

Mr. J.M. McGovern (1854- 11 Oct. 1916)

J.M. McGovern came to Port Arthur from Duluth in 1884. After moving to Port Arthur he occupied the post of Dominion Immigration until late 1914 when declining health caused him to retire. During his time in Port Arthur, he had been an alderman, was chairman of the board of works and had been influential in attracting industry to the city. Mr. McGovern married Miss Alberta Fagan of Fort William and together would have only one child, Major Arthur McGovern, who was killed in action June, 1916. At the outbreak of the war, Mr. McGovern was responsible for the supervision of alien registration in both Port Arthur and Fort William. He was responsible for the supervision of registrars George A. Eoll and A.L. McEwan until his failing health caused him to retire late 1914. In April, 1915 he entered a sanitarium in Guelph due to health concerns and would pass away there on 11 October 1916.

References

- "Ex-Ald. M'Govern Is Dead at Guelph." *Daily News Chronicle* (Port Arthur, ON), October 12, 1916.
- "For Registration of Alien Enemies in the Two Cities." *Daily News* (Port Arthur, ON), November 30, 1914.



MR. J. M. M'GOVERN

Former Immigration Inspector at Port Arthur, prominent in municipal life for many years, who died in sanitarium at Guelph yesterday after long illness.

EX-ALD. M'GOVERN IS DEAD AT GUELPH

WELL-KNOWN PORT ARTHUR
CITIZEN PASSES AWAY AFTER
ILLNESS EXTENDING OVER
LENGTHY PERIOD

Following a lingering illness the death occurred in Guelph, Ont., yesterday of ex-Ald. J. M. McGovern, formerly Dominion immigration agent at Port Arthur. Mrs. McGovern, who spent the summer months in Port Arthur, was in attendance at his death, having been summoned there some weeks ago.

Mr. McGovern, who was sixty-two years of age, was one of Port Arthur's most prominent and respected citizens. He came to Port Arthur from Duluth in 1884, where he was Canadian immigration for some time, and occupied the post of Dominion immigration agent until the latter part of 1914, when failing health caused him to retire. He entered the sanitarium in Guelph in April, 1915. He was for several terms a member of the City Council and was at all times a very public spirited citizen. During his tenure of office as alderman and chairman of the board of works he was instrumental in securing for the city many of the industries which have since proved of great benefit. He was also a member of the separate school board for several years.

While here he married Miss Alberta Fagan, of Fort William, whose family now live at Vancouver. His only son, Major Arthur McGovern, was killed in action on the western front early in June, 1916. He was a member of Leo Council, of the Knights of Columbus, and of the C. M. B. A.

Final arrangements regarding the funeral, which are under the charge of the Knights of Columbus, have not as yet been made, but it is expected that the body will arrive in Port Arthur Friday evening, accompanied by Mrs. McGovern.

A sister, Mary, resides in California and his only brother, who was a railway superintendent there, died about two months ago.

EX-ALDERMAN DEAD



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