

BRICE, DAVID W.
October 28, 1862-August 13, 1935

D.W. Brice, prominent banker, farmer and stockman and one of the state's most outstanding citizens, died here at 5 o'clock a.m., Tuesday, following an illness which confined him to his home two weeks or more. He came to Wyoming 54 years ago. Altho Mr. Brice had suffered more or less since last November, he steadfastly attended to his business affairs until his physical condition would no longer permit it.

While it had been generally known for some time that Mr. Brice could not expect to long survive, word of his death, nevertheless, came as a great shock to the people of Wheatland and Platte County, who deeply mourn his passing.

The body will lie in state at the Copley Funeral Home until 9:00 p.m. today, Thursday, where the public may view the remains.

Funeral services will be held Friday at ten o'clock at the Brice home east of town, conducted by Rev. Bennett, pastor of St. Mark's Episcopal church, Cheyenne. Masonic rites will be conducted at the grave by the Wheatland lodge and interment will be made by the Copely Funeral Home.

Mr. Brice was born at Monticello, N.Y. October 18, 1863.

His early education was acquired in the public schools of Sullivan County, New York, following which he spent two years at Monticello Academy. He was reared on his father's farm until reaching the age of fifteen years and then found employment as foreman's clerk with the Port Jervis & Monticello railroad, a capacity in which he served two years. For one and one-half years thereafter, he was a clerk in St. John's general store, but in the spring of 1881, he answered the call of the western frontier and came to Cheyenne, where during the summer he worked as a cowboy for the Converse Cattle Company. During the year that followed, he followed the eventful life of a freighter, driving an eight-mule team from Cheyenne to Hartville, but subsequently returned to the life of a cowboy, working for John Hunton on the Bordeaux ranch for four years. At that time there rose a demand for telegraph operators for the railroads that were extending their lines all over this part of the country, and Mr. Brice went to Denver where he learned the telegraphic trade. He was agent and operator at Bordeaux for three years, at Uva for a like period, and at Wheatland for ten years for the Cheyenne Northern railroad, having come to the later place in 1893.

In 1903, Mr. Brice organized the State Bank of Wheatland, of which institution he was cashier until 1925, and was then made it's president. Mr. Brice was a Republican in his political affiliation and had given Wheatland two very satisfactory administrations as mayor. He was one of the organizers of Wheatland Lodge No. 16, A.F. & A.M. and it's treasurer until his death. He likewise was a member of the Wyoming's Chapter, No. 1, R.A.M. of Cheyenne; Wyoming Commandery, No. 1, K.T., and Korein Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Rawlins.

On October 20, 1898, he was united in marriage to Miss Josephine M. Richets of Sidney, Nebr. To this union, one daughter, Mrs. Helen Toy, was born, who with her mother are the only immediate survivors.

Mrs. Toy's husband, Paul H. Toy, who has been in business in Los Angeles, Calif., came here a short time ago and has been working with Mr. Brice in the bank. Mrs. Toy and young son, David, arrived Monday night in Cheyenne by airplane and was brought to Wheatland in time to be with her father before the end.

Mr. Brice was probably one of the best known citizens in this section of Wyoming. He guided his bank through the recent hard years and his policy of conservative banking had gained him an enviable reputation among the bank interests of the west.

The business houses of Cheyenne will be closed from 9:30 until 11 o'clock Friday morning during the funeral.