Jacob Dart

The Brunswick News; Saturday 24 March 1917; pg. 1 cols. 1 & 2

J.E. DART, GLYNN'S REPRESENTATIVE, HAS BREATHED HIS LAST-HE HAD BEEN IN ILL HEALTH FOR SEVERAL MONTHS-Friends Tried to persuade Him Not to Attend Extra Session of Legislature-NO FUNERAL PROGRAM YET-Deceased Had Served His City and County in Many Positions of Honor-Short Sketch of Life.

Information was received in the city last night announcing the death of Hon. Jacob E. Dart, member of the Georgia legislature from Glynn county, which occurred at the Georgia Baptist Hospital, Atlanta, last night.

Yesterday morning a telegram was received by members of the family stating that Col. Dart had been stricken and that little hope was held out for his recovery. In answer to this telegram, Judge Edwin W. Dart, a nephew of the deceased, left last night for Atlanta.

Col. Dart had not been in good health for several months, and only a few weeks ago he was the victim of the malady touching the heart, which came very near causing his death. Close attention on the part of family and physicians, however, succeeded in bringing him to a state where he was enabled to attend to official duties, but left him in a weakened and rather failing condition of health.

When the call for the extra session was announced, Mr. Dart debated for several days whether or not his physical condition would warrant his attending the session. Devoted to his duties in the house, one of its most prominent members, the father of the recently enacted pension laws, Col. Dart felt that his first duty was to the state and to the people who had handed him his commission. In the state election last fall he was chosen to the office of justice of the peace for one of the city districts, and having qualified in that office, close friends argued that this would give him an additional reason for not attending the extra session. He had determined, however, to be present, and he left Monday night suffering from physical exhaustion and against the advices of physicians and friends. Nothing further was heard from him until the news yesterday of his illness and death.

SKETCH OF HIS LIFE

Col. Dart was born July 4, 1483, and attended the public schools of Brunswick and Glynn county. He became prominent politically in his early manhood, and aside from a few years spent in the saw mill business and in the service of the Brunswick and Albany railroad, of which he was road master, almost his entire life has been given to the public service. In turn he has served as mayor of the city of Brunswick, member of the Georgia legislature on several occasions, collector of customs of the port of Brunswick, and United States consul for several years at Guadeloupe, French West Indies. Returning to his home city after his consulship came to a close, he again became identified with the public service of the community and spent many years at the head of the sanitary department of the city and in various other public offices. When the present A.B. and B. railroad, at that time the B. and B., was being constructed, Col. Dart, who had had experience years ago, was called into service again and under his supervision the line was finally built into this city. Completing this service, he was called from time to time to offices of public trust, being elected a few years ago by an overwhelming majority and in the last campaign having been elected to the office of justice of the peace for a term of four years.

CONFEDERATE VETERAN

Col. Dart served for four full years as a Confederate soldier, having been under the leadership of that gallant Confederate chieftain, John B. Gordon. He entered the service of the Confederacy when a mere youth, and followed its tattered legions to Appomattox. Wounded several times in various engagements, he always came back

to the charge and commanding officers always pronounced him a brave soldier. Col. Dart was among the rarely able orators of South Georgia and only a few days before his death, in an impassioned speech, in behalf of the Confederate veterans, succeeded in having the Glynn county commissioners appropriate a fund for defraying the expenses of the veterans to the coming reunion in Washington. While serving in the legislature in 1915, and in the advocacy of his own measure for the benefit of the Confederate veterans, he electrified the house in an address that has become famous as one of the rarely great speeches delivered in Georgia in recent years. Col. Dart was a son of the late Major Urbanus Dart, and was among the pioneer citizens of Glynn county. He is survived by many relatives in this community, and in addition leaves a son, H.R. Dart, of Alabama, and a daughter, Mrs. Leonard Boyd, of Atlanta. Capt. W.R. Dart, of this city, and F.M. Dart, of Douglas, are brothers, and Mrs. W.F. Symons, of this city, a sister of the deceased.

There were few more striking figures in Georgia politics than was "Uncle Jake," as his close friends called him, and his popularity in the legislature is best evidenced by the fact that he was the only member of the present house serving on four committees. Personally he was of a jovial disposition; was liberal to a fault, and made warm friends of all whom he succeeded in cementing unto himself in bonds that stood the test of years. His sudden death will bring untold sorrow into many Brunswick homes, for it was one of the attributes of his life that he felt deep sympathy for those who were afflicted and the good hand of fellowship was always extended to those who were burdened and oppressed.

No funeral arrangements have as yet been made, but it is expected that the legislature will adjourn this morning out of respect to the memory of Col. Dart, and that his body will be escorted here by committees named from both houses of the Georgia legislature. Members of the family were so shocked last night that none of them could discuss anything definite as to final arrangements.

Published: 3/24/1917