

Business Houses Close In Tribute To "Dad" Brown

Montezuma business places closed Tuesday from 1:30 to 2:30 in a memorial to "Dad" Brown, oldest businessman on the square. Dad started to learn the barber trade at an early age and continued in it a lifetime. He first worked in a shop over what now is Ross' Ben Franklin store and ended in his own building at the east side, now occupied by the County Extension Service and his cleaning business.

The funeral home was well filled with sorrowing relatives, friends and business associates paying their last respects to a man who "came up the hard way and made good." In his final years his greatest pleasure was in watching the grandchildren develop.

T. C. Brown was born Feb. 15, 1884, in Keokuk county, Iowa, and died in the Mahaska hospital, Oskaloosa, Jan. 12, at the age of 79 years and 11 months. He was reared in a family of 16 children, eight half-brothers and sisters and seven brothers and sisters, four of whom survive him.

His entire life was spent in Montezuma, where he attended school. In 1905, he was united in marriage with Ida M. Lofgreen, and to this union, two daughters were

born, Arulen Brown Morrow, of Des Moines, and Mrs. Paul Konecny, of Barnes City. Mrs. Brown died in 1952.

At the age of 18 he opened his barber shop in Montezuma and continued for 60 years, during which time, 'Dad', as he was affectionately known, missed scarcely a day of work. For the past two years, he has operated the coin-operated Dry Cleaning in his building.

He was a member of Lafayette Lodge #52, AF & AM; the Order of the Eastern Star and the Presbyterian church, where he sang in the choir for many years.

He is survived by his two daughters; four grandchildren, Paul Charles, Arulen Kay, Christine Carol and Bette Jo Anne Konecny; two brothers, Earl J. and William Brown, and a sister, Mrs. Carrie Wolford, all of Montezuma; a half-sister, Mrs. Mattie Smith, Grinnell, many nieces and nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were conducted at 1:30 p.m. Jan. 14, at the Steffy Funeral Home by Rev. Glenn Dieken. Leslie Steele sang "Three Bells", accompanied by Alice Underwood, organist.

Interment was beside Mrs. Brown in Jackson township cemetery. Casket bearers were Dode Baustian, Walter Hockey, Forrest Sharer, Wavern Briggs, Marcus Shearer and George Ingram.