Chicago Packer, 19 October 1935 — James L . Leonard of Cincinnati Is Dead [ARTICLE]

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Widely Known Trade Leader Passed Away Thursday Night.

Cincinnati, Oct. 18.—James L. Leonard, nationally known figure in the fruit and vegetable industry, died at his home here Thursday night after a lingering illness. He was 66 years old. Mr. Leonard, a Cincinnati business leader and philanthropist, became seriously ill last week.

Mr. Leonard was born here September 2, 1869, and entered the food industry as a youth. In 1897 he organized the firm of Leonard, Crosset & Riley, inc., and remained as president of this firm until the early part of this year. This firm became active in the distribution of potatoes and watermelons and maintained many branch offices throughout the country. He resigned as head of the firm

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because of failing health, and several months ago he and his son, Luke J. Leonard, organized James L. Leonard & Son, inc., which is now taking an active role in the vegetable industry. Mr. Leonard was also organizer and president of the Alloy Metal Wire Company of Philadelphia, which was established in 1919. Although he resigned as president of that firm last January, he remained a member of the board.

Mr. Leonard was instrumental in organizing the Melon Distributors Association 14 years ago and remained one of its most ardent supporters. He was president of the association for many years. He was also active in the National League of Wholesale Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Distributors.

During the World War, Mr. Leonard was called upon by former President Herbert Hoover, then Food Administrator, to serve as potato expert on the advisory committee of eight on food distribution.

He was active in Catholic fraternal

circles and charitable organizations. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mary Maley Leonard, a daughter, Mary, and son, Luke, who is president of the Cincinnati branch of the National League and the Cincinnati Fruit and Produce Credit Association. Funeral services will be arranged when his son, Luke, arrives from Florida.