

OBITUARY

GEORGE G. ATKINSON

The tragic death of Bradford's beloved and esteemed school principal, George G. Atkinson, by drowning, while skating on the ice on the Holland River, was recorded in last week's issue of this paper. The sudden passing of this valuable and heroic young life has caused mourning throughout the town. Mr. Atkinson died while bravely rushing to the assistance of others; in life and in death he was a noble and Christian gentleman, ever a glowing example, especially to the young, by whom he was adored as a capable teacher, a gentlemanly sport, and a consistently cheerful friend.

Mr. Atkinson, who was in his thirty-sixth year, was born in Hespeler. He was educated at Streetsville Public and High Schools and Toronto Normal School. Previous to accepting the position as principal of Bradford Public School ten and a half years ago, in September, 1922, he taught at Trafalgar for part of a term before going overseas to serve in the Great War, and after his return from the war taught in the vicinity of Orangeville, Brantford and at Windham Centre.

Since coming to Bradford Mr. Atkinson had won the friendship and respect of the townspeople. His gay, boyish smile, ready wit, and yet retiring manner, made him a most popular member of every social gathering. He was a fine sport in every true sense of the term, and an active member of Bradford South Simcoe League softball team and league secretary.

Mr. Atkinson was a member of the United Church and for a number of years was an active worker and superintendent in the Sunday School. He was also a member of Simcoe Masonic Lodge, No. 79, having joined the order in this Lodge.

In 1924 he married Helen Kilkenny of Bradford, who, with their young son, Alan, seven-and-a-half years old, has the sympathy of the whole community in the loss of a beloved husband and loving father. He is also survived by his widowed mother, Mrs. E. D. Atkinson, and one sister, Miss Isobel, both of Galt; three brothers, Fred of Toronto, Wilfred and Leonard of Streetsville, and a host of sorrowing friends.

The funeral, which was held on Friday under Masonic auspices from the home of his brother-in-law, Mr. Frank Kilkenny, was one of the largest witnessed in this community in recent years. Former pupils, former class-mates and teaching-staff mates, relatives, veterans and friends gathered to pay their last respects. The services were conducted by his pastor, Rev. C. H. Forth, and by Rev. T. J. Dew.

Interment was made in Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Some of the relatives and friends from a distance who attended the funeral were: Mrs. E. D. Atkinson (mother), and Miss Isobel Atkinson (sister) of Galt; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Atkinson, Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Atkinson, Streetsville; Mr. Leonard Atkinson, Streetsville; Mr. Hall, his daughter and three sons, Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. Mac Sutherland, Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. D. E. McColl, Toronto; Mrs. Rose, Toronto; Mr. Couse and others of Streetsville; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond and Mr. and Mrs. Rumble of Richmond Hill; Mr. and Mrs. H. Carscadden, Stayner; Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Arnold, Cookstown; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Jewell, Jack Jewell, Orville Jewell, Mr. and Mrs. Chandler, all of Tillsonburg; Ralph Jewell, Oshawa; Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Chester, Elmville.