

BOYD, JOHN CLIFFORD
June 17, 1886-December 29, 1918

Prominent Young Ranchman Murdered
Tragic Death of Clifford Boyd From a Knife at the Hands of Charles Albright

At about nine o'clock last Sunday morning, John Clifford Boyd of Wheatland, was stabbed to death by Charles Albright on the William Radichal ranch on the Sybille.

Mr. Boyd went Monday from Wheatland to the Wickam ranch, which is near the Radichal ranch. That evening he went over to the Radichal to see about some cattle they were holding for him, and everything was satisfactory between the two parties. That day Albright took it upon himself to abuse Thomas Freeman, brother-in-law of Mr. Boyd and Morgan Wickam. The next morning Mr. Boyd came over to the Radichal ranch to get some cattle to take to his own patronage. He went to the Radichal ranch house, where further discussion took place regarding the cattle. He left the house for the corral with Miss Radichal. When they reached the corral, Miss Radichal returned to the house. Mr. Boyd met Albright as he entered the corral and a controversy ensued regarding the treatment of Freeman and the Wickam boys the day before. About the same time, Donald Mudd from a neighboring ranch rode up on horseback, and was met by Thomas Freeman, who was in the corral. While they were talking Albright slashed Boyd across the cheek with a pocket knife, and across the stomach, and then stabbed him in the chest, the knife penetrating the heart. Boyd staggered for a moment, falling in the arms of Thomas Freeman. Mrs. Albright, when she saw them quarrelling, ran from the house and tried to separate them. Albright immediately went to the house, and when Sheriff Roach came to arrest him, came out and surrendered himself saying he was the man that did the killing. He was brought to the county jail where he is now confined.

Sunday evening the inquest was held by Dr. Corey, and the verdict of the coroner's jury was murder in the first degree.

The funeral was held Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock, at the Congregational church, the Reverends, Evans, McClellan and Paxton officiating. A large number of people were present to pay last respects to the deceased. The burial was in the Wheatland cemetery.

Among those from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Moody of Denver, Mr. & Mrs. F.A. Weber of Glenrock, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Wesley Sorneverger of Cheyenne, Mrs. Otto Slomaker and Miss Veria Freeman of Douglas.

John Clifford Boyd was the son of John Boyd of Wheatland and was born near Denver, Colo. on June 17, 1886. He came to Wyoming with his parents in the year 1907 and located on the Bard ranch near Wheatland. He was educated in the Wheatland high school. On leaving school, he engaged in cattle ranching and from 1910 to last September, he has been in charge of the Bluegrass ranch on Bluegrass Creek. On selling his ranch, he came to Wheatland with his family to live, but continued in the cattle business.

On June 15, 1910, he was married to Miss Esther Freeman at the home of his sister, Mrs. A.F. Moody, in Greeley. To them were born four children, three boys and one girl. Two of the children, a boy and a girl, remain with the mother to mourn the untimely death. Besides his father, John Boyd, he leaves one brother and three sisters: Chas. William Boyd and Mrs. E.L. Kennedy of Thermopolis, Wyo., Mrs. A.L. Moody of Denver, Colorado and Mrs. F.A. Weber of Glenrock, Wyo.

The death of Clifford Boyd was a great shock to this community to which he was well known. He was a young man of congenial disposition and was loved by all who knew him. He was an estimable husband, and the sympathy of the community goes out to the bereaved family.