



“All Michigan Prepares to Pay Homage at Sen. Ferris’ Bier:
Brilliant Career of Schoolmaster Closed by Death Friday After a Week’s Fight; Family is
at His Bedside”

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WASHINGTON, March 23 (A.P.) Sen. Woodbridge N. Ferris of Michigan, a veteran of many of his state’s political battles and for two terms its governor, died early today after a struggle against pneumonia which set in more than a week ago.

Death came but a few weeks after Mr. Ferris, who reached the age of 75 last January, had announced his retirement from politics.

FAMILY AT BEDSIDE

Mrs. Ferris and his two sons, Carleton and Phelps, were at the senator’s bedside together with Mrs. Ferris’s brother, John McCloud and Gerrit Masselink, vice president of the Ferris Institute and one of Mr. Ferris’s college mates.

Dr. G. W. Carver made the death announcement. He said the aged senator had a sinking spell yesterday and stimulants failed to revive him. He passed away this morning in his apartment in the Washington Hotel.

WEAKENED FRIDAY

Since last Saturday little hope had been held for the recovery of the senator, who was known as the “good gray governor” of Michigan who broke through that state’s normal Republican majority of 500,000 votes to be elected to the senate in 1922 as a Democrat, something that had not been done in 70 years.

It had been planned to take him to Battle Creek as late as last Friday if his condition did not improve. That evening, however, he began to break rapidly. Then pneumonia set in, and the efforts of physicians to prolong his life proved futile.

DR. GRAYSON CALLED

In an effort to stave off the encroaching disease in the bronchial tube, Dr. Carver had called in a navy specialist, Lieut. Com. Walter A. Bloedorn and Dr. Cary T. Grayson who was President Wilson’s personal physician but their work was to no avail. The senators advanced age had contributed to his rapid decline.

Upon meeting today at noon the senate adjourned as a tribute to Sen. Ferris, and later the house did the same. Both bodies adopted resolutions and appointed committees to attend the funeral.

COUZENS OFFERS RESOLUTION

The senate resolution was presented by Sen. Ferris's colleague, Sen. Couzens who declared that Michigan had lost one of its prominent and useful citizens and the nation "an outstanding figure in practical education."

Sen. Couzens will be at the head of the committee to attend the funeral. Its other members are: Curtis of Kansas, Fess of Ohio, Robinson of Arkansas, Copeland of New York, Barkley of Kentucky, Tydings of Maryland, Dill of Washington, Steiwer of Oregon and Brookhart of Iowa.

The house committee is made up of Clancy, Michener, Hooper, Ketcham, Mapes, Hudson, Cramton, Vincent, McLaughlin, Woodruff, Bohn, James and McLeod, the entire Michigan delegation and Hill of Washington, Rainy of Illinois, Green of Florida and Whitehead of Virginia.

BODY TO GRAND RAPIDS

Sen. Ferris' body will be returned to his Michigan home in Big Rapids, leaving here Sunday afternoon. The funeral sermon, it was announced, will be preached by Rev. Pierce of the Unitarian church there Tuesday afternoon.

The body will be taken from here to Grand Rapids in an observation car, and the trip from there to Big Rapids probably will be by automobile.

On March 7, Senator Ferris announced that because of his age, he would not be a candidate for re-election and at the same time came out for the nomination for Sen. Walsh, Democrat, Montana for the presidency, because he is a dry.

PLANNED VACATION

"I feel it is time that I had a vacation and really took time to live," was the senator's philosophical way of taking himself out of politics.

Ferris's announcement for Walsh was regarded as creating the first split in the theretofore unbroken sentiment among Michigan Democrats for Governor Smith of New York.

Ferris recognized the greatness of Smith, but said he had been a dry for 44 years and could not reverse himself. He also wanted to see the "religious issue eliminated from party politics."

Sen. Ferris' health had not permitted his taking active part in senate activities for several months prior to his death.