

## Services Are Wednesday For Fletcher Neal, 57, at Peru

### Nebraska Financier Is Stricken Sunday After Long Heart Illness

Fletcher Neal, 57, Nebraska financier, insurance man and philanthropist, died of a sudden heart attack in his Athletic Club apartment, Omaha, Sunday evening.

He had recently returned from California where he had been under treatment for several weeks. He had had several attacks since last spring and, for that matter, had been subject to seizures over a period of several years.

IN SPITE of precarious health, however, he had devoted long hours and great energy to his various enterprises until quite recently.

Mr Neal spent his boyhood in Nebraska City, moving here with his family from Peru where he was born. His father, the late William T. Neal, was a well known and successful medical practitioner here around the turn of the century, at one time a partner with the late Dr. E.M. Whitten.

Fletcher Neal attended the Nebraska City schools and only a short time ago spoke in appraisal of Second Avenue School when it was presided over by the late Anna Fastenau, for whom he always expressed high admiration.

IN 1930 he went to Omaha where almost at once he entered on a business career which brought him amazing success and provided him with wide opportunities for a shrewd and imaginative mind.

The number of his operations was so great that it is not possible to list them here. He was manager of the western division of Ohio National Life Insurance Company, with operations from the Missouri to the Pacific Coast. He was closely affiliated with ranch and farm operations which extended over the Midwest.

At one time he was interested in small city utility plants and their operations. He owned the Nebraska City National Bank before its voluntary liquidation. He had similar interests elsewhere.

His quiet philanthropies are well known. He was responsible, to mention one local enterprise, for the city's ownership of Memorial Building which was heavily loaded with a debt he paid off without publicity.

NO MAN had more to do with the preliminary work which brought the Nebraska City utilities under municipal control, and he was one of the original members of the Utility Board. His work in getting the gas, water and light services under city ownership was painstaking, arduous and a drain on his physical resources, but he enjoyed the battle and spark-plugged the election.

One of his prides was his membership on the board of directors of the Salvation Army, an organization whose officers were just as proud of his aid as he was of them. He contributed richly to innumerable civic and charitable organizations.

He was treasurer of the Nebraska Democratic party, a valued member of party councils, a willing and friendly aide in many, many ways, and a close friend of the Washington administration. He had known President Truman long before the Missourian went to the White House.

He is survived by his wife, Marie, also a native of Peru; a son, William R., Los Angeles, Cal., and two grandchildren. A sister is Mrs. Helen Eberhart of Peru.

### Neal Burial To be At Mount Vernon In Plot With Parents

Funeral services for O. F. Neal, 57, who died in Omaha Sunday afternoon, will be held at the Methodist church in Peru, his one-time home, at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

In charge of the services will be Rev. Mr. Brown of Omaha. Burial will be at Peru, in the cemetery where his mother and father are buried.

#### Active pallbearers:

John Sorenson Ed McKim  
Ralph E. Carlson Jack Shields  
Jack Allegrer Maynard Isaacson

#### Honorary pallbearers:

Judge James Quigley Hyde Sweet  
Dale Clark Bill Tyson  
Joseph T. Motava Carroll Lewis  
Judge Harvey Johnson Edwin Van Home  
Dorsey Majors George Thompson  
M. E. Welsh Gen. Lewis A. Pick  
Walter Anderson Wm. J. Green  
Roy Towle Grove Porter  
R. E. Schweser Frank Bender  
Charles Hammond Leroy Webb  
Fay Hill Bryce Crawford  
John H. Evans Dan Gross  
Ed Bedford John McKinght  
Judge Virgil Fillion Ernest Armstrong  
Dwight Griswold Ed Morehead  
T. B. Strain Jacob Moore  
R. J. Walsh Harley Conrad  
Frank Selby