

Russell Heim, Ex-Coroner, Dies in City

Dr. Russell R. Heim, 74, former Hennepin county coroner, died Thursday after a long illness.

Dr. Heim, who first was elected coroner in 1942, was replaced in the office during his third term, in November 1952, after he was convicted of violating narcotics laws.

A FEDERAL jury found him guilty of issuing false prescriptions for narcotics in the names of patients and non-existent persons and of dispensing drugs to known addicts at a profit.



Dr. Heim

The trial was one of the longest ever held in Minneapolis federal court up to that time.

Dr. Heim was sentenced to four years in prison, but the sentence was commuted and he was released in April 1954, after serving 17 months.

Last September he received a "full and complete" pardon from President Eisenhower.

A native of Plymouth, Ind., Dr. Heim graduated from the University of Illinois medical school in 1910. He also studied at several European universities.

AS A MAJOR in World War I, he established an army first-aid station in France. Later he was wounded and was awarded the Purple Heart.

Dr. Heim began practicing medicine in Minneapolis in 1919.

After his conviction on the narcotics charge, the state board of medical examiners revoked his license to practice medicine.

DR. HEIM had suffered two heart attacks in the past three years. About a year and a half ago he moved to a rest home at 2504 Euclid Pl., where he was found dead in his room shortly after noon yesterday.

Survivors include a brother, Schuyler F., Long Beach, Calif.

Thomson Brothers mortuary is handling funeral arrangements. Services tentatively have been set for Monday at the mortuary, with burial in Lakewood cemetery.

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