

Councilman Passes



C. Martin LaBar

Councilman LaBar Dies In 70th Year

Retired Laundry Operator
Had Formerly Served
On School Board

C. Martin LaBar, 69, member of the Common Council for 14 years and vice president of the Hackettstown National Bank, died Sunday evening, March 30, 1947, at Morristown Memorial Hospital of a heart ailment. Ill for the past week, he was removed from his home at 209 Washington Street to the hospital Saturday morning in the American Legion ambulance.

Business houses of the town paid their respects to the veteran Councilman during the hour of his funeral from 2 to 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The services were conducted at the Cochran Funeral Home by the Rev. Alvin A. Jones of Trinity Methodist Church, with burial in Hackettstown Union Cemetery.

Engaged in the laundry business here from 1915 until his retirement in 1943, Mr. LaBar had served four terms on the Council when he declined to be a candidate again in the fall of that year. In the fall of 1944 he ran again on the Republican ticket and was completing his three-year term at the time of his death.

On First Grid Team

Mr. LaBar was one of the eight surviving members of the team which first played football for Hackettstown High School in the fall of 1897, starting what has proved to be a strong tradition in the community. At the annual football dinners of recent years he confessed

to the amusement of his contemporaries that he was a "ringer" at the time. He had attended the public schools and Hackettstown High but was actually a student at Centenary Collegiate Institute when he played with the first Tigers. He attended the Institute, now Centenary Junior College, for three years and then entered a school in New York City to learn the plumbing and steamfitting trade.

Carter Martin LaBar was born in Hackettstown on September 15, 1877, a son of Morris H. and Sara Martin LaBar. When he was a baby the family moved to what is now known as the Swenson farm at the edge of town in Mansfield Township, where he was raised. He first followed his trade of steamfitting in Philadelphia, residing in Camden, and then worked in New York City, living in Camden.

In 1915 he took over the steam laundry at 212 Main Street, now the site of the Main Street Tire Service, which had been established by his father-in-law, Thomas B. Howell. He operated this business until he sold to the Morey-LaRue Laundry of Morristown in the spring of 1943 and the local plant was discontinued.

Served School Board

Prior to his term on the Common Council Mr. LaBar was for several years a member of the Board of Education, serving at the time the public school building was remodelled to its present form in 1924. He had been a director of the Hackettstown Bank since 1943 and was elected vice president in January of 1946.

Since 1918 Mr. LaBar had been a member of Independence Lodge No. 42, F. and A. M., and he was a member of the official board of Trinity Methodist Church. He was a past president of the Hackettstown Club and for several years had been a director of the Hackettstown Building and Loan Association.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Howell LaBar; a son, Thomas B. H. LaBar of the Bartley-Drakestown road, a former engineer of the State Highway Department who recently completed Army service with the rank of major; and a brother, John S. LaBar of Hillside.

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NAME: C. Martin LaBar

* Carter

DATE OF DEATH: March 30, 1947