

William James Burnett 1842-1930

obit of William J Burnett d 11/14/1930; Minneapolis

W J Burnett, 88 Dies Heart Victim - Funeral Monday for Founder of Northwestern Hide & Fur Co

William J. Burnett, who founded the Northwestern Hide and Fur Company in Minneapolis in 1890, died Friday at his residence, 1405 Como Ave SE, at the age of 88 years.

Funeral services at 2 PM tomorrow will be conducted in Como Congregational Church, 14th Ave SE, near Como, by Rev C J Schaufuss. Burial will be in Lakewood Cemetery. The body will lie in state today at Washburn's Mortuary, 413 Central Ave.

When Mr. Burnett founded the Northwestern Hide & Fur Company, he located at 417 Main St, SE. Later he purchased property at 409 Main St where he conducted business until 1901 when he moved to its present location at 200 First St, N. He had been in business for himself since he was 21.

When in active business, Mr. Burnett displayed unusual interest in the development of the use of natural resources, and in 1896 he hired two men to explore on foot from the Deer River to Rain River, to determine the resources for agriculture, hunting, fishing and trapping, contributing the information to the newspapers.

Born in Pittsburgh, he resided at different times in Indiana, Illinois, South Dakota before coming to Minneapolis. His wife, whom he married in South Dakota in 1888, died three years ago, and since that time his daughter, Mrs. Alleda B. Arneson and her husband have made their home with him.

Mr. Burnett had been a member of Como Congregational Church for the last 34 years, having served on both the board of trustees and the board of deacons. He was _____ orary vicepresident of _____ can Sunday School _____. He had been in good Oct 25 celebrated _____ day.