

(Handwritten date: Saturday, May 2, 1942)

BURT TOWNSEND DIES AFTER LONG ILLNESS

Prominent Decatur

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...hotel in the capital city, had been confined to his bed for nearly 12 years. The family moved here in 1930 from Frankfort, when Mr. Townsend was unable to carry on his hotel management.

A native of Decatur and son of the late Dick and Jessie L. Allison Townsend, Mr. Townsend was born November 4, 1886. He attended the Decatur schools, completing his education at Howe Military Academy, at which place he held the place of lieutenant and captain. His father was one of the leading hotel managers in the midwest and during his lifetime had...

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...Wayne, the Oliver in South Bend, the National in Peoria, Ill., and the Burt House in this city. The latter was the most famous hostelry in this city and was known to the traveling trade throughout the middle west. It was destroyed by fire in 1906.

The local hotel was named for Chester Burt, grandfather of the deceased and one of the early settlers here.

Mr. Townsend was married to Miss Ruth Parsons of Chicago. In early life he served as clerk in the Claypool hotel, Indianapolis, and managed several hotels before acquiring the Frankfort property, including the Cortland in Kokomo, the Whitney at Ann Arbor, Mich., and the William Irwin, Kenosha, Wis.

Besides the widow, he is survived by three children, Dick Allison, Burt, Jr., both of this city, and Mrs. Thomas Allwein, Gibson City, Ill.

Mr. Townsend was a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

Funeral services will be held at 10 o'clock Monday morning from the Townsend home, with Rev. George O. Walton, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in the Decatur (cut off)

Adams County Historical Museum - 1939-1940 Scrapbook, Image 16-19

Transcribed by Karin King