

Edw. Wittwer, 78, Former Cheese Firm Head Here, Expires

Heart Ailment is Fatal to Pioneer Dealer; Rites Set for Thursday

Ill for about 10 days with a heart ailment, Edward Wittwer, 78 years of age, pioneer Monticello wholesale cheese dealer, passed away at 11 o'clock Monday night in the St. Clare hospital, Monroe.

Mr. Wittwer was ill at this home here for only two days and was hospitalized for a week before his death.

Washington Township Native

Edward Wittwer was a native of Washington township and was born July 30, 1870, the son of Gottlieb and Christina Itten Wittwer. He attended rural school and was a student at the Evansville seminary in Evansville for two years. In 1900 he was united in marriage to Lonnah Pierce who met a tragic death when she was painfully burned in a gasoline fumes explosion at her home here July 26, 1939.

Mr. Wittwer had always been closely identified with cheese interests in this community. At an early age he made cheese on his father's farm and marketed the product through wholesale channels. In 1900 Mr. Wittwer established the Wittwer & Brl. Wholesale cheese firm in Monticello, which he managed until 1920. In 1920 the business was purchased by the Arn & Zweifel company. In 1916 the Wittwer Cheese company built the Monticello cold storage building.

Mr. Wittwer was a former director of the Bank of Monticello, having served for 21 years. He always made his home in Monticello but spent a number of winters in Florida some years ago. Mr. Wittwer was a member of the Zwingli Evangelical and Reformed church.

The only survivors are nieces and nephews. Mr. Wittwer was the last member of a family of nine children. He was preceded in death by four sisters, Mrs. Jacob Regez, Sr., Mrs. Rudy Regez, Sr., Mrs. J. T. Etter, Sr., and Mrs. Jesse Lemon, and four brothers, Jacob, Albert, Gottlieb and Emil.

Funeral Thursday

Funeral services will be held at 2 this (Thursday) afternoon at the Zwingli Evangelical and Reformed church. The Rev. A. R. Achtemeier, church pastor, will officiate and burial will be in Highland cemetery. The body will be taken to the church from the Voegeli funeral home at 11 this morning. Pallbearers will be Adolph Arn, Lester Bleiler, Dick Freitag, Albert Knobel, Albert Moritz and Emil Voegeli, Sr.