

## Chas. E. Steele, Blackwater, Dies Of Heart Attack

President of Farmers Stock  
Bank Was 67 Years  
Old

Charles Ephram Steele, 67, president of the Farmers Stock Bank at Blackwater for a number of years, died Monday morning at his home in Blackwater at 9:45 following a heart attack. He had been in declining health for a number of years, but had been seriously ill only since April.

Steele had been a resident of Blackwater for the past 40 years. He was active in social, political, banking and civic circles of Cooper county for a number of years. Mr. Steele was a member of the Blackwater Baptist church and a member of the Nelson Masonic Lodge. He served for a number of years as cashier of the bank before he was elected to the presidency.

Mr. Steele was born on January 27, 1872, six miles south of Boonville in the Mt. Hermon community, the son of John A. and Elizabeth Batten Steele. He received his early education in the Concord school, later attending the Pilot Grove college and the Warrensburg State Teachers College, Warrensburg. He taught school 16 years, during which time he served four years as county school commissioner.

He went to Blackwater as a teacher and taught in the public schools there for several years before he became associated with the late Frank Sauter in the Farmers Stock Bank. He was made cashier in 1917. In 1900 he was married to Miss Mattie Shouse, who preceded him in death April 30, 1907.

He is survived by the following sisters and brothers: Mrs. Margaret Toler, Boonville; Mrs. J. E. Rennison, Boonville; Mrs. Uriah Toler, Columbia; Mrs. John Muntzel; St. Louis; J. T. Steele, Webb City; and William H. Steele, Boonville.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at the Baptist church in Blackwater, conducted by the Rev. Mr. Pruitt, pastor.

Burial was in the Nelson cemetery at Nelson, Mo., directed by the Stegner-Koenig service. The Masonic order attended the services in a body.