

Harry C. Mills Dies in Hospital, Ill Short Time

May 24/58

Following a serious operation and ill health for the past two weeks, Harry Corbett Mills, superintendent of the Water Purification Plant, died in the Belleville General Hospital on Friday evening. A native of this city, a brilliant first baseman of the old C.N.R. Nationals, an ardent sportsman and fine citizen, "Young Peeney" Mills will be sadly missed by a wide circle of friends.

The late Mr. Mills was born in this city 55 years ago, being the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James A. Mills and had continuously resided in this community. He received his early education in the public and high schools of the city and at an early age entered the employment of the CNR as a switch-tender in the yard. In 1931 he left the CNR to take a position with the waterworks department, when it was under the control of the city council and had continued in that capacity ever since. He started in the department as a helper and worked through the various grades and for the last number of years had been superintendent of the plant, a position he held with distinction to himself and the Public Utilities Commission.

From his earliest age he was passionately fond of sports, especially baseball. He advanced through the junior grades of ball in this city and was elevated to the senior team, when eligible for junior play, and for many years was the mainstay and first baseman of one of the best amateur teams ever put together in this province. The Nationals won two senior championships of the province and Harry was on the winning team of 1928 when the Nationals defeated the Walkerville Chicks in the finals. He was an excellent fielder, a terrific hitter and a wonderful team player.

After his baseball days were over, he never lost his interest in the game and could be seen at every game. He was also fond of hockey and since the senior team had been formed in this city he was one of its greatest boosters. He attended every game at the arena and was most enthusiastic. He was also an ardent angler and spent many happy hours on the Bay of Quinte near his place of employment.

As a civic official he took an especially keen interest in his work. The Water Purification Plant was his first love and he made every effort to improve the standing of his plant and his worth was recognized in 1954, when the Canadian section of the American Waterworks Association awarded Mr. Mills the Hunt Memorial Award "In recognition of his sincerity, reliability, and efficiency in discharge of his duties as a waterworks operator." He was highly regarded by his fellow employees and well liked by the management.

Harry Mills was a fine type of citizen. He had a wide circle of friends in every walk of life in this city and was greatly admired by the sports section of the community. His kindly smile, his pleasant humor will not soon be forgotten.

He was a member of Bridge Street United Church and took an active interest in the work of the congregation.

Surviving are his wife, the former Marion Clarke; two sons, Robert Manson and Harry Norman Mills at home, one daughter, Katharine Marilyn, also at home; one brother, William J. Mills, and one sister, Mrs. James R. Miller, both of this city. One grandson, Dall Stewart Mills, also resides with his grandparents.

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