

REINHOLD E. ZEMKE

Reinhold E. Zemke, son of Herman and Friederika Zemke, was born July 11, 1869 in Klein Kartzenburg, Germany, and departed this earthly life March 9, 1931, at the age of sixty-one years, seven months and twenty-six days. His death following an illness of about two months, during which time he spent at the home of his brother, Richard. He was baptized in infancy and confirmed in the Lutheran Church at the age of fourteen.

The early years of his life were spent in that German village. When a young man of about twenty years of age, he decided to come to this country. He came to Vermontville, where in 1898 he bought a farm on which he resided for the remainder of his life with the exception of the five months that he spent with a brother and sister in Germany in 1922.

He is survived by two sisters and five brothers: Miss Bertha Zemke and Mrs. Howard Cooper, Mayesville, South Carolina; Theodore of Germany; Otto and Erwin of Caro; Herman and Richard of Vermontville, beside a large circle of other relatives and friends to mourn his loss.

He was a man of sterling character. Endowed with these fine qualities of characters, he met life's problems with a smile and a most earnest desire to give the best that was in his power in order that his mission in life as our Maker had planned it would be carried out to the fullest. The memory of his life will remain most precious in the hearts of his family and larger circle of friends. As we flash our light upon this life, we find the light is too dim to reveal to the utmost his rich and sublime life. As we pause one moment it seems that these lines exemplify his ideals as words are able to express them.

Lives of great men all remind us

Also can make our lives sublime

And, departing, leave behind us

Footprints on life's sands of time;

Footprints that perhaps another

Sailing over life's solemn main

A forlorn and shipwrecked brother

Seems shall take heart again.

Longfellow.

CLAYTON HAMILTON WELLS

Clayton Hamilton Wells, son of Melissa R. and B. F. Wells, was born August 21, 1880, in Clarendon township, Calhoun County, Michigan. In November, of that year, the family moved to Eaton County, to the farm in Kalama township which has since remained the homestead. For eight years he lived in Kansas, and there on December 26, 1886, he married Anna M. Henry. Shortly after his return to Michigan, he became a member of the Vermontville Masonic Lodge Number 232, F. & A. M. His death occurred March 13, 1931. He leaves behind him his wife, Mrs. Anna Wells, four children, Carl B. Wells, Hazel M. Rickle, Violetta M. Purdy and Leola A. Vincent, and six grandchildren.

Beside his immediate family, he is survived by one sister, Mrs. Alice Parker, three brothers, Clark E., Perry B. and Clinton K. Wells, the latter a twin brother, and six nephews and nieces. Mr. Wells spent his entire life quietly working on his farm. He was a man of sterling character, enjoying the respect and confidence of the community in which he lived. He had a merry heart and drew to himself the friendly comradeship of those around him. He had a cherry personality and his kindly presence will be missed by many.

The funeral services were held at the home of his son, Carl B. Wells, the homestead of Benjamin F. Wells, Sunday afternoon at two o'clock, March 15, 1931. Elder J. W. Roach, an old friend of the family, officiated. Interment was made at the Kalama cemetery.

Virginia Ruth Cochrane

Virginia Ruth Cochrane, daughter of Harry and Gladys Cochrane, was born January 31, 1919, in Vermontville township and died January 23, 1934, age 14 years, 11 months and 23 days. She was a member of the Freshman class of the Charlotte High school. She leaves to mourn their loss her parents, five sisters, Leila, Icyphene, Dorothy, Phyllis and Shirley, and one brother, Neil. One brother, Denis, passed away April 12, 1928. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Roach of Vermontville at the home in Kelly with burial in the Premiere cemetery January 25. The pallbearers were Myron Bosworth, Don Bosworth, Don McNabb, Myron Gay, Carl Rogers and Bon West.

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