

With Mrs. Beach he was living temporarily in the one-time Nelson Smith home on South Sheldon Street, while their beautiful new ranch-type home nearby was being built and completed since he was fatally stricken.

Largest Culvert Production

Mr. Beach, with his brother, Fitch, organized the Beach Manufacturing company at Lyons in 1890, moving it to Charlotte in 1903. It is known as the oldest firm in the nation devoted to the exclusive production of culverts and certain makes of highway machinery, holding 25 patents on basic improvements in road machinery. Fitch Beach sold out his interest in 1910 to the brother, and a year later, 1911, Fred Beach disposed of his stock to Howard Montgomery, now the sole owner of the patents.

Was President of Cemetery Board

Mr. Beach was always interested in Maple Hill cemetery and following the death of President L. H. Shepherd, Mr. Beach was offered the vacancy and accepted; in fact, was elected president at the first session that followed his appointment and had filled this office continuously until his death. A rather unusual circumstance happened in the official status of the cemetery at this time. E. J. Patterson, also a member of the board, died December 23, 1932, three days before the passing of Mr. Shepherd. Charles Strother, a close friend and neighbor of Mr. Patterson, was named to this vacancy.

Long-Time Bank Director

When the Beach family became interested in local banking in 1934, Fred Beach became a director and later vice president, filling this important commercial and community role until his passing. In recent months, however, he took no direct activity in the bank management other than his personal relationship as a heavy depositor and customer. While not a charter member of the Charlotte Rotary Club Mr. Beach became associated with the Club shortly after its organization some 25 years ago and has always been interested in its programs and projects.

Born in Barry County in 1870

Born in Barry County on September 18, 1870, Mr. Beach was the son of Calvin and Annette Beach, and had been a resident of Charlotte for the past 46 years. He was married in 1919 to Miss Rose Lepard, who survives, as does a daughter (Mrs. John Beatty of Indianapolis, Ind.) by a first marriage, and the brother, Fitch Beach, Charlotte philanthropist.

Funeral Friday Afternoon

The funeral will be held this (Fri.) afternoon at the Burkhead

Chapel at 2:00 o'clock. Reverend Russell H. McConnell of the Congregational Church will officiate. Burial in Maple Hill. The pall bearers are Laurence P. Otto, Stanley Randle, Claude W. Behrens, W. A. Vance, his associates on the Eaton County Savings Bank directorate, and Harold Smith and Clyde A. Fulton of the Maple Hill cemetery board.

30-Year Veteran Is Death Victim

Eddie Wilcox Buried in Glendale Cemetery

Funeral services for Eddie H. Wilcox, 60, Motor Wheel employe for 30 years, were held April 23 from the Estes Leadley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Lester W. Boyd, pastor of the Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church, officiating. Burial was in Glendale Cemetery at Okemos.

Mr. Wilcox, veteran Plant No. 2 employe, died at the

home, 1814 High Street, April 21 following an illness of three weeks.



Mr. Wilcox started his employment here April 30,

1919, when he went to work in the Steel Room of the Gier Pressed Steel Company, one of the present Corporation's predecessor concerns. Following the formation of Motor Wheel Corporation in 1920, he continued working on various jobs in the same department until January 1, 1938, when he was transferred to the McKinley Street Building of Plant No. 2 and became a checker on Centrifuse brake drums.

It was while working on this job that Mr. Wilcox suffered the illness that preceded his death.

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