

SMITH, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

May 9, 1884-March 18, 1945

Ben F. Smith, one of Platte County's most prominent pioneer ranchers, died suddenly at his home in Wheatland Sunday afternoon following a heart attack. Mr. Smith appeared to be in good health, and his death came as a shock to the community.

Benjamin Franklin Smith was born at Beacon, Iowa May 9, 1884. He came with his parents to Wyoming fifty-one years ago and settled in Goshen county on the Rock ranch. He was married in Cheyenne in 1905 to Miss Barbara E. Troyer and to this union three daughters were born. He had lived on his ranch on Cottonwood for the past 20 years, but sold it this winter and moved to Wheatland. Mr. Smith is a member of the local I.O.O. F. lodge.

Besides his wife, he is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Elsie Ryan, Mrs. Alda Hopkins and Mrs. Iola Hughes; one brother, Harold Smith of Boise, Ida.; four sisters, Mrs. Eunice Wood of Santa Rosa, Calif., Mrs. Etta Power of Enterprise, Ore., Mrs. Marie Flaten of Gering, Nebr., and Mrs. Ada Johnson of Wheatland; and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were held yesterday (Wednesday) in the Congregational church at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Irwin C. Noyce officiating. Burial was in the Wheatland cemetery with the I.O.O.F. lodge in charge of graveside services.

Pallbearers included Harry Coleman, Mick Coleman, John Miller, Dr. O.B. Wilson, B.H. Williams, and Tot Vermilyea. The Schrader Funeral home was in charge of arrangements.