Kansas Memory



Memorial services of Topeka Typographical Union

This bulletin includes the printed program for the 100th anniversary of the international typographical union, the 60th anniversary of the Union Printers Home, and the 70th anniversary of the Topeka Typographical Union No. 121. In 1888, several years after the Topeka Typographical Union was re-chartered, a burial plat was deeded to the union at a cost of \$171.38 for its departed members. At that time the union had grown from 8 members to 112 members.

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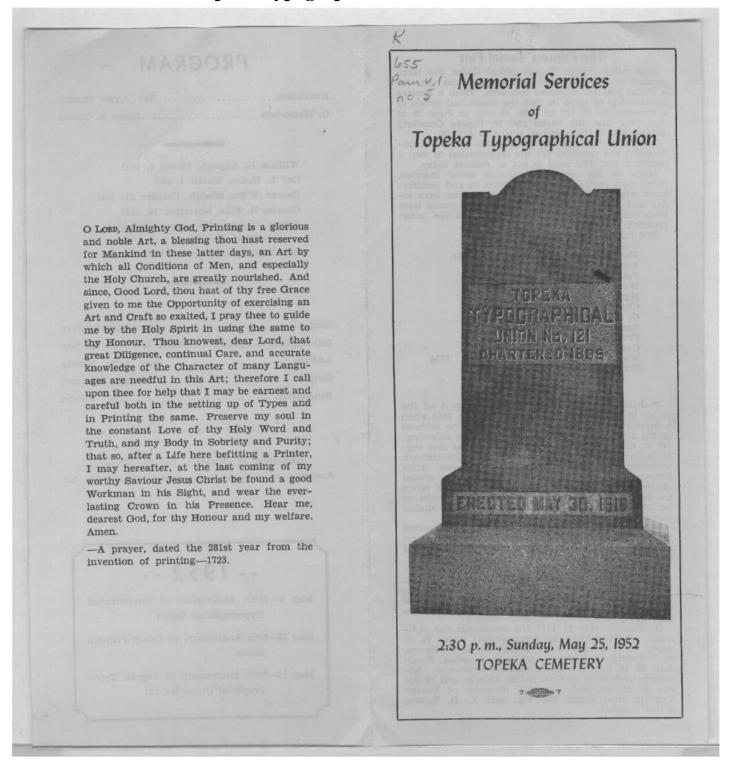
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KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Kansas Memory



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The Printers' Burial Plat

Soon after Topeka Typographical Union was reorganized in 1882 the membership realized the need for a burial plat for departed members. From a charter membership of eight in 1882 the union had grown to a membership of 112 in 1888. It was on June 28 of that year that the burial plat in Topeka Cemetery was deeded to the union at a cost of \$171.38.

It may be hard for the present-day printer to understand the necessity for the organization to own a cemetery lot. The need is not so evident today.

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Many of the early-day printers never married, didn't own anything, never expected to and wouldn't know what to do with it if he did. He was here today and gone tomorrow. Many of them would have been buried in a potter's grave had not the union provided a decent burial.

Marshall Montgomery, 1890
Florence Johnson (an Infant), 1891
Edward Welch, 1896
Patrick O'Doherty, 1898
Warren S. Bush, 1899
Henry F. McComas, 1902
Chas. A. Phinney, 1904
C. F. Woodward, 1905
Andrew M. Barnes, 1906
Frank B. Luce, 1918
Carl F. Johnson, 1923
Wm. H. Marrs (Charter Member), 1934
Frank B. Brown, 1940

The Monument

Probably the first movement on the part of the union to improve the cemetery lot was in 1915 when a Memorial Committee was appointed. The minutes of the July meeting of that year shows the following: "C. C. Claudy reported some investigations and suggests the improvement of the cemetery lot through voluntary subscriptions of \$1.00 per member. After some discussion Mr. Dumars moved that chapel chairmen be instructed to post notices to that effect in their several chapels, and that money collected be turned over to the treasurer of the union. Motion carried."

March 5, 1916: "Monument Committee authorized to formulate plans for erection of monument on lot in Topeka Cemetery at an expense not to exceed \$300.00."

May 7, 1916: "Contract made with Vermont Granite Company of 522 North Kansas Avenue, Topeka, for monument and nine markers to be erected before May 30, 1916, for \$385.00—\$100 to be paid down when stone is set, balance in monthly payments. Deferred payments not to bear interest."

On Sunday, May 13, 1917, the monument was dedicated. The committee on arrangements were: R. C. Sorby, C. C. Claudy, J. J. McConville, F. B. Brown, S. D. Colvin, J. R. Price and I. N. Grandon. President M. H. Gardner was master of ceremonies. Addresses were made by Gov. Arthur Capper and Mayor Jay E. House, both honorary members of Topeka Typographical Union No. 121, and T. B. Brown, active member.

PROGRAM

William R. Alspach, March 1, 1951
Dar L. House, March 4, 1951
George Willis Mesigh, October 31, 1951
Charles H. Ellis, November 14, 1951
Arthur Capper (Honorary Member),
December 19, 1951
Roy W. Brintnall, April 3, 1952

Decoration of Cemetery Lot By Women's Auxiliary of Topeka Typographical Union No. 121

-- 1952 --

May 5—100th Anniversary of International Typographical Union

May 12—60th Anniversary of Union Printers
Home

May 19—70th Anniversary of Topeka Typographical Union No. 121