

Mrs. Canberg is attending a milliners convention in Grand Rapids. she expects to bring home a new line of hats.

### ERNEST E. SPRAGUE

August 7, 1855—April 6, 1923

Ernest E. Sprague was born on the homestead farm in Vermontville township, which he later purchased and on which he resided the greater part of his life. He was the son of Argalus and Caroline Sprague, his mother being one of the earliest settlers of Vermontville. After attending the district school he was for some time a student at Olivet College but was compelled to leave on account of the ill health of his parents requiring his presence at home. Later he taught in the district schools, and then he purchased from his mother the old home farm in Vermontville. Here he lived for over forty years until ill health compelled his retirement from active life.

He moved to Charlotte in November 1920, purchasing a home at 302 South Sheldon street, where he resided until his death.

He joined the Congregational Church at Vermontville at an early age and was for several years one of its trustees.

On October 5, 1882 he married Etta F. Potter, daughter of the late Theodore E. Potter of Lansing.

He is survived by his wife; his brother, Rev. F. P. Sprague, East

LeRoy; his sister, Miss Amanda Sprague, of Vermontville; two daughters, Miss Evelyn Sprague, Charlotte and Miss M. Frances Sprague, Negaunee; and four sons, Milton W. Sprague, Vermontville and George Clare Sprague, Edgar P. Sprague and Ernest Stuart Sprague, all of New York city, and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at the home in Charlotte on Monday, April 2, at ten a. m., Rev. Frank Davis of the Congregational Church, Charlotte officiating. Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Vermontville.

APRIL 19, 1923.

Mrs. L. Campbell stepped out of her place of business for a few minutes Tuesday about noon, when she returned there she found some of her friends with well filled baskets of various good things to remind her that it was her birthday. These things are the bright spots in our lives and are very enjoyable.

The friends and former teachers of Miss Ivah Hawkins will be pleased to know she is winning honors at Taylor University. A short time ago she won out in a debate and recently was surprised to be called forward and receive from the president, Dr. Paul, of the college amidst the applause of the school, second prize for the neatest and most attractive room.

Elmer Norris made his sister May a short visit the first of the week enroute from Canada to the Pacific coast.

## Masonic Temple Dedicated Last Thursday

Last Thursday was the red letter day for Masonry in Vermontville when the Masonic temple was dedicated by the Grand Lodge of Michigan Masons. Vermontville lodge No. 232 was organized in 1868 and at one time occupied the hall they now own. The building now owned and occupied by L. W. Loveland, the Druggist was purchased a number of years ago by a stock company of Masons and rented to the lodge until about eight years ago when the lodge purchased the stock from these members. One year ago they sold that building to Mr. Loveland and purchased the Hammond Block. At considerable expense the entire upper floor has been arranged for the use of the fraternity. On the south side is the lodge room and on the north is the well equipped dining room and kitchen. There is also a commodious reception, ante-room and property room.

In the work of furnishing and decorating the rooms, they were assisted by the ladies of the Eastern Star lodge. The members of the Grand Lodge complimented the officers and members on the fine temple they now have. Deputy Worshipful Grand Master Chas. A. Durand of Flint presided as most Worshipful Grand Master and the lodge room was presented to him for inspection by the Worshipful Master

Laughlin. The Most Worshipful Grand Master then called for the working tools of the craft which were presented by the Senior Warden, Bennie Slout. Grand Senior Warden Benj. J. Henderson of Starfish, acting as Deputy Grand Master, Grand Junior Warden Arthur J. Fox of Almont, acting as Grand Senior Warden, and Grand Senior Deacon Chas. A. Donaldson of Grand Rapids acting as Grand Junior Warden each inspected the hall and reported that the workmen had done their work well.

As the procession was formed the hymn used in the dedicating ceremony was sung by a choir consisting of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Bowman, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Lake, E. J. Loveland with Mrs. A. N. Canberg at the piano. The officers and those assisting in the ceremonies marched around the altar and the dedicating prayer was offered by the Grand Secretary Lou B. Windsor of Grand Rapids acting as Grand Chaplain. The Worshipful Grand Master dedicated the lodge room according to the ancient usages of free masonry and the oil and wine and corn were used in this ceremony. Other visiting members assisting were; C. W. Windsor of Grand Rapids and John Aishouse of Pontiac, who were acting Past Masters.

Members of the Vermontville lodge who assisted in the ceremony were: Past Masters S. C. Schram, Fred Rawson, C. A. Anderson, Arza Barnes, A. E. Crook, and brothers C. Wells and E. D. Lake.