

[Foster, William S.]

HEART ATTACK IS FATAL TO W. S. FOSTER

Prominent Utican, President of Foster Brothers Manufacturing Company,
Dies Unexpectedly at Home Here

William S. Foster, president of the Foster Brothers' Manufacturing Company, and a leader in industrial and business life of this city, died suddenly at his home, (1917?) Oneida street, late yesterday afternoon, a victim of a heart affliction which was likely the result of several months of ill health which preceded the attack.

The funeral will be held Friday afternoon, probably at 1 o'clock, at the Foster home.

Successful in the large enterprise which became an asset to the city's industrial life, and prominent as a citizen with a keen and active interest in civic progress, Mr. Foster held a high place in the hearts of Uticans.

Although Mr. Foster had been in ill health for several months, his condition was not considered alarming, nor had it reached a critical stage.

William S. Foster was born at Durhamville, Oneida County, Feb. (?), 1849, a son of Orson and Delina A. Smith Foster. After attending the public schools he entered the Oneida Seminary. In 1881, Mr. Foster became associated with his brother Oscar S. Foster, in the business which today is regarded as one of the largest of its kind in the country. The Foster Brothers Manufacturing Company produces brass and iron beds and springs.

For a number of years, Mr. Foster was active in the Yahnundasis Golf Club. He prized his affiliation with the Utica Rotary Club and also with the Beaver River Club. He was fond of fishing and (?) sports and activities. Several of his recent winters had been spent at St. Petersburg, Fla., where he enjoyed greatly the outdoor life.

Politically, Mr. Foster was a Republican, but he never aspired to office. He was an honorary trustee of the Universalist Church of the Reconciliation. His affiliations included the Utica Chamber of Commerce in which his membership was thoroughly appreciated.

Mr. Foster was married in 1873 to Nancy M. Britt, who died in 1911. He is survived by the following sons and daughters: Mrs. Robert B. Wilson, William B. Foster, Arthur H. Foster, Edith L. Foster, Frederick E. Foster, Mrs. E. G. Dyer, St. Petersburg, Fla., and Mrs. Robert M. Gilliland, Westbury, L. I. He also leaves two brothers, Oscar H. Foster and Theodore Foster of Utica, and the following grandchildren, Nancy Dyer, William Foster Dyer and Robert Gilliland.

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Transcribed on 4 Apr 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY