

HURST, JOHN JAMES  
November 28, 1857-September 14, 1936

John James Hurst was born in Adenburg, New York, November 28, 1857. At the age of eleven, he and his parents moved to Michigan, living there until he reached young manhood, then moving to Nebraska. In 1888 he was married to Nora Bell Copeland at Wymore, Nebraska. To this union two children were born: Howard D. Hurst of Wheatland and Rebekah Blue of Harbor City, California. In 1904, he moved his family to Wheatland.

We shall not see his like again. Kindness and fidelity were his dominant characteristics. Settling on a forty a mile east of Wheatland in 1904, he and his household at that time consisting of his wife and two children, her mother, Mrs. Copeland, and a sister, now Mrs. Edna Moulton, soon affiliated themselves with the local Methodist church. From that time until 8 or 10 years later, he moved to the homestead in Hudson valley, some 15 miles east of Wheatland, he never missed an official board meeting or a quarterly conference. In addition to the usual offices thrust upon a willing and capable churchman, he held the unique one of financial superintendent of the Sunday school and as chief usher could comfortably seat in the little old brick church which was torn down in 1919 to make room for the present structure, more people than most ushers can get into the spacious main floor of the present large building.

He was the second carrier on rural route 2 which serves the south part of the Wheatland flats where his courtesy and efficiency made every patron his fast friend. Thus he is remembered by the old timers. Later comers remember him as the kind and sociable man who, no longer able to work, visited in town Saturdays and in his unobtrusive way made many friends who with his family and more intimate associates sincerely sorrow at his passing and are the better for having know Mr. Hurst.

Besides his wife and immediate family, he leaves to mourn his departure, one sister and three grandchildren of Los Angeles. Death claimed him Friday, August 14 at the home of his son Howard in Wheatland.