

Prominent Retired Druggist Dies Unexpectedly Monday



Von W. Furniss

Von W. Furniss, 75, dean of Nashville merchants when he retired from the drug business the first of this year, died unexpectedly at his home on Queen street Monday morning. He had seemed to be in reasonably good health in recent weeks and had been down town on Friday. He was stricken early Monday morning and died about 9 a. m.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at the Methodist church, with the Rev. Arthur Howell officiating. Burial was in Lakeview cemetery.

When Mr. Furniss sold his interest in the Rexall drug store to his partner, Adolph Douse, jr., at the beginning of this year, he had a record of 57 years in business on Nashville's Main street. His mercantile career started in 1895, shortly after he graduated from Nashville High school, when he went to work for the late Ed. Liebhuaser in the drug store which he later was to own for many years. In 1902 Mr. Furniss and Ralph Foote bought the store, and after Mr. Foote's death three months later Mr. Furniss owned and operated the business until 1914. At that time he sold an interest to H. D. Wotring and, in 1916, sold his interest to his partner. After that he was an employee and officer in the

Services Held Today For Von W. Furniss

old Farmers & Merchants Bank until the fall of 1926, when he bought the drug store back from Mr. Wotring. He took Mr. Douse into the firm as a partner Jan. 1, 1945, and when he retired eight years later was by far Nashville's oldest merchant on the basis of years of business.

Mr. Furniss was born at Nashville Jan. 24, 1878, the son of Charles and Elvira (Stephenson) Furniss. On Oct. 14, 1903, he was married to Miss Edna Johnson of Lake Odessa. Surviving besides his wife are two daughters, Mrs. Arthur (Margaret) Bateman of Detroit and Miss Pauline Furniss of Lansing; two brothers, Hugh of Nashville and George of Battle Creek; and two grandchildren.

During his lifetime Mr. Furniss has been active and influential in almost every phase of civic life in the community. He was a member of the Methodist church, a life member and Past Master of Nashville Lodge No. 255, F. & A. M., and formerly had been active in various other fraternal orders. He served as village president in 1911-12, being at the time the youngest man ever to hold that office, and also served a number of terms on the village council. For many years he was a member of the Barry county Republican committee.

Deaths

(For additional information on deaths and funerals turn to Announcements, Classification, No. 1, in the classified section.)

Mrs. Agnes Evans

Mrs. Agnes Evans, 74, 912 S. Holmes st., died at a local hospital Saturday. She had lived in Lansing for the past 35 years and was a member of the First Church of Christ Scientist. Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 2 p. m. Wayne Berger will read the Christian Science Service. Interment will be in Evergreen cemetery. She is survived by one brother, Harry

Ambrose of St. Claire; one sister-in-law, Mrs. Nina Evans of Lansing.

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