

IRVINE, JAMES E. SR.

July 5, 1893-September 8, 1969

James Irvine, Sr., prominent Platte county pioneer rancher, passed away, Sept. 8, 1969 at the Memorial Hospital after an extended illness, at the age of 76 years.

Mr. Irvine was born July 5, 1893 at County Down, Ireland, the son of John R. and Sarah H. Irvine. He came to the United States on the Lucitania, coming to the Wheatland area in 1912. During his early years, Mr. Irvine worked on the Razor Bill on the Blue Grass (now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Adam Boyd). At this time his pay was \$20 a month. He was also employed by the Charlie Sommers and Kite ranches. He wintered horses on the Cramer ranch (now owned by Phil Rietz), and rode the Shotgun Roundup every year until it was discontinued in 1936.

He was united in marriage to Bessie Memmer on Feb. 8, 1917 and they resided on Mrs. Irvine's homestead in Halleck canyon, which was later sold to H.M. Small. They then moved to their ranch holdings on Slate Creek in 1923 where they had since resided.

The deceased was a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, Masonic Lodge AF & AM No. 16, the Rock Lake Grange and the Wyoming Stockgrower's Assn. He also served on the Board of Trustees of the Irvine Memorial Home in Wheatland.

Funeral services were held for Mr. Irvine, Sr. Thursday (today), Sept. 11 at 2:00 p.m. in the United Methodist church with Rev. Henry Hartberg and Rev. Delbert Dick officiating. Interment was at the local cemetery with Masonic rites being conducted.

Pallbearers included Casmer Isabell, Richard Chase, Donald Wilson, Sunny Criss, Walter Swan and Milton Small.

Survivors include his wife, Bessie; one son, James E. Irvine, Jr.; one daughter, Mrs. Francel (Phil) Rietz, all of Wheatland; one brother, John Irvine of Simms, Mont.; a sister, Mrs. Adam Boyd, Wheatland; four grandchildren, Clayton Rietz, Glen Irvine, Clara Powers and Sharon Irvine and five great grandchildren.