

September 11, 1976

## Bennet Tollefson

Services for Bennet A. Tollefson, 87, former Houghton area farmer, were held at 10 a.m. Monday, Aug. 30, at the Congregational Church in Columbia. The Rev. John Maines of Groton officiated. Burial was in Lakeview Cemetery at Columbia with Masonic graveside rites.

Mr. Tollefson died Thursday at Colonial Manor at Groton.

Mrs. Walter Sieber and Mrs. Ben Dayton sang, "Just As I Am"; and the congregation sang "Nearer My God To Thee," with Mrs. Edwin Karlen as organist.

Pallbearers were all grandsons, Joel, Roger, Richard, Larry and James Wilson, and Tom, Jarold and Bruce Tollefson. Masonic graveside services were led by Elton Howard.

Mr. Tollefson was born November 12, 1888, in a sod house at Sand Lake. Later the family moved to Minnesota where they lived until he was about eight years old when they returned to live near Sand Lake. He attended South Dakota State College.

Mr. Tollefson married Sadie Paddock at Black Earth, Wis., on January 19, 1911. They lived on a farm near Houghton until Sand Lake Wildlife Refuge was created when they settled on a farm near his old Sand Lake home.

He was a member of the Congregational Church of Columbia, the Greenfield Township board for many years, the Modern Woodmen for over 50 years, was a 57-year member of the Masonic Lodge, and also belonged to the Scottish Rite and the Yelduz Shrine at Aberdeen.

Survivors are a son, Harold of Richmond Resort; a daughter, Mrs. Pearl Wilson, Houghton; a daughter-in-law, Verlyn Tollefson, Houghton; his sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kemnitz, Columbia; 12 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren. His wife, two sons and one daughter preceded him in death.