

PAIGE, C.A. Sr.
July 29, 1882-October 19, 1924

County Attorney C.A. Paige died suddenly about 9:00 a.m. Sunday in the bath room of his home while preparing for the morning Sunday school services which he had planned to attend with his family.

Noticing that he had taken an unusual length of time, his wife stepped to the door to speak to him and found him stretched lifeless on the floor. Medical aid was summoned at once, but life was pronounced extinct.

The tidings of his untimely passing came as a shock not only to his own community, but to the entire county for which he had served faithfully for many years in public and private capacities, and of which he was a leading citizen.

The universal esteem in which he was held is well expressed in the following account of his life which was contributed to The Times by a close friend of the deceased.

Like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky, the news last Sunday morning that Attorney C.A. Paige had suddenly passed away, was carried on with swift wings to the whole community with a numbing shock. He, of all persons, was the last one to be expected to pass on so soon.

Constant Antone Paige was born in Bottsdorf, Austria of German parentage, July 29th, 1882. He was the youngest of a family of thirteen children. The father, mother, and eight of the children preceded him. Five others are still living, two brothers and two sisters remain in the old country, while one sister, Mrs. Anton Boyanorsky, who is present today, lives at Laurens, Iowa.

Mr. Paige came to America alone, going on to his sister's at Laurens, Iowa, in 1899, at the age of seventeen years. Having a fair education in German when he came, but not knowing a word of English, and being intellectually hungry and determined to learn, he had to begin in the very lowest grades in our public school though almost a man grown. But through close application and tireless industry, his rise was rapid and in two years, he had finished the grade schools. He spent one year at Ames College in Ames, Iowa. Then determining to study law, he made his way to Iowa State University at Iowa City, from which institution he graduated on June 12th, 1906. Through all these years, he made his own way, paying expenses by the labor of his own hands. Being admitted to the bar, he practiced law for two years at Laurens, Iowa. It was way too crowded there, and he came west, and to Wyoming, the land of opportunity. Arriving in Cheyenne in 1908, broke, so far as money was concerned, but having an abundance of that capital of far greater value, a stout heart, undefeatable courage and willing hands, he was not long in this condition.

He drifted to Chugwater and worked for some time for Mr. Frank Foss. About this time he filed on a homestead northeast of Chugwater. In 1911, he came to Wheatland and opened a law office and has remained here since.

Thrice the voters of Platte county have honored him, by putting him in the office of prosecuting attorney, which office he held at the time of his demise, being a candidate for re-election at the coming election.

While living in Laurens, he was united with the Methodist Episcopal church and still held his membership in this church at the time of his death. He was united in marriage to Miss Electra Dot Hastings, July 22nd, 1914, and to this union was born four sons, Robert, Richard and Lowell, one dying in infancy.

He was initiated in the A.F. & A.M. November 16, 1913.

Thus the say "In the midst life, we are in death", is again exemplified. In the midst of an active, busy, constructive life, a life filled with the brightest hopes, large plans and unremitting toil was suddenly called. Two weeks prior he had given a stirring address at a memorial service for the late Gov. Ross. Little did he, or anyone else, think that in a little more than two weeks someone would speak over his silent form. He was a man of sterling character, of strong convictions, yet of courteous and pleasing address, clean in thought and life, a loyal citizen, a true friend and a loving and devoted husband and father.

He will be sadly missed in all relations in our community, but most of all in the home. But he leaves an enviable memory of life well spent, work well done and a hope for the future.

Funeral services were held from the Methodist church Wednesday afternoon, followed by interment in the Wheatland cemetery.