

# R. G. EVANS, FORMER MAYOR, DIES DEC. 5

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many years one of the executives of the operative division of the Commonwealth Edison Co., Chicago; Dr. Herbert Francis Evans, professor of Religious Education in the Pacific School of Religion, Berkley, Calif.

Mr. Evans was again married July 26, 1881 to Miss Ella C. Ceperly, daughter of Mrs. George Elvey, for many years a resident of Highland Park on S. Green Bay road. Her father was a Union soldier in the Civil war and died in the service. Four

children were born to this marriage, all of whom survive and live in Highland Park and Evanston: Mrs. Florence May Stevens, Mrs. Alice Irene Larsen, Elmer Robert Evans, Mrs. Emma Lulu Myers.

Five grand children and one great grandchild also survive—three sons of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer R. Evans; Robert George, Harold Francis, and Norman Elmer; Mrs. Irene May Watt, daughter of Mrs. Florence Stevens; Doris May Larsen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold O. Larsen, of Evanston. Jane Lambert Watt, great-grandchild, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Watt, of Milwaukee, Wis. One surviving brother, Henry R. Evans, lives in Holland Patent, N. Y.

Mr. Evans was a resident of High-

land Park for over 56 years. He was in the mercantile business until 1889 when he disposed of these interests to his brother Thomas P. Evans. Four years after his arrival in Highland Park in 1873, he began the manufacture of brick on McDaniel's avenue and for 20 years carried on an expanding business, with factories also at Evanston, (opened in 1882), and at Highwood (opened in 1891). At the time of his retirement from the brick manufacturing business in 1896, he estimated that he had delivered toward sixty millions of bricks along the north shore. His bricks were chosen by government engineers at Washington as superior in strength and were used to the full extent of the capacity of his yards in the con-

struction of Fort Sheridan. His older sons remember their father reporting with quick pride the results of the government tests.

Mr. Evans engaged in building to some extent in the earlier days and constructed a score or more of houses many on the west side.

### Mayor Five Terms

Always a hard-working and very active man, Mr. Evans did not use his entire energy for the advancement of his personal affairs. He served on the school board, several terms as alderman and for 10 years he was the choice of his fellow-citizens as mayor of Highland Park for five terms, 1895 to 1899 and 1901 to 1906, being re-elected several times without political opposition. At the time of his retirement resolutions (printed elsewhere two papers) were adopted and presented in engrossed form to the citizen who had served his city well during years when modern water, sewer, and electric facilities were developed and a considerable amount of modern road development was completed. To the end he maintained an active interest in all that concerned the advancement of his city.

Mr. Evans was for many years an active member of the First Baptist church of this city to the time of its closing and served in its church school as teacher and officer and on its official boards for many years. His sterling Christian character was recognized by his friends. A man of few words, but of steadfast friendship; he was eloquent in deeds rather than words alone. He was the trusted friend and adviser of many scores of people and his practical aid to them in their crises will never be known by others.

### Funeral Service

The memorial service was held Sunday, Dec. 8, at 2 o'clock from his late residence, 14 S. First street. Doctor Benjamin Otto, general secretary for the Baptist executive council of Metropolitan Chicago, was the officiating minister. Interment was at Lake Forest, his son, Doctor Herbert Francis Evans voicing the committal service.

### Last Illness

Mr. Evans' last illness was brief. He was apparently in usual health on Thanksgiving day when he participated happily with Mrs. Evans in a family party at the home of his son, Mr. Elmer R. Evans, west Central avenue. He spoke of his enjoyment of that occasion several times that afternoon and the next day. Saturday morning he was not very well and omitted his usual morning walk in which he was a familiar figure to his many friends. By Sunday noon the stroke from which he suffered brought about semi-coma, from which he aroused time to time to recognize one and another of his family. His son Herbert hurried from Berkeley, California and arrived at 11 o'clock Thursday morning. Arousing from the coma, he clasped his son's hand with strong grip and received the greetings of loved ones in the West with characteristic flushed face and eyes. With quiet and relaxed breathing he passed again into quiet sleep from which he did not awaken. It was as though he had waited until his family circle was complete.

A man is said to be worth more to his employer after he is married. This is natural, as someone has been appointed to see that he does some work.

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