

Green-Beach Hospital. He was finally a victim of leukemia and knew the fate that this professional information carried. His immediate family of two daughters, Mrs. Harry Day and Miss Erma Sowers of Charlotte and a son, Wayne of Adrian, were with their father during the closing days of his illness. Mr. Sowers was born in the Montpelier neighborhood in Ohio, but spent 62 years of his long and active life in Eaton County, principally as a lawyer in Charlotte.

Capable Trial Lawyer

Considered by many as the best trial lawyer at the bar since the spectacular days of Garry C. Fox and Frank A. Dean, and earlier, J. M. Powers, Mr. Sowers, in this role, became well known through this ability. This type of practice has almost disappeared from courtrooms, except for occasional barristers of the Kim Sigler flair with abilities for this style of legal defense. Such a role gets the headlines and Mr. Sowers never felt any offense in this regard. Gradually his business followed the trend of office practice. His first introductions to this field was as a member of the firm of Blasier, Sowers and Fluery with rather plain offices in the second story over Albert Murray's shoe store. He was a partner also of B. G. Cameron for a time but most of the time he was alone.

Was Interested in Public Affairs

Mr. Sowers was a democrat in politics, but "independent" would be more nearly correct. He held one elective office, that of drain commissioner which legal detail caused him to begin the study of law. He spoke throughout the county in most campaigns and was twice at least, and possibly more, a candidate for Congress on the democratic ticket. In one of the Roosevelt sweeps Mr. Sowers actually carried Congressman Shafer's home county of Calhoun but the incumbent's majority in Kalamazoo staved off defeat. He was a close friend of Congressman Joe Hopper during his career but has been a rather persistent critic of Congressman Shafer.

Mr. Sowers was born July 20, 1869, in Williams county, Ohio, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John (Kunkle) Sowers. He had practiced law during 47 of the 63 years he had resided in Eaton county, and was a member of both the county and state bar associations.

He married Miss Ellen Krusen in 1889 who died in 1936.

He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Harry Day and Miss Irma Sowers, both of Charlotte; a son, Wayne, of Adrian; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren,

and a sister, Mrs. Hattie Beard, Detroit.

Funeral services were held Thursday at 3:30 p.m., at the Burkhead chapel, with Rev. Richard Hunter of the First Congregational church officiating. Burial was in Maple Hill cemetery.

The pall bearers were: Judge A. D. McDonald, Geo. W. Watson, Robert C. Carr, B. G. Cameron, Judge Ion McLaughlin and Homer L. Bauer.

from a Sinner's Diary

Bert Pember, Hans Viele, Art Lake, quit school about the time I started, around 1880. They had their ways. Old Jack Kelly asked my Pessimist, Rosa Bosworth Rhodes, "Can you scare the devil out of those boys and teach a school there?" "I think so." She did.

Now they're all numbered with the slain. My Pessimist died, past 80. She left an old lover. After she died he jumped into the river. Can you and I do that at 80?

Dear, dear old Bert Pember! Gentlemen, there was a Wit. He looked just like he sounded, and he sounded like he looked. You lingered near to hear how he could trim things.

Dear, dear Hans! He used to hire me to chop Canadas in his oats with a hoe so the binder wouldn't cut the seed. I bet I wallered down more oats than thistles. Some years I laid up \$2 at it—10c an hour. Such years I was prosperous several months. We thought then we could squelch 'em, keep 'em from spreading. We know now, however the sign reads, they keep spreading like a ringworm on a chin. Like every old white horse ever born, they're alive yet.

"Whoso chooseth to his heaven— I shall be content to stay Where the ghosts of dead years Wander thru the halls of yesterday."

Lynette Freemire.

July 1, 1937

John W. Spies

John W. Spies, 89, of 5581 Curtis ave., died at a local hospital Wednesday afternoon. He had been a resident of Lansing and vicinity for two years, coming here from Vermontville. Survivors are the widow, Cathern A. Spies; two daughters, Mrs. Truman Dieter, Lafayette, Ind., and Mrs. Bernice Moore, Detroit; a sister, Mrs. Cora Chittick, Sadelia, Ind.; two granddaughters, Mrs. Ida Drew of Lansing, and Mrs. Van Reid of Glendale, Cal., and one great-granddaughter. Funeral services will be held from the Estes-Leadley Colonial chapel at 3 o'clock Friday afternoon. Rev. Robert J. Baumann of St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed church will officiate, with interment at Deepdale cemetery.