

July 17, 1952

## Pioneer Business Man Dies at St. Paul, Thurs.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at the St. John's Lutheran church for F. H. Kuehnert, who passed away at St. Paul, Minn., following a short illness. The Rev. LaMar Miller of Stratford officiated. Burial was in the Groton cemetery. Honorary pall bearers were Emil Lehman, Wm. Graham, Wm. C. Funk, A. J. Schuelke, F. L. Blader, L. A. Schornack, Oscar Thieman, Wm. J. Paetznick, G. I. Hargrow and George W. Potter. Active pall bearers were Geo. Schornack, Julius Karnopp, William Klaus, Fred Frommel, Paul G. Tosch and Alfred Erdmann.

Ora Schuelke sang several hymns, accompanied by Mrs. H. W. Iverson. Fredrick H. Kuehnert was born on April 22, 1860, in Altmittweide, Saxony, Germany, where he was later baptized and confirmed. In 1878 he immigrated to this county, living in Ohio, Wisconsin and in 1882 came to Groton. He was united in holy matrimony on Dec. 4, 1883, to Ernestine Buckatz, who passed away in 1916. This union was blessed with seven children, four of which preceded him in death. In 1917 he married Elizabeth Kneyses.

Eight years ago the departed moved to St. Paul, Minn., where he passed away on Thursday, July 10, at the age of 92 years, two months and eighteen days.

Surviving relatives include, besides his wife, two sons, Ewald of Groton and Herman of Milwaukee, Wis.; a daughter, Mrs. Alma Niemeyer of St. Paul; seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Mr. Kuehnert, highly respected pioneer, was a shoe-maker by trade and immediately upon arriving in Groton, opened a shoe repair shop. This business grew steadily and after several years, Mr. Kuehnert was the owner of a progressive and up-to-date shoe store. Under his supervision the establishment's growth continued, due principally to his keen business ability, honest dealing and fine personality. Everyone knew "Fritz, the Shoe Man," and his genial and witty disposition made him a loyal friend to all. He was of true Christian character, being one of the founders of St. John's Lutheran church in Groton, which he served as treasurer from its founding until the fall of 1921. He also served as treasurer of the South Dakota District of the Missouri Synod.