

# Christianson Dies; Former Governor

Former Gov. Theodore Christianson, 65, died of a heart attack Thursday night near Dawson, Minn., after trying to start his stalled automobile.

Mr. Christianson, the state's chief executive from 1925 to 1931, and his wife, had been visiting friends at Dawson.

While they were en route home to their farm outside of town, their car developed trouble.

Stricken while attempting to start the automobile, Mr. Christianson was able to make his way to the farm home of H. J. Hanson. A doctor was called. The former governor died shortly after the physician arrived.

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Mr. Christianson suffered what was believed a slight heart attack in July 1947. At that time he went to Rochester, Minn., for medical observation.

Up to this year the former governor had been spending summers at his farm and his winters in Chicago, where he formerly edited the Journal of the National Association of Retail Druggists.

He was born Sept. 12, 1883, in Lac qui Parle township, Minn., a son of Robert and Emma Ronning Christianson, and was graduated from University of Minnesota in 1906 and from the university law school in 1909.

Mr. Christianson was admitted to the Minnesota bar in 1909 and began practice of law at Dawson. From 1909 to 1925 he published the Dawson Sentinel.

He was a member of the Minnesota house of representatives from 1915 to 1925, being chairman of the appropriations committee for four terms.

A Republican, he also served two terms as representative in congress. He was representative-at-large from 1933 to 1935, and represented the Fifth Minnesota district from 1935 to 1937.

He was defeated as a Republi-



**THEODORE CHRISTIANSON**  
*Stalled car brings on attack*

can candidate for the United States senate in 1936.

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Mr. Christianson for two years was public relations counsel for the National Association of Retail Druggists, and later became editor of its official publication.

He retired in October of this year

## Death

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# DEATH

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and moved with his wife to their farm.

He also was author of a five-volume history of Minnesota and wrote numerous newspaper and magazine articles.

Mr. Christianson married Ruth E. Donaldson, native of Dundas, Minn., June 4, 1907. Two sons were born to them, Robert J. and Theodore, Jr.

Mrs. Christianson was associated with her husband in publication of the Dawson Sentinel and frequently managed the paper during her husband's absence.

She died in August, 1944, at the age of 58.

Mr. Christianson married Mrs. Mayme M. Bundy of Chicago May 30, 1946. She survives him, along with the two sons, three grandchildren, two brothers and four sisters.

Robert Christianson is a Minneapolis attorney, and Theodore practices law in St. Paul.

Mr. Christianson was a member of the Presbyterian church and the Masonic order. He also was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Delta Sigma Rho, Theta Chi and Delta Theta Phi.

Hamline university awarded him a doctor of laws degree in 1929.

Macalester college conferred a similar degree on him in 1938. Augustana college awarded him a doctor of humanities degree in 1930.

Funeral arrangements are not complete.

## YOUNGDAHL LAUDS FORMER GOVERNOR

Gov. Luther W. Youngdahl to-

day described the death of former Gov. Theodore Christianson as a "severe loss to all the people of our state."

"He was one of Minnesota's great governors," Youngdahl said.

**"He was an able, courageous and consecrated public servant. The progress of Minnesota was his life and he will live on as an important part of its history."**

Mr. Christianson started Youngdahl on his judicial career when he appointed him to the municipal bench in Minneapolis in 1930.

Flags of the state capitol will be flown at half-mast until after the funeral, the governor said. The body may lie in state in the capitol rotunda if Mr. Christianson's family so desires.

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Death of Mr. Christianson reduced to six the number of former Minnesota governors still living. They are Attorney General J. A. A. Burnquist, J. A. O. Preus, Minneapolis; Hjalmar Petersen Askov; Elmer A. Benson, Appleton; Harold E. Stassen, Philadelphia, and Senator Edward J. Thye, Northfield.

## Party for Blind

Minneapolis Society for the Blind will hold its annual Christmas party at 8:30 p.m. today at 3011 First avenue S. The program will include dancing and card playing for the blind and their friends.

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