



WILLIAM H. HOFER

Retired Chief Of Police Is Dead at 72

Sept 15-65

NORTH BRUNSWICK — William H. Hofer, 72, retired township police chief, died this morning at Middlesex General Hospital, New Brunswick, where he had been a patient one week. He lived at 604 2nd Ave.

He retired in April 1962 after a 40-year police career, 27 years of which were as chief. At the time of his retirement he was the oldest chief in Middlesex County both in years and length of service. The last nine years as chief was on a full-time basis.

Was Part-Time

Appointed a part-time patrolman in 1922, he and the late Archer Van Pelt comprised the township's police department. He was a patrolman three years, during which time the department grew to five. He then served as assistant chief for a time prior to being named chief in 1934, still on a part-time basis.

Son of the late Conrad and Elizabeth Becker Hofer, the former chief worked as a truck driver for Millstone Coal and Lumber Co. and as boiler and engine maintenance man for Russell Playing Card Co. before becoming a policeman.

During his many years as a part-time policeman, he worked at a variety of other jobs too. He was a foreman in a mixing house at the DuPont plant in Parlin and also at Unexcelled Fireworks Co. when it was in Milltown. He drove a school bus in the township for 25 years and also drove charter buses during that time for Edward Applegate.

Under his administration, the police department became fully radio equipped and tied in by teletype with other departments throughout the state.

He was a member of the North Brunswick Reformed Church.

Husband of the late Alice Bowne Hofer, who died in 1953, he is survived by a son, Everett of Cranberry Lake; two sisters, Mrs. Clara Christ of Milltown and Mrs. Katherine Breece of Franklin Township; a brother, Alfred of Milltown; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services will take place Saturday at 10 a.m. at the Selover Funeral Home, 555 Georges Road.

Interment will follow in Van Liew Cemetery.