

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1920

## 'SANDY' McBLAIN GONE

One of the Men Who Has Made This  
Community Distinctive is  
Summoned

ANSWERED THE CALL OF  
DEATH SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Had Reached Advanced Age of 82  
Years—Funeral Was Held  
This Afternoon

Grinnell will not be the same place without "Sandy" McBlain. One of the men who made the community distinctive; a Scotchman of wide reading, strong opinions and great devotion to the best interests of the town in which he lived, answered the last call Sunday afternoon. His last illness was brief. He had reached the advanced age of 82 years and had been in comfortable health up to the past two weeks. It was not until Saturday morning that he was forced to take to his bed for the last time. Up to that time he had been at his usual place in the office of R. G. Coutts, where it had been his custom to spend several hours each day. On Saturday he felt ill and went home at 11 o'clock in the morning never to return.

A son, Rev. A. W. McBlain, Jr., pastor of the Methodist church at Ainsworth, was summoned when the serious condition of his father became evident, but reached Grinnell just a few minutes too late to see Mr. McBlain alive.

Alexander McBlain was born in Scotland and came to the United States in 1881 with all the members of his family with the exception of his oldest son, who died in his native land a few years ago. About four years ago Mr. McBlain lost his devoted wife, whose death occurred on his own birthday anniversary.

His undying love for his wife is illustrated by his observance of the date of her departure from the home circle. Each year, no matter how far from Grinnell he might be on that date he always returned to live again in the memories of their years together.

Mr. McBlain leaves a number of children: Rev. Alexander McBlain, Jr., of Ainsworth, Mrs. Mary Heech, of Davenport, Mrs. C. Powell, of Grinnell, David McBlain, of Grinnell, John McBlain of Grinnell, Mrs. Joe Punnell, of Kansas City, and Mrs. Moss, of Saskatchewan, Canada.

The funeral was held at two-thirty o'clock this afternoon at M. E. church conducted by Rev. W. C. Wasser and Rev. J. M. Brown.

"Sandy" was a true Scotchman. He had the real Scotch love of argument; the real Scotch brogue; the canny Scotch sense of humor. He was a welcome visitor wherever he went and he was generally present at any meeting which had the welfare of Grinnell in mind and frequently expressed himself with wisdom and emphasis.

Several years ago he was elected a member of the city council. He took responsibilities seriously and no one was ever more devoted in his observance of his duties as councilman than was "Sandy".

Very many Grinnell men will miss the sight of "Sandy" as he went about the streets day by day. They will miss the twinkle of the eye and the ready repartee for which he was famous. He has lived well and will rest in peace.