

OBITUARY

MRS. FRED C. RYAN

Although not resident here during the past six years, the sudden passing of Mrs. F. C. Ryan at her home in St. Catharines on Wednesday evening last is felt as a very personal sorrow to hundreds in this community where, during the years of her girlhood, and again more recently, she was so well known and affectionately esteemed. Mrs. Ryan was believed to be almost completely recovered from an attack of influenza last week when she passed away very suddenly as a result of coronary thrombosis.

Bessie Sutherland Ryan was born in Bradford, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Sutherland. She received her early education here and studied music in Toronto. An accomplished musician, she was church organist here before her marriage to Fred C. Ryan, then a member of the staff of the old Standard Bank. As a bride she went to Unionville where her husband was manager of the bank's branch. They were transferred to Paisley where they resided for some nine years. There, too, Mr. and Mrs. Ryan made a host of friends. Her personal charm, friendliness and musical talent endeared her among the people of that community, and her generosity with her music was appreciated and long remembered. The demands for her time were legion and her response was always gracious. It was during their period of residence in Paisley that their only daughter, Betty, was born.

Transferred to Parkhill from Paisley, the family later lived in Montreal for a time before taking up residence in St. Catharines about twenty-five years ago. Upon the death of her mother, in 1935, leaving her only sister, Miss Jessie Sutherland, alone with the responsibility of both business and a household, Mrs. Ryan again renewed many of her former friendships here, spending much of her time with her sister assisting her with her business duties. Six years ago the business, which had been their father's and had so long borne the name of Sutherland, was sold and Miss Sutherland joined Mr. and Mrs. Ryan in St. Catharines where they have since resided. The departure of this family removed one of the most hospitable homes in the community, a home remembered for its good, wholesome cheerfulness.

Mrs. Ryan is survived by her husband; her only daughter, Betty (Mrs. Halder Collins); her sister, Miss Jessie Sutherland, all of St. Catharines; her brother, Wilfred J. Sutherland of Portland, Oregon; and three grandchildren. Two brothers predeceased, Jack, killed overseas in World War I, and William (Billy), drowned when a young boy.

The affection of the community for Mrs. Ryan was evident by the large attendance at her funeral, including many former Bradford residents.

Following a service in St. Catharines, the funeral was held from the T. Kilkenny & Son Funeral Home on Saturday afternoon, with Rev. H. G. Blake of Trinity Anglican Church conducting the services. Interment was in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Bradford.

The pallbearers were members of families who had been her friends throughout the years: Chas. T. S. Evans, Brock Evans, Fred C. Cook, Stewart S. McKenzie, Wm. Sutherland and Stan. Trivett, the latter of Toronto.