

Bunday Bedding Firm Founder Dies at 94

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(Special to The State Journal)
ST. JOHNS, March 7—Frederick P. Bunday, Sr., of the Bunday Bedding company, who built industrial success out of a business failure, died Saturday at his home here at the age of 94.

Mr. Bunday came to St. Johns in 1879 from Hillsdale county to take a job as a railway clerk on the Grand Trunk railroad. He was 19 years old. He served in that capacity for 21 years and by 1890 it appeared that it would be his lifetime work.

Then, a jobless friend, a fire and his own failure in a business venture as a grocer were turned into what became a successful industry.

Around 1890 Mr. Bunday was approached by a friend who was unemployed and who suggested that the two go into the manufacture of bed comforters. The business started on a small scale, too small for the impatient friend, who withdrew from the partnership.

ST. JOHNS PLANT LOST

Left alone, with a business to which he could only devote part of his time, Mr. Bunday gave up his mail clerk job and decided to concentrate on production of mattresses.

Things soon began looking up, and as markets were found in Detroit and Chicago, Mr. Bunday launched on the construction of a plant in St. Johns.

Then, in 1905, the plant was wiped out by a fire.

At 51, Bunday turned to the grocery business but "got sick of it quick." Meanwhile, he had married the former Lena Besley in 1906.

A trip to Lansing in 1914 proved fortunate. He got enough capital to start out again in the bedding business. This time, it was on a wholesale basis rather than retail as at first.

Expansion called for additions



FREDERICK P. BUNDAY, SR.

to the plant in 1947. He discovered a successful innovation in a baby's department with a growing demand for products tailored to infant's needs.

Today, the business is thriving in the hands of Frederick, Jr., who took over the management a few years ago.

Surviving, besides the son, are the widow, and a grandson, John, of Lansing.

The body is at the Osgood funeral home, St. Johns, where it will remain until funeral services to be held Tuesday at 2 p. m. at the St. Johns Episcopal church. Burial will be in the family vault in Mt. Rest cemetery.

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E. J. Hanna.
A. M. Hinkley.
Wm. F. Schaller.

EMMET COUNTY.
Emmet County Graphic.
Potoskey Evening News.
Northern Michigan Review.

GENESEE COUNTY.

Banner.
Index.
Clio Messenger.

Ralph C. Gillett.
B. G. Willard.
Paul H. Kart.

Burton Twp. (a)
Clio.
Davison.
Easton.

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