

[Quaif, Fred L.]

DEATH OF PROMINENT RESIDENT SADDENS ENTIRE COMMUNITY

The death of Fred L. Quaif, a prominent and life-long resident of Cooperstown, occurred under tragic circumstances on Thursday afternoon. The body was found by Mrs. Quaif seated in his car in the garage at his home on Nelson avenue at about 4:45 o'clock. The motor was in operation and the doors and windows closed. Dr. F. J. Atwell and Dr. Sidney B. Tryon were called and reported death was caused by monoxide gas poisoning. Dr. F. E. Bolt of Worcester, one of the coroners of Otsego county, rendered a verdict of suicide.

Mr. Quaif was a native of Cooperstown. He was born here February 9, 1863, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert [and Mary] Quaif. From his youth he was largely interested in agriculture and retained up to the present time a well developed farm at Six Mile Point on the Otsego Lake road, which he visited daily.

Following the business of his father, Mr. Quaif was a well known hop dealer during the days of extensive hop cultivation in this county. He was the local representative for several years of S. & F. Uhlmann, New York hop brokers. For 30 years he had been a director of the Second National bank of Cooperstown village and was vice president of that institution at his death, an office which he had occupied for twenty-four years. He also held a directorship in the Lakewood Cemetery association and during the days of activity of the Otsego County Agricultural society, he was both a director and vice president.

He was twice married. His first wife was Miss Lena May White of this village, to whom he was married February 26, 1896. To them was born an only daughter, Marie Louise. A double tragedy came into the life of Mr. Quaif, August 21, 1931, when his wife and daughter met instant death in an automobile accident on the Cherry Valley turnpike at Madison. Since that time a growing tendency to despondency had been observed by those more intimately associated with him.

In August, 1932, he married the former Miss Emma Ostrander of Springfield Center, who is his only survivor, except for the aged father-in-law, Joel G. White of this village, now ninety-one, both of whom will have the deepest sympathy.

The funeral will be Sunday afternoon at 2:30 from his Nelson avenue home, Cooperstown. The Rev. Charles Kramer, pastor of the church of the Messiah, Universalist, at Cooperstown, will officiate. Interment will be in the family plot in Lakewood cemetery there.

Otsego Farmer, Cooperstown NY, Fri. 2 Nov 1934