

RALPH LEININGER, REALTY MAN, DEAD

Reported Once to Have Held
\$1,500,000 Life Insurance
but Lost Everything.

PUT MILLIONS IN BUILDINGS

Headed Company That Developed
in Flatbush—Backed \$1,000,000
Store That Never Opened.

Ralph Leininger, a Brooklyn realty operator, of 1,044 Park Place, said once to have held \$1,500,000 life insurance, died Wednesday in his home of heart disease. Because of financial reverses in 1907 and 1929, he died without insurance. He was 65 years old.

Mr. Leininger came to Brooklyn in 1897 after a successful business career in Philadelphia, Pa., taking a position with the American Ink Company. Soon after his arrival he discovered a new process for making printing ink and received an increase in salary which enabled him to save enough money to enter the real estate business. He organized and headed the Kingston Realty Company, which owned the old Touraine Hotel.

The Kingston Company bought and developed unimproved land along Eastern Parkway and in Flatbush. It bought and sold more than \$5,000,000 of farm land and in less than three years erected 250 buildings, involving \$10,000,000.

After the building boom reached its crest, Mr. Leininger decided to turn his activities toward department-store operation in Brooklyn and capitalized the \$1,000,000 Darlington Company, which prepared to open its store in the Offerman Building. The Darlington store, due to financial reverses, never was opened, although \$675,000 worth of merchandise had been ordered in anticipation of the event. He was adjudged bankrupt, with liabilities amounting to \$410,000.

Later Mr. Leininger went back into the real estate business and partly recovered his losses. In 1924 he gave \$50,000 to the building fund of the Bedford branch, Y. M. C. A. The crash in 1929 again brought reverses, and two years later he was, through illness, forced to give up his business activity.

He was once a member of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and the Brooklyn Club, and was for thirty-three years a member of the board of directors of the Bedford branch, Y. M. C. A. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Emma C. Lee Leininger, and a son, Austin M. Leininger.

A funeral service will be held this afternoon in the funeral parlors, 83 Hanson Place, Brooklyn. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.