

January 15, 1953

Wm. J. F. Koehler

Funeral services were held Sunday, Jan. 11th, at 2:30 p. m., for Wm. J. F. Koehler, in St. John's Lutheran church, with the Rev. R. M. Grundmeier officiating. Mrs. A. J. Schuelke and sons, Robert and Ora, furnished the music. Burial was in Groton cemetery.

Honorary pall bearers were: Ora Rossow, A. J. Schuelke, Herman Pigors, George Krueger, Paul Linse and Phil Holcomb. Active pall bearers were: Lawrence Rohwer, Wm. H. Rock, Wesley Sippel, Merle Walter, Andrew Wehde and Jerrold Donovan.

Wilhelm Koehler was born Nov. 28, 1864, in Germany, and was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. Coming to this country as a young man with a brother, Fred, he located in Minnesota and on Sept. 16, 1893, he was married to Bertha Wrucke. Three sons were born to this union. After farming in Minnesota the family moved to So. Dakota in 1910, and settled in the Ferney vicinity, later in 1919, moving to Riverside township, northeast of Groton. In 1933 Mr. and Mrs. Koehler retired from the farm, purchasing a home in Groton, where they resided up to the present time.

The deceased had been in good health until about two weeks before his passing. On Saturday, Jan. 3, he was taken to St. Luke's hospital in Aberdeen, where the end came peacefully in the evening of Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1953. He was 88 years, one month and twelve days old.

Grandpa Koehler, a name by which he was known to old and young alike, was a kind and loving husband, father and friend to all who knew him. He was also a very faithful and exemplary member of St. John's Lutheran church.

Left to mourn his departure are his wife, Bertha; two sons, George and William H., both of Groton. One son, Arthur, preceded him in death on May 13, 1950. There are also eight grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, two brothers, Fred of Bird Island, Minn., and August of Wisconsin.

Relatives from Minnesota attending the last rites were: Mr. and Mrs. Sam Weise and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Weise, Blue Earth; Mr. and Mrs. Otto Hornaman and Marvin Hornaman of Kasota; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Swenson, St. Peter; Mrs. Ted Evenson and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Krueger, Mankato; Albert Hornaman and sons, Albert and Alvin, Gordon Hahn, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Yaeger, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Murphy and Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Stekman, all of Le Sueur; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Doering, Olivia; Ronald Koehler, Bird Island, and Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Virdon, Moorhead, and