

Rock Island Magazine
Dec 1920
"Bunk" Black, Dead

The numerous friends of Conductor Edgar E. Black, more familiarly known as "Bunk Black," will be grieved to learn of his death at St. Anthony's Hospital, Rock Island, Ill., on November 15th, at 5:30 p. m., as a result of a stroke of apoplexy. He was stricken on November 3rd, at his home and was taken to St. Anthony's Hospital, where for nearly two weeks he waged a losing battle for life.

Mr. Black was born at Seaport, Maine, fifty-eight years ago. He entered the service of the Rock Island Lines as a water boy on a steam shovel crew at Grinnell, Iowa, forty-four years ago and has been in continuous service since that time, having entered the Train Service Department as a brakeman and rose to his present position, through steady and efficient performance of his duties and his great willingness at all times to be of assistance to others.

He was promoted to position of conductor in 1897 and for several years he has been in charge of the Rocky Mountain Limited train, one of the best trains in the service of the Rock Island Lines.

He was affiliated with the Order of Railway Conductors, Lodge No. 106 and was active in the affairs of the order.

In 1885, Mr. Black was united in marriage to Miss Delia Fenlon of Des Moines, Iowa, and is survived by his widow, three sons and one daughter, Charles Edward, of Spokane, Wash., Frank A., Louis T., and Miss Veronica Black, of Rock Island, who will greatly feel his loss. He is also survived by a sister, Mrs. Frank Madison of Grinnell, Iowa, and a brother, Fred, of Rock Island, and by two grandchildren.

During Mr. Black's long years of service he has been held in high esteem by the officers of the company and by his fellow workers on account of his efficient service and his cheerful disposition. He had a host of friends among the traveling public with whom he came in contact and who will miss his friendly greeting and his ever-ready assistance to those who needed it.

Funeral services for Mr. Black were held at Sacred Heart Church, Rock Island, Ill., on Thursday, November 18th.

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