

June 22, 1933

## FRANK WAGENER, PIONEER, EXPIRES

DEATH CAME FRIDAY DUE TO  
HARDENING OF ARTERIES;  
BURIED SUNDAY

Frank A. Wagener, another one of the old-time settlers of Brown county, joined the hosts of the eternal Friday when he laid down his life after a long eventful career as a pioneer and leading citizen of this community.

Mr. Wagener's death, as much as it was deplored, was not unexpected. He had been in failing health for the past four years, and his friends and family watched the venerable old gentleman's footsteps grow slower and more uncertain with mounting apprehension, and this spring they knew, when he was forced to sacrifice much that was dear to his heart, that the end was near. His death was no surprise but it has left in its wake a pathway of sorrow that can only be alleviated by remembering that it was a joy to know and love him when Fate was in a kind and gentle mood.

He was essentially a man of the soil. He came to Groton vicinity in 1882 from Horicon, Wis., and from that date until his death no community ever possessed a citizen whose faith in his surroundings was more unwavering and whose daily life contributed so much to the wealth and productivity, not only of his own possessions, but those of this end of the county as well. He was not a scientist, but at the same time his mind never grew old. He did not live in the past and reject any and all new innovations in farming that were not in vogue when he broke his first acre of virgin sod back when the country was young. On the other hand his analytical mind was ever searching for more and better ways to farm, new crops to produce and new ways to replenish the soil of those essential necessities he found in it before the hand of man had wrought its destructive influence upon a land that was rich in everything that nature could give. In these matters he was an authority since his experiments and practical application of a vast storehouse of common sense revealed to him many of nature's secrets which we know so little about, and which he utilized to a marked advantage.

### Came Here in 1882

The deceased came here in the spring of 1882 and with his parents, proved up on land south of town. Since that time he has lived in eastern Brown county and called Groton his home. He moved to this city about 1915 when he retired from active farming and winter and summer alike he was always a familiar figure on the streets of Groton and took a keen and active interest in town and community betterment. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Pfeifer on April 7, 1899, and to this union four children were born, all of whom are living. They are Supt. Frank Wagener of Salem; Elmer Wagener, who is carrying on on the Wagener farm north of James; Miss Sadie of Groton, and Mrs. Vance E. Miller, also of Groton. There are also four grandchildren and one sister, Mrs. Alice Marquardt of Superior, Wis., besides his wife to mourn his loss. He was born at Horicon, Wis., Feb. 14, 1862 and was 71 years old at the time of his death.

Funeral services were held from the home Sunday afternoon, conducted by Rev. Luther C. Benson and the remains were laid to rest in Groton cemetery.