

FILLMORE—Funeral services for Mrs. Myrtle Fillmore, who passed away Oct. 9 at the age of 84 years at the Unity Farm, will be held Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock from D. W. Newcomer's Sons' Community chapel on the Paseo at Robert Gilliam rd. Interment Newcomer's vaults.

HER FAITH WON MILLIONS

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UNITY BECAME WORLD-WIDE UNDER MRS. FILLMORE'S DIRECTION.

The Death of the Leader in This Religious Doctrine Came After Forty-five Years in Its Service.

More than forty-five years ago a Kansas City woman turned to a new application of Christianity for a solution to many months of illness and financial despair in her family.

Tuesday night that woman, who had inspired a school of religious thought which circled the earth, died. She was Mrs. Myrtle Page Fillmore, vice-president of the Unity School of Christianity.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fillmore moved to Kansas City in 1884, with their three children. Previously the family had lived in Texas and Colorado, seeking a cure for tuberculosis of the lungs from which Mrs. Fillmore was suffering. As a boy Mr. Fillmore had suffered a hip disease and curvature of the spine.

LOST HIS FORTUNE.

Mr. Fillmore was successful in the real estate business here, accumulating \$150,000. That was swept away in the collapse of a boom and the family was destitute and in need of medical attention and nourishment. To quote an article which appeared in The Star five years ago, this was what happened when the family was in the depths of despair:

"Then just when it seemed there was nothing left to life, there came an extraordinary change over Mrs. Fillmore. During the many months of heartbreaking trials, she had reasoned out that there must be a supreme power operating upon fixed divine law, and that this law applied in faith and faithfully, must of necessity set aside all negative or destructive agencies. And she applied her theory with remarkable success. Her tuberculosis vanished, as did the ailments of her children. She treated her friends similarly. Sickness and poverty became only as bad dreams. In their place health and the ability to work reigned. And Charles Fillmore, grasping the full meaning of this divine law, began to help her in her ministrations, reaping much benefit physically, mentally and materially."

It was in 1886 that Mr. and Mrs. Fillmore began to devote a part of their time demonstrating the new doctrine conceived by Mrs. Fillmore. In 1899 they decided to devote their lives to it.

STARTED WITH ONE PUBLICATION.

They started with one publication and in an old residence at 1315 McGee street. Their work grew into what now is known as the Unity School of Christianity.

MRS. MYRTLE PAGE FILLMORE, WHO INSPIRED THE UNITY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY, IS DEAD.



Mrs. Myrtle Page Fillmore, vice-president of the Unity School of Christianity, who died Tuesday night at Unity Farm. With her husband, Charles Fillmore, she started the new religious doctrine about forty-five years ago.

The school is neither a church nor a sect. It has no membership, but it is known that at least 30,000 persons in Kansas City are followers or are interested in varying degrees. "Millions" is the only word the school's officials can use in speaking of the followers all over the world.

From the McGee street residence, the school has grown into an institution which has extensive holdings on Tracy avenue between Ninth and Tenth streets, and the 1,200-acre Unity farm on U. S. highway No. 50. Starting with a small composing room in which type was set for one publication, the school now has a printing plant which issues seven publications. Fifteen bound volumes from the plant now are in print and countless folders and booklets have been issued.

NOW EIGHTY WORKERS.

The silent Unity work started with one worker to assist Mr. and Mrs. Fillmore. Now there are eighty workers. On the Tracy avenue land there is a vegetarian cafe and the school's radio station, WOQ. The school employs about 400 persons.

Five years ago it was estimated that more than 2 million persons were following the teachings of Unity. Today there are more than 1,000 Unity centers and classes.

In bare outline these are the things that have grown out of a woman's attempt to end the despair in her family. The discoverer of a religious doctrine that has gone over the world, Mrs. Fillmore seldom went away from the city. She went to Denver and Chicago a few times, but

was born in Pagetown, O. A graduate of Oberlin college, Oberlin, O., she taught school in Clinton, Mo., and Denison, Tex. She and her husband celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage last year.

ACTIVE UNTIL THE LAST.

Mrs. Fillmore was active in the work of the organization until her illness a few days ago. Last week she was at her desk at the Unity headquarters and on one day last week she found entertainment in picking apples on Unity Farm.

She never dropped the writing of letters which she started at the founding of the school. Much of her correspondence was with followers in foreign countries.

Funeral services for Mrs. Fillmore will be held at 3:30 o'clock Friday at the Newcomer chapel, Robert Gilliam road and the Paseo. Ernest C. Wilson, head of the Plaza Unity Center, will have charge of the services. Music will be by singers from the staff of WOQ.

The body will remain temporarily in a vault at the Newcomer chapel.