NATWICK, OSCAR OLE SR.
March 21, 1884-October 31, 1950

Oscar O. Natwick, prominent Wyoming attorney, died at his Wheatland home Tuesday night after an illness which had confined him to his home for more than a year. Last rites will be conducted at the Congregational church Friday at two o'clock with Rev. W. James Hoare officiating and Schrader's in charge of arrangements. Interment will be in the Wheatland cemetery.

Born at Viroqua, Wisc. March 21, 1884, he attended the school there and was graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law school in 1907.

In January, 1909, the young lawyer came to Cheyenne, going into law practice with M.A. Kline until September of that year. At that time, he opened a branch office in Wheatland under the name of Kline and Natwick, having purchased the law books and office equipment from Sanford A. Headley.

Wheatland, a promising irrigation project, was then a part of Laramie county, and Natwick, as secretary of the Booster's club, which was working strenuously for county division with Wheatland as county seat, devoted much time to this campaign which brought Platte county into being and resulted in legislative authorization in 1911.

His marriage to Louise Epstein of Madison, Wisc. occurred July 16, 1912. In 1915 he served on the city library board which made negotiations for and was responsible for procuring the Carnegie library. As chairman of the Liberty Bond drive of 1917-18, Natwick gave much of his time and talent to the raising of funds in the county. During his years as councilman (1920-22) and mayor (1922-33), electric power was obtained from Guernsey dam and natural gas from the Casper area; the Wheatland streets were graveled and the cemetery was beautified.

Natwick served as county and prosecuting attorney in the prohibition years from 1924 to 1933. In 1926, he was Grand Master of the Wyoming Masonic order, and in 1927, laid the cornerstone for the new Masonic building in Wheatland. He was president of the Chamber of Commerce in 1930, and following, when a movement was launched to obtain the north and south railroad spurs for the Great Western Sugar factory. Serving on the executive committee, he worked with the late Joe Elliott and the late Bill Ayers to get the sugar factory for Wheatland. The Natwick spur bears his name.

During 1933 and 1934, he served the state as deputy attorney general under Attorney General, Ray E. Lee, and from December, 1934 until March, 1935, he was state land commissioner.

At the request of Governor Leslie E. Miller, he left the land office to organize and direct the state liquor commission which gave liquor control and profits to the state. While holding this post, Arthur Kline, son of his first law associate, took his law practice in Wheatland under the name of Natwick and Kline.

He was again named state land commissioner by Governor Lester C. Hunt in April, 1943 and he held this position until June, 1948, when he resigned because of failing health. At this time, the family resumed their Wheatland residence.

Among honors coming in recent years to the highly respected Wyoming citizen was that of Kight Commander of the Court of Honor in the Masonic order in 1945. Another was an award to him of a medal for his work as a federal appeal agent for selective service in World War II in 1946. He faithfully served in the Wheatland Congregational church as trustee and the Cheyenne church as deacon.

For the final services on Friday, pall bearers will be A.L. Kendig and Herbert Christensen of Wheatland, Arthur Kline of Cheyenne, A.R. Williams of Ft. Collins, Colo., T.I. Baxter of Windsor, Colo., and Frank Whiting of Loveland, Colo.

The honorary pallbearers are M.A. Kline and Judge Sam Thompson of Cheyenne, Melvin Anderson of Denver, J.A. Cole, R.A. Ferguson, G.W. Goodrich, E.C. Judson, Kenneth Brighton, Doyle Hutchinson, C.E. Artist, Don Sherard, Charles Goyen, Charles Zohner, Harry Dearinger, C.A. Havens, H.T. Fis, A.R. Fish, Howard Fish, Gene Perkins, Orvel Bridgmon, Ben Cossman, W.B. Jones, James Irvine, Homer Hoffman, Bernard Bowen, C.G. Buechner, A.E. Hoffman, Dr. W.H. Collins, M.R. Foe, Al Erlandson, James Chaplin, Charles Klassert, Dr. O.B. Wilson, Arthur Rugg, N.F. Hester, M.A. Thrasher, Ed Hall, Bob Russell, Sam Isabel, Harold Loomis, C.C. Houston, J.E. Holmes, Thomas Gibb, Arlo Goodrich, Frank Wood, Lew Hall, Bill Redfern and R.M. Ferguson.

The Masonic lodge will be in charge of the graveside rites.

Besides Mrs. Natwick, he leaves a son, Oscar Ole Natwick, Jr., of Worland, two daughters, Margaret of Forest Hills, N.Y. and Mrs. Bruce Douglass of Rochester, Minn.; eight sisters, Mrs. Ellen Riese and Mrs. Anna Mills of Seattle, Wash., Mrs. John Hammer of Hillsboro, Wisc., and Misses Olga, Cora, Amanda, Hannah and Tilda Natwick, all of Viroqua, Wisc.; and three grandchildren.

Another daughter, Christine, preceded him in death in 1927.