

[Lasher, William R.]

DR. LASHER, RETIRED STAFF LEADER, DIES

Funeral services are being held this afternoon for Dr. William R. Lasher, former principal of the James Madison High School and one of the city's best known educators, who died on Monday. The services are private.

Lasher, who entered the school system almost fifty years ago, retired from active service in 1941. He won renown as the first chairman of the Joint Committee of Teachers' Organizations. Before his appointment as principal of Madison in 1930 Lasher had been a member of the Erasmus Hall High School faculty for thirty-one years, serving as teacher, chairman of the mathematics department and acting assistant to the principal.

He was at one time president of the High School Teachers Association as chairman of the Joint Salary Committee, now known as the Joint Committee of Teachers Organizations, he led a long but victorious campaign for teachers' salary increases in the 1920's.

Lasher was active in bringing about a closer correlation between the junior and senior high school divisions. For a period of ten years he conducted a "home porch" summer school, helping backward students to make up their deficiencies and bright pupils to advance in their work.

Lasher was born in Fairfield County, and was graduated from Fairfield Academy. He received his A. B. and A. M. degrees from St. Lawrence University, and took postgraduate work at Columbia, Cornell and New York Universities. In 1935 he received the degree of Doctor of Pedagogy from St. Lawrence University.

For many years Lasher was a member of the All Souls Universalist Church, and had been superintendent of its Sunday School and president of the Men's Club. He was also active in civic and fraternal organizations.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Alice Russell Lasher, by two daughters, Jeanne, and Mrs. Claire Tharp, and a grandson, Russell Hardy Tharp.

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Transcribed on 18 Oct 2012 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY