

obit. -

Engebretsen, Florence

May 8, 1858 -

1955

## Breezes From The Past

From Our Files of 25 Years Ago

1955

The exceedingly long and fruitful life of Mrs. Edward Engebretsen came to an end Friday morning at Fort Atkinson Memorial hospital. She had reached her 97th birthday on Mother's Day, May 8.

Her final illness was of eight weeks duration, as she gradually succumbed to the burden of the years.

Mrs. Engebretsen was a remarkable woman who adjusted to the great changes which came in her lifetime, refusing to shun a world totally different from the 20 years she spent as a girl in Cold Spring and the many decades which followed her happy marriage in 1878. She was always young in spirit and gifted with a zest for life afforded to so few of us.

She was a devoted wife to her illustrious husband who served two terms as Mayor from 1887 to 1892. He took office two years after Whitewater became a city and under his guidance the water and light utilities were established and the preservation of the city's natural beauty was begun.

Florence Steele was born May 8, 1858 in Cold Spring, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Steele. She was married to Edward Engebretsen Oct. 10, 1878. She was the oldest member of the Congregational church, a charter member of the Alpha club and belonged to the Whitewater Historical Society.

Surviving are three sons, Lee, Brodhead, Fenton, Eagle, Willis, Hartford; one daughter, Ruth Dorr, Whitewater; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.