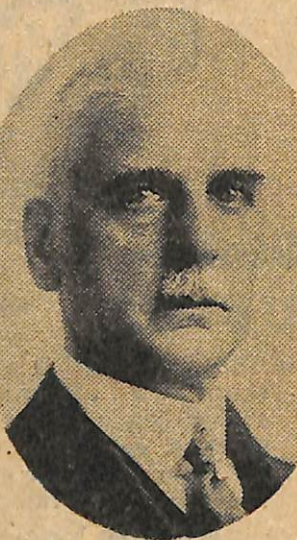


Pioneer Traveller Dies



F. J. C. COX

With a colorful career dating back to the time when he went over the prairies with a wagonful of goods, Fred J. C. Cox, secretary of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' association, died at his home, 330 Anderson avenue, Saturday afternoon at 1.45 o'clock, following a lengthy illness. He was 75 years of age.

Born in Yorkshire, England, he came to Canada in 1881, and proceeded direct to Winnipeg.

In recounting his experiences in the Canadian west in the early days, Mr. Cox once stated he sold a line of drygoods for a Montreal firm, J. Thibaudau. Drygoods in those days included also perfume, toilet soap and other like sundries. There were no railroads to carry

F. J. C. COX

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MORE ABOUT F. J. C. COX

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the ambassadors of commerce in the west, which necessitated travelling a great deal by horse and wagon. Mr. Cox would start out from Calgary with 15 or 16 trunks loaded on a wagon and, taking his seat on top of the trunks, head for Edmonton.

Thrilling Incident

He used to tell of a thrilling incident, of which he was an eyewitness, when a band of some six or seven hundred Cheyenne Indians headed by Chief Piapot staged a sit-down strike at Swift Current. They demanded bullets, rifles and powder from the government before they would move. The Indians were all decked out in war paint and full war regalia and the handful of whites were feeling a bit worried over the situation. They collected all the firearms they could in the shape of shotguns and rifles in case they should be called upon to defend themselves from attack. At last a message for help was sent to Regina, and in response three lone mounties with their horses arrived in a box car. The three mounties went right into the middle of the band, arrested the ring-leader and got the Indians on the move to the reservation.

One of the methods used by the white settlers to pacify the Indians at the time, Mr. Cox related, was to boil together chewing tobacco and tea and the resulting concoction was served out to the red men. The drinking of this brew produced in the Indians an effect similar to that resulting from the imbibing of firewater.

Mr. Cox, in the course of his career, had crossed Canada from 50 to 60 times.

Dean of Travellers

Dean of commercial travelling men, Mr. Cox received high honors from the fraternity in 1918, when he was elected supreme counsellor of the Order of United Commercial Travellers of America at a convention in Columbus, Ohio.

Mr. Cox was born in Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England, in 1860. He was educated there, and at a collegiate school at Hamburg, Germany. At the age of 18 he went into a woollen establishment in London and learned the business. When 21 years of age he came to Winnipeg. He entered the service of Thibaudau Bros. After clerking for a time, he went on the road, and joined the Northwest Commercial Travellers' association. Later he started business for himself as a wholesale commission agent.

In 1888 Mr. Cox married Miss Lilla May Erb, of Winnipeg, and survivors include his widow, and two brothers, H. P. Cox and Ernie Cox, of Winnipeg.

He was a vestryman of St. John's cathedral and was active in social welfare work. He was an ardent fraternalist, being associated with the Masonic Order, Workers' of the World, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Knights of Pythias.

Broad-minded, public-spirited and energetic, Mr. Cox was elected to the city council in 1903, and was re-elected two years later. As an

alderman he found full scope for activity as chairman of the legislative and entertainment committees and as a member of the Exhibition board.

Other organizations with which Mr. Cox linked up included the Board of Trade, the Manufacturers' association, the Federated Budget board, and the Manitoba Motor league, which honored him with the position of president. At the time of his death, Mr. Cox was president of the Imperial Immigration league, and assisted in the preparation of the brief of the Manor Settlements presented to the Goldenberg commission investigating the financial structure of the city of Winnipeg.

The funeral will be held Tuesday. There will be a service at Gardiner's chapel, Kennedy street, at 2.45 p.m. Burial will be in the family plot at St. John's cemetery.

Mr. F. J. C. Cox

More than half a century has passed since young Fred Cox, with his team and buckboard, set out from Winnipeg to sell his first goods across the all but empty prairie country. In those fifty-odd years he has seen this country fill up with settlers. He served them commercially, and in his own city he has served selflessly a score of worthy civic enterprises.

Mr. Cox was one of the deans of the western bagmen. He was known and honored everywhere, but chiefly he was known here in the city where he first took up his residence as a raw immigrant boy and where he remained. His inexhaustible energy, his pride in Winnipeg, his firmness of purpose, will be sorely missed in many an organization here, though his name will long be held in memory by all his colleagues in all the activities which he served.

Fred J. C. Cox To Be Buried Today

Funeral services for Fred J. C. Cox, pioneer commercial traveller, and secretary of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' association, who died at his home, 330 Anderson avenue, Saturday afternoon, will be held Tuesday at Gardiner's chapel, at 2.45 p.m. Burial will be in the family plot at St. John's cemetery.

The services will be conducted by Canon W. E. Jackson and Canon J. O. Murray. Pall-bearers will be: Honorary, E. Gilliatt, of the Winnipeg Board of Trade; Lieut.-Col. G. F. C. Poussette, of the Manitoba Tourist and Convention bureau; J. H. G. Russell, grand secretary of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A.F. and A.M.; A. C. Emmett, of the Manitoba Motor league, and H. F. Moulden, of the U.T.C.; Duncan Cameron, of the Winnipeg Rotary club. Active, A. Gamble, president of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada; W. C. Borlase, past president; J. H. Rowe, general secretary; John Rutherford, secretary of the Commercial Travellers' Association of Toronto; D. Campbell, secretary of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' association, Montreal; R. Tucker, president of the Saskatchewan Northwest board, Regina.

Mr. Cox was an active member of the Winnipeg Rotary club for many years.