[Talcott, Fred L.]

F. L. Talcott, Veteran Rail Employe[e], Dies Retired Freight Agent Born Here In 1856

Fred L. Talcott of 175 North St., one of the founders of the Transportation Club of Buffalo and a past president of the organization, died yesterday at his home after a three-month illness. He was 92.

Mr. Talcott was born in Buffalo on October 6, 1856, and attended local schools. In 1885, he married Alice Jane Chamberlain, who died shortly after their 60th wedding anniversary. His only son, John Chamberlain Talcott, was chief engineer at the old Pierce Arrow Motor Car Co. plant at the time of his death in 1929 at the age of 41.

As a young man, Mr. Talcott began to work in Buffalo for the old Lake Shore Railroad and on April 1, 1898, was appointed commercial agent for the combined Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway Co., with offices at 221 Main St.

In 1907, he became general Eastern freight agent for the Lake Erie & Western Railroad, a division of the New York Central Lines, and moved his offices into the Ellicott Sq. Bldg.

Mr. Talcott was transferred to Erie, Pa., in 1915 as division general agent in the freight traffic department, remaining there until he retired in 1929. At that time he received a certificate for 50 years' continuous service with the New York Central. After his retirement he returned to Buffalo. He maintained great interest in railroading until his recent illness.

A lifelong member of the Universalist Church, Mr. Talcott was active in its affairs.

Many years ago he began a stamp collection and during his retirement spent many hours on this hobby. His collection included stamps from German concentration camps.

Mr. Talcott traveled extensively in the United States. He read many historical books and compiled several scrap books on historical figures and events.

Surviving are two granddaughters, Mrs. Robert E. Driscoll of Williamsville and Miss Alice Jane Talcott.

Services will be at 2 p.m. at the Johnson & Wilkins Funeral Home, 448 Delaware Ave. The Rev. Bruce Swift of North Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Robert Davis of the Church of the Messiah, Universalist, will officiate. Burial will be in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

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Transcribed on 22 Mar 2018 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY