

Edward Kelley Dies After a Short Illness

Was Prominent In Legal, Political and Fraternal Circles

Edward L. Kelley, 66, for many years prominent in legal, political and fraternal circles in Wisconsin, died Saturday night at 9:15 o'clock at his home 627 N. Eighth street, after an illness of less than two weeks.

Mr. Kelley was stricken with a heart attack June 23 and his condition remained critical until his death Saturday night. He had been in good health up to the time of his last illness.

Funeral Tuesday

Funeral services will be held Tuesday morning at 8:30 o'clock at the Wattawa, Urbanek and Schlei Funeral home and at nine o'clock at Sacred Heart Catholic church. The Rev. Louis Schorn will officiate and burial will be in Evergreen cemetery. The body is lying in state at the funeral home.

Mr. Kelley was born in Manitowoc Sept. 27, 1874 and attended North Side High school, graduating with the class of 1893. He entered the law school of the University of Wisconsin and was graduated with the class of 1896. He returned to Manitowoc and entered into the practice of law.

Mr. Kelley married Miss Margaret Usher at Madison in 1897. She survives with one son, Philip, of this city; his father, Captain Tim Kelley, aged 92; four brothers, Kenneth of this city; Tim of Beloit; Dr. John Kelley of Cato; and Postmaster Harry F. Kelley of this city; and one sister, Mrs. M. J. Ryan of this city.

Mr. Kelley was appointed city attorney in 1900 by Mayor William Rabr and held the post until 1903. In 1918 he was again appointed city attorney, this time by Mayor John Schroeder and served for two years. When Mayor Schroeder was returned to office in 1928, he appointed Mr. Kelley as city attorney and he served for two years.

Served on Council

Mr. Kelley served several terms on the Manitowoc City Council, as aldermanic representative of the Fourth ward. He also served as district attorney of Manitowoc county in 1907 and 1908.

Mr. Kelley continued the practice of law here until 1929 when he was appointed a member of the State Tax commission by Gov. Walter J. Kohler. In 1932 he resigned from the tax commission to become executive director of the Wisconsin Taxpayers' Alliance an organization which he helped form. He held the post for two years, after which he engaged in the private practice of law in Madison until 1938. That year he returned to Manitowoc and resumed practice here in partnership with Atty. James Kahlenberg, continuing the practice until his death.



EDWARD L. KELLEY

As a member of the tax commission, Mr. Kelley wrote a decision in the case of the Palmolive company of Delaware which was regarded as one of the most important ever rendered involving the state income tax law. The decision was upheld by the United States supreme court in denying a petition for a writ of certiorari.

Mr. Kelley was a leader in the conservative Republican movement in the state. He was a speaker for the Republican party in nearly every biennial political campaign for 45 years and in 1928 was a regular Republican candidate for attorney general.

On Draft Board

At the time of his death, Mr. Kelley was a member of the draft board of district No. 1 of Manitowoc county.

Mr. Kelley was for many years interested in the conservation movement and the problems of sportsmen. He was one of the organizers of the Manitowoc County Fish and Game Protective association and served the organization as its president for several years.

He was a charter member of the local Knights of Columbus and state president for two terms. He headed the local degree team which exemplified the major degree of the order more than 100 times in Wisconsin, Michigan and Canada. He was also a charter member of the local Catholic Order of Foresters.

Mr. Kelley was chairman of the committee which organized the Sacred Heart Catholic congregation in 1901, first off-shoot of the original mother parish, St. Boniface.

Following his admittance to the bar Feb. 13, 1897, Mr. Kelley entered a partnership with A. P. Schenian which was continued until Schenian became county judge. He then formed a partnership with Judge Emil Baensch which was continued until Judge Baensch retired and he was in partnership with the late Atty. Lawrence Ledvina until he went to Madison as a member of the state tax commission.

Manitowoc N. J.

July 14, 1941