

Thursday, June 1, 1939

Milton Hower Is Found Dead At His Home

Prominent Democratic Worker Who Gave Driver's Tests Here, Dead at Decatur

Milton E. Hower, 67, prominent Decatur resident and former businessman, died suddenly Wednesday morning at his home on First Street. Death was attributed to coronary thrombosis.

He was found dead in bed about 1:30 o'clock. Death came as a distinct shock to the members of the family and friends, many of whom did not know he had been ailing.

Mr. Hower was one of Decatur's most active civil and school leaders, having served for six years as a member of the city board of education, taught in the rural and city schools and serving as principal at the West Ward School a number of years.

For 35 years, he operated the Hower Grocery at Monroe and Seventh Streets. At the time of his death, he was employed as an investigator in the auto license bureau of the state. He was also an active Democratic worker and at one time was a candidate for the Democratic nomination to the office of county recorder and was deputy sheriff for two terms.

Mr. Hower was well known in Berne. He was at the Berne Review Office every Saturday forenoon to give driver's test to beginners. No announcement had been made today as to who will succeed Mr. Hower or if anyone will be here to give tests next Saturday.

He was a devout member of the First Methodist Church and fraternally was a charter member of the Loyal Order of Moose and the B.P.O. Elks; also a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Decatur Masonic Lodge.

Lifelong Resident

He was a lifelong resident of the county. He was born at Decatur December 31, 1871, the son of Adam and Barbara Steele-Hower. On November 9, 1904, he was married to Maud Scott, who survives.

Surviving also are the following children: Miss Marcella Hower of Indianapolis; Mrs. William H. Bundy of Menominee, Wis.; Mrs. Marion Feasel and Mrs. Carl D. Gerber of Decatur; the following brothers and sisters: Mrs. Lewis Shilling of near Decatur; Mrs. Cora V. Beery of Clarkson, Washington; Charles W. Hower of Nashville, Tennessee; and

Alva Hower of Poseyville. A son, Frech, two brothers and a sister preceded him in death. Six grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services will be held at the home at 1:30 pm Friday and 2 o'clock at the Methodist Church; Rev. R. W. Graham officiating. Burial will be in the Decatur Cemetery.

Thursday May 18, 1939

Aaron Moser Is Found Dead

Aaron Moser, prominent resident of Adams County, died suddenly at 5:45 pm Monday at his home, one-half mile south of Road 124 at the Adams-Wells County Line of a heart attack.

Mr. Moser, who lived alone, had been invited to the home of his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. William Pfister for dinner, but had declined, stated that he was not feeling well. Later, however, he telephoned that he was feeling much better and would go the Pfister home.

Mr. Pfister drove to the Moser Home, a distance of about a mile and honked the horn of his machine. Receiving no response, he went into the house and discovered his father-in-law dead. The body was lying on the floor fully clothed.

Jerome Yager, of Berne, Adams County Coroner, was called and he pronounced the cause of death as a heart attack.

Born June 4, 1867 in Adams County, the decedent was a son of Jacob and Mary Elizabeth Strahm Moser. On May 20, 1891, he was married in Adams County to Aldine Klopfenstine, who died July 16, 1937.

Mr. Moser, who was a retired farmer, lived in Adams and Wells Counties all his life. At one time he was a salesman in Bluffton for the Cline, Zimmerman and Reed Hardware Company.

Surviving are the children, Obed and Albert Moser of Bluffton; Mrs. Carl Frank of Illinois, Mrs. Howard Edwards, Miss Martha Moser and May Moser, all of Fort Wayne; Guy Moser of Beloit, Wis.; and Mrs. Harry Dubach, Mrs. William Pfister, Mrs. Fred Moser and Harold Moser, all on Bluffton rural routes. One son, Reuben Moser, died in 1918. Two brothers surviving are A. J. Moser of Berne and Noah Moser of Bluffton.

Brothers and sisters deceased are John, Joel, and Eli Moser, Mrs. Dan Dipfer and Mrs. Joel Kipfer.

Funeral services were held at 9 am today at the residence and at 10 am at the Apostolic Christian Church of which Mr. Moser was a member. Burial was in the church cemetery.

May 15, 1939, Monday

Miss Betty Ann Pyle is Bride Sunday

Jefferson Township Girl Marries Chalmer Bollenbacher

In an impressive ceremony performed at 2 o'clock (CST) Sunday afternoon, Miss Betty Ann Pyle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brayton Pyle of Jefferson Twp. Became the bride of Chalmer Bollenbacher, son of Mr. Ed Bollenbacher of Jefferson Township. The wedding was solemnized at the home of the bride's parents.

The vows were received by the Rev. John Parr, the single ring ceremony being observed. Miss Mildred Buyer, cousin of the bride and Norman Durst of Cincinnati, Ohio, attended the couple.

Preceding the ceremony, Miss Betty Hoblet of Willshire, Ohio sang "Indian Love Call." Miss Augusta Morningstar, pianist, played the bridal chorus for the entrance of the bridal party.

During the ceremony, she continued playing. At the close, Miss Hoblet sang, "At Dawning."

For the occasion the bride was charming in a gown of blue georgette, fashioned floor length. Miss Buyer wore a gown of peace lace, floor length.

Both the groom and the best man wore blue suits.

The bride and groom are both graduates of Jefferson High School. The bride is also a graduate of International Business College of Fort Wayne. The groom is employed as a foreman at the McMillen Feed Co. in Decatur.

**Adams County Historical Society 1939 Scrapbook, Image 048-049 -
Transcribed by Jim Cox**