

Edwin M. Bray Passes Away

Funeral Pending For Pioneer El Paso Civic Leader

Edwin M. Bray, 72, 905 West Vandell Boulevard, pioneer El Paso business man and civic leader, died last night at a local hospital after an operation necessitated by a lung abscess which followed pneumonia.

Mr. Bray had operated the store at the El Paso Smelter for the American Smelting & Refining Company continuously since 1896, when he came to El Paso from Socorro, N. M., where he was connected with the Sterling Brothers' merchandising enterprises.

He had many other business interests. He was president of the Hoyt Furniture Company from 1921 until 1931, when it was merged with the Rogers Furniture Company, and was vice president of the merged firm until 1932. He was vice president of the Hoyt Company for many years before he became president.

Was Civic Leader.

He was a member of the board of directors of the old City National Bank and of the old Rio Grande Valley Bank and Trust Company.

His record as a civic leader includes presidency of the Y. M. C. A. when the present Central Y. M. C. A. building was erected; presidency of the El Paso Chamber of Commerce, and presidency of the Community Chest. In addition, he was a member and past president of the Kiwanis Club and at one time was active in Boy Scout work.

Born in Illinois.

Mr. Bray went to Socorro as a young man from Illinois, where he was born and reared. Throughout his lifetime in the Southwest he took an interest in Southwestern history and lore, and had written many historical papers on the subject.

He was a member of the First

Methodist Church and was prominent in El Paso Masonic organization.

Mr. Bray is survived by his wife, Mrs. Frances Bray; two daughters, Mrs. J. B. Place of Boulder, Colo., and Mrs. F. O. Pershing of Santa Fe, and an adopted daughter, Mrs. H. Langworthy of Los Angeles, Calif.

Funeral arrangements are pending at the Kaster & Maxon Mortuary.