

Leo Ratcliff Dead

Rev. Leo Ratcliff, pastor of the Methodist church at Page, died early Monday morning at St. John's hospital in Fargo, following an operation for appendicitis the previous Wednesday.

While the case was considered a serious one he was reported as being on the way to recovery until Sunday night when a clot formed in the lung, thus bringing about a sudden change for the worse, death following before his wife could reach his bedside.

The body was brought to Page, where the funeral was held Thursday afternoon in the church where he had been pastor only two months. The funeral sermon was delivered by Rev. Wallace, District Superintendent of the Fargo district, this having been preceded with talks by Rev. James Anderson, former District Superintendent and by Rev. John Morange, District Superintendent of the Minot district. Burial was in the Page cemetery.

Leo Ratcliff was born in Illinois 38 years ago. By the death of his father he was left to make his own way when quite young. He learned the printer's trade and worked at it while he attended both common and high school. After a few years, he came to North Dakota, being employed on the Medina Citizen. From there he went to Dazey where he established and published the Dazey Commercial until four years ago when he entered the ministry, his first pastorate being the Jud Nortonville charge, which he served until October this year when he was removed to Page.

Leo was considered a preacher of great promise by the officials of the Fargo district, and many were the praises sung of him by the District Superintendents who had occasion to visit the writer's home in the past four years.

The family surviving him are the wife, two sons and one daughter, one of the sons being an infant, born the day before the funeral. He is also survived by one sister, Mrs. F. S. Marrs, two brothers, Glenn, of Lewis-town Illinois, who attended the funeral, and Rev. John Ratcliff of Beverly Massachusetts, who visited in North Dakota last summer, and so could not make the long journey again at this time.

Mr. Ratcliff was a member of the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges of Dazey.