

## Roebling Mills Close Tomorrow In Memory of Their Late Head; Many Recent Deaths In Family

As a mark of respect to the memory of Karl G. Roebling, president of the John A. Roebling's Sons Company, who died suddenly while playing golf at Spring Lake Sunday, the Roebling plants in both this city and the town of Roebling will be closed all day tomorrow. Brief services are being held this afternoon over Mr. Roebling's remains at his late summer home in Spring Lake, and the funeral will take place tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock at his West State Street home. Both services will be conducted by the Rev. John Dixon.

When the late Ferdinand W. Roebling, father of Karl, died in 1917, the Roebling plants ceased operating for one hour, during the funeral ceremony, and, when Charles G. Roebling died in 1918, the plants were closed for an entire day in his memory.

Death has been a frequent visitor to the Roebling homes during the past few years. Washington A. Roebling, 2nd, the only son of Charles G. Roebling, went down on the ill-fated Titanic April 15, 1912. Ferdinand W. Roebling, the active mercantile head of the mills, and who was conspicuous in many local enterprises, including the management of the Trenton Street Railway, died March 16, 1917. John Roebling Perrine, only son of Mrs. F. A. C. Perrine and a grandson of Ferdinand, died of pneumonia August 30, 1918. Charles G. Roebling, president of the company and for a generation the engineering and manufacturing head of the mills, died October 5, 1918. Paul Roebling, son of John A. Roebling of Bernardsville, died of the "flu" December 16, 1918, and the tragedy of Sunday last removed the late active head of the mills.

Of the surviving male members of the family Colonel Washington A. Roebling, who was the engineer of the Brooklyn Bridge, still enjoys excellent health. He is 84 years of age, however, and would not be likely to return to the detailed burdens of actively managing the mills. Ferdinand W. Roebling, Jr., recognized as a highly capable engineer and business man, has been in ill health for several years. John A. Roebling, son of Colonel Washington, has never been interested in the mills. He lives at Bernardsville and travels a great deal.

Siegfried Roebling, a grandson of Colonel Washington Roebling, takes an active interest in the mills. He is still under thirty, however. In his will the late Charles G. Roebling expressed the "desire if practicable to keep in my direct male descendants the stock of John A. Roebling Sons Company." As his only son, Washington, went down on the Titanic, he died without direct male descendants.

The late Karl Roebling was named Charles Gustavus Roebling, for his uncle, but when the young man grew up he decided to change his name and applied to Mercer Common Pleas Court, where Judge Robert S. Woodruff authorized him to assume and use as his own the name Karl Gustavus Roebling from and after April 17, 1900.

There is naturally much speculation in business circles as to whether the Roebling mills will eventually pass into the hands of the United States Steel Corporation or some of its affiliated concerns. Several offers have been made in the past by the steel and wire giants, but the Roeblings have invariably refused to sell. It was a matter of strong family pride that the mills should be kept in the Roebling name, and they had accumulated such great fortunes as to be indifferent to the tempting offers that came.

The Chamber of Commerce will be represented at Mr. Roebling's funeral tomorrow. S. E. Kaufman, president, will attend the services, and it may be that the entire board of directors of the organization will go in a body.

### DECLARE DIVIDEND

(United Press)

NEW YORK, May 31.—Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway has declared its regular semi-annual dividend of \$3 a share on 6 per cent. preferred and \$3.50 a share on the 7 per cent. preferred, both payable June 30 to stock record of June 10, it was announced here today.

## Roebling Deaths

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