. He had his own swarm of bees when a boy on the farm and in later life he took up beekeeping with all the enthusiasm of his youth. He began 15 years ago and his apiary has grown to 130 colonies. He found relaxation and pleasure in association with his bees and the work has been profitable as well. He was one of the successful beekeepers of this section of the state.

Besides the widow and two sons, five sisters and three brothers survive. Mrs. Albert Zimmerman, Monticello, Mrs. John Itten, New Glarus, Mrs. T. A. Hoesly, Mrs. Dave Pfeiffer and Mrs. Ernest Holcomb, Monroe, John Blumer, Monticello, Fred, Monroe and Ezra. Fond du Lac.