

Your Pioneer Week

CLARION

FAIR LAWN · SADDLE RIVER TWP

Fair Lawn, N. J., Friday, Oct. 13, 1950

Carl Wittman, Clarion Publisher, Dies At 73

Death came Sunday morning to Carl Wittman, founder and publisher of The Clarion.

He passed away at his home at 116 Farview Avenue, Paramus, where a quarter of a century ago he penned the editorial and stories of the first issue of this newspaper.

Failing health during the last of his 73 years brought to the fore his son Robert, managing editor, who will continue to publish The Clarion.

Born in the Schwarzwald section of Germany in 1877, Carl Wittman emigrated to this country at the age of 14. After some years as a baker's apprentice in the Bordentown and Philadelphia area, the year 1900 found him on a coastal steamer from Seattle to Juneau, Alaska.

Three times during the following 10 years, he made his way as a gold prospector on foot and by dog sled to the headwaters of the Yukon in the Klondike region, down the Yukon and on to Nome. In 1902, the Federal District Court for the First Division of Alaska conferred United States citizenship upon him.

His 10 years in the Arctic country were followed by extended travels that took him to Hawaii, Japan, China, Siberia, Russia, the Balkan countries, Turkey, Egypt and North Africa, Italy, Austria, Germany and England.

At London, in 1913, he married Mary Thalmayr, a native of Salzburg, Austria, who survives him, and in 1916, he re-

turned with his wife and infant son, Walter, to the United States.

After four years of residence in East Rutherford, Mr. Wittman purchased a portion of the Stagg farm fronting on the southerly side of Century Road, east and west of Farview Avenue, Paramus. Here he felled huge oak trees that he carted by horse and wagon to the late Pete DeWilligen's saw mill at East Ridgewood Avenue. With the oak beams and the field stones he gathered, he fashioned the house in which he dwelled for the ensuing 30 years.

Retiring from the chicken farm he operated at his Paramus home between 1920 and 1926, he founded this newspaper in October of that year, under the title of "Fair Lawn and Paramus Clarion".

A host of the friends he made during the past 24 years in his newspaper work in Fair Lawn, Paramus, Rochelle Park, East Paterson and Saddle River Township, paid their last respects to Carl Wittman on Tuesday evening at the Vander Plaats Memorial Home, S-113 Farview Avenue, Paramus.

Following a private service by the Rev. Walter Kloetzli pastor of the Christ Lutheran Church of Paramus, on Wednesday morning, the body was cremated at North Bergen.

He is survived by his widow, Mary S., two sons, Walter T. and Robert C., and two grandchildren, Jane and Carl.

PASSAIC NEWS - D NEWS
**Carl Wittman, Editor
Of Bergen Weeklies** *Get 9
470*

Carl Wittman, 73, editor-publisher of the Fair Lawn and Paramus Clarion, died yesterday after a brief illness at his home, 116 Fairview Avenue, Paramus. Born in Germany, he had come to this country at the age of 14, prospecting 10 years for gold in Alaska. He became a citizen in 1902 and traveled extensively throughout the world both before and after his marriage in 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Wittman settled in East Rutherford in 1916 and moved to Paramus in 1920. Mr. Wittman started the Clarion in 1926 as the first newspaper published in Fair Lawn. A son, Robert Wittman, will continue to edit the weekly as he did during his father's illness. Surviving in addition to Robert Wittman are his wife, Mary, and their son, Walter, of Paramus, and two grandchildren.

X **Ernest Frick, Sr.**

Ernest Frick, Sr., 60, husband of Mrs. Clara Weinert Frick, 32 Burgess Place, Passaic, died yesterday in St. Mary's Hospital, Passaic. He was a stockclerk at Jacques Wolf and Company, Clifton. Mr. Frick was born in Alsace-Lorraine and had resided in the Passaic area 37 years. Surviving, in addition to his wife, are three sons, George, of Clifton, and Ernest and Henry, of Passaic; two grandchildren, and a brother, Alfred, in Europe.

RIDGEWOOD NEWS

**Carl Wittman,
Clarion Editor,
Passes Away at 73**

Carl Wittman, editor and publisher of the weekly Fair Lawn and Paramus Clarion, died on Sunday at his home, 118 Fairview Avenue, Paramus, after an illness of several months. His age was 73.

Mr. Wittman was born in Germany and first came to the United States at the age of fourteen. From 1900 until 1910 he prospected for gold in Alaska, and there became an American citizen in 1902.

After his marriage, which took place in London in 1913, he and his wife traveled through Europe, and in 1916 came to the United States, making their home first in East Rutherford and then in Paramus in 1920.

In 1926 Mr. Wittman started The Clarion, the first newspaper published in Fair Lawn. His son, Robert, took charge of The Clarion during his father's illness, and will continue to publish the weekly.

Private funeral services were held yesterday at the Vander Plaat Memorial Home, Paramus, with the Rev. Walter Kloetzli, pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fairview Avenue, Paramus.

Mr. Wittman is survived by his wife, Mary S. Wittman; two sons, Robert and Walter, (the borough attorney) and two grandchildren.

(X) ERNEST FRICK
a devoted friend of
Papa
died on same day
cremated on same place
at same hour

Oct 11, 1950

Fair Lawn

Councilmen Honor Memory Of Burke, Paper's Owner

Fair Lawn—Members of the Borough Council last night paid high tribute to former Councilman Ernest Burke and Carl Wittman, weekly newspaper publisher, who died recently. Burke was killed Friday night in a traffic accident and Wittman died early Sunday morning at his home following a brief illness.

The Councilmen, in publicly expressing their deep sympathy to the family and relatives of Burke, remarked on the 20 years of service which Burke had given to the Borough. A resolution passed unanimously by the Council points out the former Councilman, who served for seven years under former Mayors Thomas P. Knott and Theodore K. Ferry, devoted his time and efforts conscientiously to many civic and fraternal organizations without regard to his own time and personal gain. His passing was described as a great loss to the Borough.

Mayor John K. Pollitt declared that Burke was a good friend of the Fair Lawn Borough and spent much of

his life in public service. Councilman Howard C. Yerger Jr. stated it was Burke who did so much toward effecting civic improvements years ago when the Borough became an independent municipality.

The Council also publicly expressed its deep sympathy to Wittman's family. A resolution unanimously adopted by the Council members describes the enthusiasm with which Wittman always en-

Council Pays Tribute To Memories Of Burke, Wittman

The borough council memorialized former Councilman Ernest Burke and Carl Wittman, publisher of the Clarion, Tuesday night recording great sympathy to family and relatives and great appreciation of community services of the two men. Burke was killed in a hit-and-run accident on Fairlawr Ave. Friday night. Wittman passed away Sunday.

Mayor John K. Pollitt said "Ernie was a good friend to all. He spent a good part of his life in public service. His passing is a deep sorrow to me personally."

Councilman H. C. Yerger for the information of the newer residents in the borough told of Burke's ringing door bells to interest the older residents to help him get lights, sidewalks and roads for the borough. Yerger said "Burke was a part of the town. It is a sorry thing he had to go the way he did, but God is good. I believe He will protect him."

In speaking of Carl Wittman, Mayor Pollitt said "although Wittman was not a resident of Fair Lawn, he was definitely a part of it as an active member of the press. He was always very fair in matters going on in the borough, and very level-headed, ready always with sound advice, and a lovable person. I feel badly personally over his passing."

dorsed civic improvements since the inception of the Borough in 1924.

Mayor Pollitt stated that though the publisher was not a resident of the Borough, he became an integral part in its life. Wittman was a lovable character who was at all times fair, said the Mayor.

Council in Tribute To Burke, Wittman

Resolutions paying tribute to former Borough Councilman Ernest Burke, and Carl Wittman, publisher of the weekly Fair Lawn and Paramus Clarion, and extending sympathy to their families on their recent deaths, were adopted at last night's meeting of Mayor John K. Pollitt and the Fair Lawn Borough Council.

Mayor Pollitt told of his personal sorrow at Burke's passing, as well as Mr. Wittman. He pointed out that although the latter was not a Fair Lawn resident, he endeared himself to all by his fair editorial policy in his paper.

Councilman H. Charles Yerger, Jr., speaking of Mr. Burke, said that few people know of his efforts to arouse the people to the needs of the borough when the town was young.

Councilman Paul W. Hardy called attention to the fine police work of Patrolman Milton Capwell in the apprehension of the hit-run driver whose car killed Burke as he walked across Fair Lawn Ave., last Friday night. His recommendation that a certificate of commendation be given to Capwell was approved by the council.

PATERSON EVE NEWS

Bergen Evening Record

ESTABLISHED 1895

Published Daily (except Sunday) by

THE BERGEN EVENING RECORD CORPORATION

At 295 Main Street, Hackensack, New Jersey

Telephone to all departments HUbbard 7-8000

Entered as Second-Class matter June 7, 1895, at the Hackensack, N. J., Post Office under Act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates — Mail (payable in advance): Single Copy 5c. One Week 30c. One Month \$1.25. One Year \$15. Foreign Postage Extra. Newsstand Price 5c Per Copy. Member of the Associated Press and Audit Bureau of Circulations. The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all the local news printed in this newspaper, as well as all AP news dispatches.

The Bergen Evening Record believes that widespread public discussion of governmental and societal problems is a vital concomitant of self-government in a democracy. Its editorial writers express their uncensored and not infallible opinions on its editorial page. Its readers are cordially invited to express theirs in "Voice of the People".

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1950.

AN EDITOR

Carl Wittman's death this week impoverishes his community and his craft. His craft was journalism; he was editor of—or, rather, he was—the Fair Lawn and Paramus Clarion. His community? Like Thoreau's Concord, it was the wide world.

Captious critics of his editorial policy used to observe tartly that Mr. Wittman was better with a telescope than with a microscope, that rarely did he find at hand in the antics of the Fair Lawn or Paramus society and statecraft reasons for anger. But propinquity and such a talent for thinking well of the neighbors as Mr. Wittman had may temper the critical faculty. Not many of us have Thomas Wolfe's gift (if it be not a curse) for looking homeward, angel, and seeing that home is as tawdry as the great globe of which it is part. No matter!

Carl Wittman was at his picturesque best and will be remembered longest for his editorials—so astonishing in a little (often 4-page) weekly newspaper—on international affairs. He had an undying detestation of Hohenzollerns, Hapsburgs, Bourbons, Mitsui and Mitsubishi, Guelphs, Windsors. And so of course he hated Hitler and cartels and isms. And so also he championed democracy as only a man can who has known (as he did) what the other thing really is.

Carl was a good and gentle man. Where he has gone he will be happy on his beat, because he will be among friends and neighbors. The souls he so vividly hated are still a long way off, straight down.

CARL WITTMAN, PUBLISHER, DIES

Survivors Include Wife And Two Sons; Private Funeral Rites Set

Paramus—Carl Wittman, 73, newspaper publisher, of 116 Farview Avenue, died at his home yesterday morning after a brief illness.

Born in Germany, he had come to this country 59 years ago and had been a resident of Paramus for 30 years. He was publisher of the Paramus-Fair Lawn Clarion, now known as The Clarion.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Mary S. Wittman; two sons, Walter T. Wittman and Robert C. Wittman; two grandchildren, Jane and Carl Wittman, all of Paramus.

The body is reposing at the Vander Plaats Memorial Home, Paramus, where friends may call Tuesday evening from 7 to 9 P. M. Private funeral services will be held at the funeral home on Wednesday at 10 A. M.

BERGEN EVENING RECORD

October 9, 1950

The Paterson News

FOUNDED 1890

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Name Registered U S Patent Office

"ON GUARD FOR OVER HALF A CENTURY"

Published Every Evening Except Sunday
by THE NEWS PRINTING COMPANY,
NEWS BUILDING,
PATERSON N. J.

EDWARD B. HAINES, Founder

UNITED PRESS

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this newspaper as well as all AP news dispatches.

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BERGEN COUNTY PARAMUS

Carl Wittman, Publisher of Clarion, Dies

Carl Wittman, 73, of 116 Farview Ave., publisher of the Fair Lawn Paramus Clarion and one of Paramus' best-known and beloved residents, died yesterday morning at his home after an illness of several years.

Born in the Black Forest section of Germany on Feb. 9, 1877, Wittman came to America at the age of 14, and became a naturalized citizen while a prospector in Alaska in 1902. After 10 years in Alaska as a prospector, he returned to San Francisco in 1912, from which point he commenced a globe-circling trip.

His stops included Hawaii, Japan, China, Siberia, Russia, Africa, Central Europe and England. While in London in 1913, he married Miss Mary Thalmay, a native of Austria. They returned to America in 1916 and lived in East Rutherford prior to moving to Paramus in 1920. He operated a chicken farm before founding his newspaper.

His keen knowledge of European history inspired editorials which attracted attention throughout the entire country. Many have been re-printed in some of the language presses.

Wittman is survived by his wife and two sons, Walter T. Hackensack lawyer and borough attorney of Paramus, and Robert C., editor of his father's paper. Friends may call at the funeral home at S-113 Farview Ave., Paramus, tomorrow evening between 7 and 9. A private service will be held on Wednesday morning, followed by cremation.

October 9, 1950

THE MORNING CALL

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With Malice To None, With Justice And Freedom For All

Progressive, Liberal, Independent

THE ONE MINUTE PULPIT

Yet a little while, and he that shall come
will come, and will not tarry Heb. X. 37.

October 9, 1950

Carl Wittman Dies; Editor Fair Lawn, Paramus Paper

Carl Wittman, editor-publisher and founder of the weekly Fair Lawn and Paramus Clarion, passed away yesterday morning in his Paramus home, 116 Farview Ave. He had been ill for some time and his health declined rapidly after an operation last July.

Born in Germany, Wittman came to the United States at the age of 14. From 1900 to 1910 he was in Alaska prospecting for gold and he became an American citizen there in 1902. He left Alaska in 1910 for a trip on which he visited Hawaii, Japan, China, Siberia, Russia, the Balkans and North Africa on his trip. In 1913 he married in London. His wife was a native of Austria.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wittman traveled throughout Europe. Their first son was born in Dresden, Germany. In 1916 they came to the United States and settled in East Rutherford. They moved to Paramus in 1920.

In 1926 Mr. Wittman started the Clarion, the first newspaper published in Fair Lawn. Under his guidance it has steadily grown and it now serves the entire Fair Lawn area. He wrote articles for several foreign newspapers at one time. His son, Robert Wittman, took charge of the Clarion during his father's illness and will continue to edit the weekly.

Mr. Wittman is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mary S. Wittman, two sons, Robert and Walter Wittman, borough attorney, and two grandchildren, Jane and Carl Wittman.

Friends may call from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at 5-113 Farview Ave., Paramus. After a private service on Wednesday. The Rev. Kloetzli, pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Paramus, will officiate.

The

As
Emma
Frank
Elee

NORVAL K. HARRIS
JUDGE SULLIVAN CIRCUIT COURT
SULLIVAN, INDIANA

Oct 20-50

Robert Wittman
Fair Lawn N.J.

Dear sir:

For the past several years, your father sent me an exchange copy of "The Clarion". For ~~two or three~~ ^{four five} years during the world war ~~it~~ ^{and after} I published a monthly paper first called "We the People Protest" and later "USA Patriot-Educator". My paper suspended in 1947 but "The Clarion" still came to me.

Your father's unique and blistering editorials always were outstanding.

In the present era of hysteria, hatred and hypocrisy when the "Royal Dams of Europe" and their counterparts of Wall Street monopoly capitalism are trying desperately to maintain their free ride on the backs of the people, Carl Wittman's courageous and trenchant pen is irreplaceable.

When the people at last win economic and political freedom in the USA, your father's memory will be rightfully revered as one of those who blazed the trail.

Yours sincerely
Norval K. Harris

Fair Lawn-Radburn

The Community Newspaper

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FAIR LAWN, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1950.

A Colleague Dies

Carl Wittman was not a competitor. To us, as to many others, he was a legend and an influence we can never forget.

The important thing about Carl was not the fact that he edited and published the Clarion. It was the man himself that counted. He revealed his character at all times, for he was an individual of stature. No one who talked to Carl Wittman about the things that were closest to him could ignore his mood and his mentality.

During the many years that he wrote about Fair Lawn men and events, Carl played more than an ordinary part in shaping local history. But more than that, he left the imprint of his mind and his personality on friends and colleagues.

Carl had a philosophy founded on experience, and a touchstone by which he measured life in the Borough or in the world, through which he had traveled so widely. He never spitefully harmed anyone or carried a grudge. He broadened our world. His memory will stay with us always.