

Atwood Axford, 54, who conducted a men's furnishings store here for many years, died suddenly of a heart attack at Warren Hospital, Phillipsburg, on Wednesday morning, December 14, 1955.

In declining health for the past year, he was taken to the hospital in the American Legion ambulance after being stricken at his former store, 150 Main Street, where he was preparing for a new tenant.

Born in Allamuchy, he was a son of the late Jacob and Nellie Schmidt Axford. He attended Hackettstown Schools. His residence was at 88 Park Avenue, Washington.

Mr. Axford acquired his haberdashery business from the late Marvin Shields, who died on May 2, 1947, at the age of 80. Mr. Shields' father, Thomas Shields, had founded the merchant tailor business in 1865 at 150 Main Street, the corner of Grand Avenue. Marvin Shields operated the store from 1895 until his retirement in 1944, when he had a complete line of men's furnishings.

Recently Closed Out

Mr. Axford had been employed by Mr. Shields for many years before he took over in 1944. He closed out the 90-year-old business last fall. The store has now been leased by Harold T. Davis of Western Auto Associates, who will move there from 159 Main Street after the holidays.

Surviving Mr. Axford are his wife, the former Alice Cornish, and six sisters, Mrs. Neil Clark of

Hopewell Junction, N. Y.; Mrs. Joseph Hagan of Jersey City; Mrs. Nellie Criswell of Hollywood, Fla.; Mrs. Ralph Cole of Newton; Mrs. Catherine McCarthy of West Orange, and Mrs. Charles Wasley of Clifton.

Services will be conducted at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at the DeVoe Funeral Home, Washington, by the Rev. Harold E. Cheyney, pastor of the Washington Methodist Church. Burial will be in the Musconetcong Valley Cemetery at Hampton.