

July 18, 1946

Funeral Rites Held For William Erdmann

Funeral services were held Friday at St. John's Lutheran church, at 2:00 p. m., for William Erdmann, 87 years, one month and nine days old. The Rev. J. E. Schwarting officiated at the service.

Mr. Erdmann had been an invalid for the past five years, and since the 14th of July last year, had been confined to his bed, during which time he was cared for by his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Strom, at whose home God relieved him from this life on Tuesday, July 9.

William John Frederick Erdmann was born at Theresa, Wis., May 30, 1859. Soon after his birth he was baptized in the Christian faith and at the age of 14, after a course of instruction in the chief doctrines of the Christian religion, was confirmed in the Lutheran faith, to which he was faithful unto the end.

In the year 1882 he came to South Dakota, where he homesteaded in Garden Prairie township, southwest of Ferney. In the spring of 1885 he returned to Theresa, to be united in marriage with Miss Emilie Kimmel of Theresa, on March 19, 1885. To this union two children were born, namely, Alma and Ella. Alma died soon after birth. Mr. and Mrs. Erdmann came to South Dakota after their marriage and established their home on the homestead of Mr. Erdmann.

In the fall of 1919, Mr. and Mrs. Erdmann and daughter went to Texas, where they resided until the fall of 1920, when they returned again to South Dakota, taking up their residence in the city of Groton, where they resided until the death of Mrs. Erdmann on June 21, 1934. After the death of his wife, Mr. Erdmann went to live with his son-in-law and daughter, whom he resided with until his death.

Pallbearers at the funeral service were all nephews of the deceased namely: Armond, Deno, Alfred, Gerhardt and Walter Erdmann and Paul Krueger. Mrs. Reuben Lehman, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schwarting and the Rev. J. E. Schwarting, accompanied by Mrs. E. Schwarting, furnished two beautiful musical numbers at the service.

Left to mourn his loss are his daughter, Mrs. Emanuel Strom, and four grand-children, Renee, Roy, Lois and Arlis Strom; four brothers, August of Verdon; Carl of Ferney; Fred of Stratford and Emil of Groton; three sisters, Mrs. Emilie Burk of Lowell, Wash.; Mrs. Henry Bouman of Minneapolis, and Miss Martha Erdmann of Jacksonville, Ill.

Out-of-town relatives attending the funeral services included. Rev. and Mrs. Henry Bouman of Minneapolis; Mrs. Elmer Messingbring, McAllen, Texas; Mrs. Truman Eli of California; Mrs. Wilbur Van Walker, Aberdeen, and Armond Erdmann of Kansas City, Kans.

Mr. Erdmann was held in high esteem by all who knew him, as a man of outstanding character, who made and kept friends wherever he went. He was very devoted to his small family circle and brought many comforts and pleasures to everyone whom he came in contact with. Deep sympathy is extended to the surviving relatives in their loss. His memory will live on for ages to come.