

July 21, 1927

## MAYOR RONAN DIES AFTER LONG ILLNESS

AFTER EFFECTS OF SLEEPING  
SICKNESS CAUSE—FUNER-  
AL THURSDAY, 10 A. M.

W. Ronan, mayor of Groton and eminent citizen of the city for many years, died at his home here today morning from the after effects of sleeping sickness, an attack which seized him several years ago and from which he never recovered. Although able to be up and about since his release from the hospital three or four years ago, he never enjoyed the best of health, at times being confined to his room. His confinement occurred about two weeks ago, during which time he caught the creeping poison which attacked his system with unfailing force, but unavailingly.

Mr. Ronan was 35 years of age at the time of his death, and was the youngest mayor ever elected to office in Groton. He is also the second to expire while holding the mayoralty. He was born at Beresford, New York state, Nov. 10, 1892, a son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Ronan. He was married November 22, 1911, to Miss Abeth Doetsch, of Redfield. Two children were born to this union, one dying in infancy.

The deceased came to Groton in 1915, assuming charge of the Standard Oil bulk and fill stations. His administration of the company's business in Groton was such a marked success that he was promoted to a larger field—Abingdon—where he served the community until he was seized with sleeping sickness. This malady forced him to resign and he went to Minneapolis for relief. He was confined in a Minneapolis hospital for seven months, but when released still felt the effects of his illness, and was forced to take life easy. He entered the insurance business but after a short time dropped it and returned to his first occupation in that of dealing in oil and

At the time of his death, he was employed at the Standard Oil station.

Mr. Ronan was elected to the mayoralty of Groton at the spring election in 1926. He was the youngest citizen ever elected to this office. Prior to his reign at the head of the city government, he had spent a number of years on the

survived by his wife, of Groton; his father, T. J. Ronan, of Redfield; his sisters, Mrs. J. O'Connor, of Groton, and Mrs. George Russett, of Santa Barbara, Calif.; three brothers, Aloysius, of Seneca, and Joseph and Roch, of Redfield. All were at his bedside when the end came.

The funeral will be held Thursday afternoon at the local Catholic church at 2 o'clock, with Father [Name] officiating and conducting the services. The charge will be of H. Paetz.

It is requested that all businesses in Groton be closed on Thursday from 9 a. m. until 11 a. m.