

October 7, 1954

W. William John Israel

Funeral services were held Thursday, Sept. 23, 1954, in St. John's Lutheran church in Groton. The Rev. Charles M. Scheller of Huron, President of the North Dakota district officiated. Rev. R. M. Grundmeier and Rev. W. Streufert served as liturgists. Members of the church board of Peace Lutheran church of Hecla served as pallbearers and the large number of pastors served as honorary bearers. Burial was in Groton cemetery.

William John Israel, son of Frank and Wilhelmina Israel, was born March 15, 1884, in Chicago. In early infancy he was baptized and later was confirmed in Lutheran faith. In fall of 1899 he entered Concordia College in Milwaukee, graduating in 1905 and from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1908. He was ordained into the ministry in the Rockham-Orient-Miranda parish on August 15, 1908. The deceased served in a number of pastorates until 1949 when he returned to Hecla, serving the Peace congregation until August 29th of this year when he tendered his resignation due to ill health.

On June 28, 1911, the deceased was joined in marriage with Miss Esther Mack of Groton, who survives. This union was blessed with five children, all of whom are living, Mrs. Ruth Kennedy, a nurse in armed services; Martin, of Pipestone, Minn.; Mrs. Arthur Olson, Groton, S. D.; John, a student at Concordia Seminary and presently serving in North Dakota, and Fred, who is at home and is at present attending Groton high school.

Mr. Israel, during the past six years, was repeatedly hospitalized at Hecla, N. D. On August 30th he entered St. Luke's hospital at Aberdeen, where he passed away Sept. 19, at the age of 70 years, 6 months and

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