

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1936

Fergus Fireman Dies Fighting Fire

Daniel C. Ness Collapses and Dies at Concrete Plant Fire

A Fergus Falls fireman died at 3:30 a. m. today while fighting a fire at the Elk River Concrete plant, a block east of the Northern Pacific station.

Dan Ness, 65 years old, collapsed at the scene of the fire and died in a few minutes, apparently from a heart attack. Other firemen used a resuscitator almost immediately to no avail.

The oldest member of the fire department, Mr. Ness had been a volunteer since March 11, 1918. He is believed to be the first Fergus Falls fireman to die while on duty.

Firemen were summoned at 2:27 a.m., when a man arriving at his home in the neighborhood noticed flames on the roof of the structure. The roof was destroyed and there was damage to the elevator used for gravel and to several hundred sacks of cement.

Firemen were uncertain whether lightning or the furnace used to dry gravel was the cause of the fire. A wall of the building was burned from the ground near the furnace to the roof. Exterior of the building is covered with aluminum sheeting. There was no damage to an addition east of the taller structure.

Five trucks answered the call with the last truck returning at 5:55 a.m. At 9:51 p.m. yesterday firemen were called to the 300 block on West Alcott when lightning caused damage to a power line.

Fire Chief Harvey Glorvigen said firemen were preparing to take in some of the hoses at 3:30 a.m., when a car accidentally ran over a hose. Mr. Ness ran toward the car to warn the driver, then walked back toward the concrete plant.

Only a few seconds later he noticed Mr. Ness lying on the ground. He called other firemen and they immediately applied the resuscitator and summoned a doctor. He was dead soon after the doctor arrived.



DANIEL C. NESS

Services for Daniel Ness Set Saturday

Fireman and City Employee Was Scheduled to Retire July 4

Funeral services for Daniel C. Ness, Fergus Falls fireman, who died this morning, will be held at the Bethlehem Lutheran church Saturday at 2 p.m.

An employe of the city for many years, Mr. Ness was scheduled to retire as water plant operator July 4. He was a member of the fire department for 35 years and had served as chief and assistant chief.

Mr. Ness was born in Oslo, Norway July 4, 1888, and came to the United States with his mother when he was two years old. He grew up at Moorhead where he attended Concordia college and came to Fergus Falls in 1915.

He was married to Anne Otteson at Wolverton June 2, 1917, at Moorhead. She and four children survive.

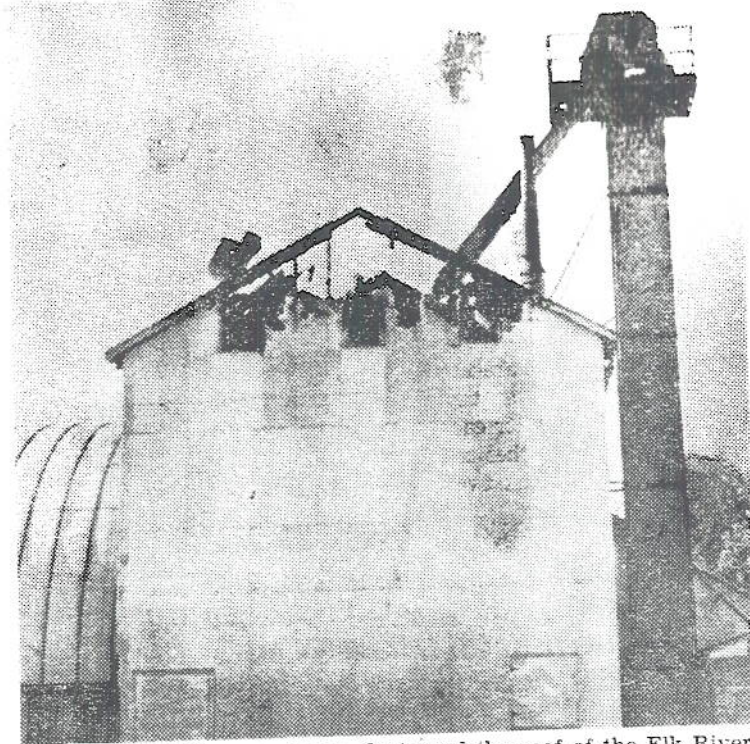
Mr. Ness loved hunting and fishing and outdoor life. He was a Mason and a member of the Elks lodge.

His children are Prentice and Jerome Ness of this city. Mrs. Lloyd (Della) Rudd of Chicago and Mrs. Clyde (Judith McLaughlin) of Sauk Centre. He also leaves

five grandchildren and an aunt, Mrs. Anna Carlson of Helena, Mont.

Friends may call at the Glende-Miller Funeral home.

Where Fergus Fireman Died Fighting Fire



Fire at 2:30 a. m. today destroyed the roof of the Elk River Concrete Products plant at 401 East Hampden avenue. Fireman Daniel C. Ness died of a heart attack while fighting the fire. Story on page 3. (Journal Photo)