

LILY, BIRD
7-February, 1918

Bird Lilly, age 65, at his late residence near Ft. Laramie. Funeral services were held from Pepper's chapel, Feb. 8. Interment in Wheatland cemetery.

On receiving intelligence of the death of Bird Lily by a gunshot wound, Sheriff A.F. Roach, Dr. F.W. Phifer, and County Coroner E.H. Corry motored to Grey Rocks Monday afternoon to investigate.

Lily was a veteran ranch hand and sheepherder, having worked in this part of the country for 35 years, in the employ of John Hutton and other ranchers. At the time of his death, he was living in a bunkhouse on the Atchison place. Mr. Collins had seen him the week before and Lily told him he was suffering from neuralgia, and said that if he did not soon improve, he would kill himself. Mr. Collins did not consider the remark as serious at the time. Jack McCormick who had heard of the old man's illness, stopped at the bunkhouse Monday to take him to town for medical attention, and found him dead, a rifle in his hands and a bullet hole thru his head, from under one eye thru the skull in the back. Several cats in the bunkhouse had eaten the flesh from his face.

Lily was 60 years of age and had no known relatives. After looking into the case thoroughly and returning a verdict of unmistakable suicide, the coroner brought the body to Pepper's mortuary in Wheatland.