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EDWARD D. STAIR
Long career ends

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Story, Back Page*

Bon Secours Hospital, Grosse Pointe. He was 92.

Weakened by a series of strokes, Mr. Stair was taken to the hospital Sunday from his home, 8330 E. Jefferson.

SURVIVING ARE a daughter, the Comtesse Pierre de Rostang; a sister, Mrs. Edward Eddington, and three grandchildren, Nancy, Susan and Edward D. Stair III.

The grandchildren are the children of Mrs. E. D. Stair, Jr., whose husband died last July.

The elder Mr. Stair's wife, Grace, died in Palm Beach, Fla., in April, 1947.

MR. STAIR took over the reins of the Free Press in 1906 and was publisher until 1940.

In that year he sold his interests to the present editor and publisher, John S. Knight.

His newspaper career began in Morenci, Mich., where he was born March 29, 1859.

He and his older brother, Orin, launched a weekly newspaper to compete with the established Morenci Observer.

Mr. Stair was then 14, his brother two years older.

DURING HIS long career, Mr. Stair devoted time a variety of interests.

He was well known in the theatrical world as a producer. He was once an automobile manufacturer and a leader in financial circles.

Throughout his life, Mr. Stair was interested in the theater, frequently attending the Cass Theater, one of several playhouses he owned.

HE WAS a director of the Detroit Trust Co., the Detroit Fire and Marine Insurance Co. and the Wabash Railroad Co.

He also was the owner of several downtown buildings, including at various times the Transportation Building, the Commerce Building and properties on Griswold and State.

After selling his interests in the Free Press, Mr. Stair divided his time between Detroit, Arizona and Florida.

He was a member of the Detroit Club, the Old Club, the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, the National Press Club and the Everglades Club, of Palm Beach.

MAY 24, 1951



Edward Douglas Stair

A Pioneer Passes

A MIGHTY Michigan oak has fallen. Edward Douglas Stair is returned to the soil of his birth.

His grandparents hewed their way through the primeval forests of Michigan from the shores of Lake Erie to the site of Morenci, near the Ohio border, for which they made a clearing.

As a small child he heard from his great-grandfather stories of the Revolutionary War, for he had served under George Washington. Around him as a youth were men who had known Jefferson, Jackson, Madison, Monroe—the men who had laid the matrix of our Republic.

He was two years old when the Civil War started and unto his own passing, he remembered well the Nation in mourning over the death of the martyred Lincoln.

And so it was that in the 92 years of his age he had lived much of the life of America.

Nor did he ever lose the adventurous spirit of the frontiersman.