

NICHOLSON, WILLAIM DONALD  
March 31, 1897-January 16, 1957

Death came early Wednesday morning to William D. Nicholson, 59, well-known citizen of Wheatland, following hospitalization here since December 27. Illness had confined him to his home since before Thanksgiving.

Last rites will be conducted at the All Saints Episcopal church in Wheatland at 2:00 o'clock Friday afternoon, January 18, the Revd. Kale King officiating and arrangements by Schraders. Interment will be in the Wheatland cemetery.

Pallbearers for the service will be Allen Goertz, Herbert Percy, Lewis Moulton, Charles Peek, J.H. Whitmore and Don Hunton.

Mr. Nicholson was born March 31, 1897 in Leadville, Colo., a member of a prominent pioneer Colorado family. His father and uncles, Scotsmen, came to Leadville from Prince Edward Island, Canada during the mining activity. His mother was Charlotte Mayhew. An uncle, Samuel D. Nicholson, was a United States senator from Colorado.

Mr. Nicholson attend grade and high school in Holden, Mo., when he went to live with an uncle and aunts at the time of his mother's death. He later attended Andover preparatory school for Yale at Andover, Mass. He entered the University of Missouri at Columbia, leaving college to go into the army in 1918. He served with the armed forces overseas for 18 months and on his return to the United States, he entered Colorado A&M in Fort Collins from which he graduated in 1922.

He was married to Miss Luella Pearson of Denver in Fort Collins December 12, 1925, and to them two daughters were born, Barbara Lou and Marianne Charlotte.

After working for the International Trust company in Denver, he took a position with the Great Western Sugar company, for whom he worked for 25 years.

He spent six years as a fieldman in Wheatland at one time, and after serving his company at Minatare and Scottsbluff, Nebr. and at Windsor, Eaton and Greeley, Colo., he was returned to Wheatland as agricultural superintendent in 1943. He kept this post until 1950, when he purchased the Wheatland Elevator and Implement company, choosing Wheatland and Platte county as his permanent home.

After returning to Wheatland, Mr. Nicholson was an active leader and community leader. He was an interested boys' leader, devoting much time to 4-H work, and in April 1956, was made an honorary member of Future Farmers of America. He worked tirelessly in raising funds for the construction of the 4-H building.

He was keenly interested in local, state and national politics and was equally concerned with the crops and soils of Platte county and all aspects of its agricultural development. He made many trips to attend water meetings in the interest of gaining additional irrigation facilities here. He was a good citizen and a loyal friend.

Mr. Nicholson was a charter member of the Sigma Nu fraternity at Colorado A&M, and a member of Occidental Lodge, Number 20. AF& AM of Greeley. He was a Royal Arch Mason and Knight Templar in Platte Commandary Number 17 at Wheatland. He was a Shriner belonging to Korein Temple in Rawlins.

He held membership in the Wheatland Lions' club of which he was a past president, and was a member of the Senior Chamber of Commerce in which he took an active part. He was a member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He belonged to the Mountain View Community Farm Bureau and the Platte County Farm Bureau.

A communicant of the Episcopal church, Mr. Nicholson was a member of the All Saints Episcopal church of Wheatland, serving as church warden, delegate of the district convocation and was on the Bishop's committee for a number of years.

Surviving are his wife, Luella of Wheatland; two daughters, Mrs. Barbara Pearson and Miss Marianne Nicholson of Denver; two grandchildren, Louisa and John William Pearson of Denver; an uncle, Albert Mayhew and an aunt, Mrs. W.E. Smith of Holden, Mo., with whom he lived as a child. Two first cousins survive him, Edward D. Nicholson of Denver and Joseph DeWar of Canon City, Colo.