S. J. Hoffman Dies at Age 65

Was Leader in R.I. Fraternal and Civic Organizations

Sydney J. Hoffman, a leader in Rhode Island civic and fraternal organizations for more than 30 years, died yesterday at Rhode Island Hospital. He was 65 years old.

Mr. Hoffman was stricken during the morning at his home, 75 Dartmouth St., Pawtucket, and was taken to the hospital. He died about 1 p.m.



Sydney J. Hoffman

A resident of Cranston for 40 years, he was active in that city's Democratic politics as chairman of the Second Ward Democratic Committee, member of the city redevelopment agency and candidate in city elections.

He was a 32nd degree Mason; a past grand counselor and general treasurer of the New England Council, United Commercial Travelers of America; a past president of the Rhode Island Jewish Fraternal Association, and a past president of the St. Vincent de Paul Assembly.

He was a co-owner and secretary of the Manna-Hoffman Supply Co., Inc., wholesale hardware and automotive distributors in Providence, and an officer of the W. E. Davis Co. and the Capitol Brush Co., also of Providence.

Born Sept. 8, 1901, in Providence, Mr. Hoffman was a son of the late Max D. and Esther C. Hoffman. He graduated from English High School and Northeastern University and worked for a short time during the 1920s as a confidential secretary on the Providence Journal staff.

He married the former Celia Weiner of Fall River on Sept. 9, 1924, and the couple moved to Cranston shortly afterward. They lived at 19 Welfare Ave. in that city until they moved to Pawtucket three months ago.

Already active in professional, civic and fraternal clubs, Mr. Hoffman was elected in 1933 a senior counselor of Providence Council 67, Order of United Commercial Travelers of America. He later became grand master of the organization's New England Council and served more than 30 years as the council's grand treasurer.

He was a past president of the American Jewish Voters League of Rhode Island, the Providence Fraternal Association, the Rhode Island Association of Credit Men and the Cranston Kiwanis Club.

He also was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Redwood Lodge No. 35, F. & A.M., the South Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association, the Cranston Jewish Community Club, the Cranston Chamber of Commerce and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

A member of the Cranston Second Ward Democratic Committee for many years, he was chairman of that body from 1958 until he left Cranston. In 1960, he was elected corresponding secretary of the city committee.

He was an unsuccessful candidate for Cranston public welfare director in 1956, and an unsuccessful candidate for the city's Charter Commission in 1960. In 1961 he was appointed to the Cranston redevelopment agency.

Besides his wife, he is survived by two sons, Dr. Melvin D. Hoffman and Allen R. Hoffman, both of Providence; a brother, Harry A. Hoffman of Cranston, and four grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete.

OBITUARY

HOFFMAN, SYDNEY J.