

# Dr. George Higgins, Veteran El Paso Minister, Dies Here

DR. GEORGE H. HIGGINS, 82, former rector of St. Clement's Episcopal church, died in his home, 1015 North Florence street, early Tuesday morning. He had been in poor health for several months.

Dr. Higgins was a member of the local Elks lodge and had served the organization as exalted ruler. He was chaplain of the Elks at the time of his death and had held that office for the past 33 years.

Dr. Higgins was a charter member of the lodge and during his 33 years of membership had not missed a meeting until his recent illness, according to Jack Burke, exalted ruler of the lodge in El Paso.

The minister was born in England in 1845 and came to El Paso at the age of 17. After spending several years in the east, he came to El Paso and had made his home here for the past 39 years. He was one of the best known pastors in the southwest.

Dr. Higgins is survived by his widow and a daughter, Miss Gertrude Higgins, of El Paso; and a son, Chase Higgins, of Hammond, Indiana.

Although funeral arrangements have not been completed, the services will be held in St. Clements' church, with Elks and Episcopal church rites.

Dr. Higgins became the first rector of the parish of St. Clement's here in 1887, coming from Colorado City, Texas. He was educated in Jubilee college and the General Theological seminary. He was consecrated to the priesthood in Chicago in 1874.

During his ministry, Dr. Higgins formed a fund for charitable purposes and maintained a central bureau of information to keep in touch with strangers.

Dr. Higgins resigned in 1891 to take up the practice of medicine. He became rector emeritus of the parish. He has occupied the pulpit at St. Clement's church many times since his retirement.