

PAYNE, ELSIE FREEMAN  
1889-March 31, 1919

The community was shocked and saddened last Wednesday by receipt of a message announcing John Payne was dead at Kemmerer, Wyo., and that his wife is hopelessly ill. It was learned that Mr. Payne had suffered an attack of appendicitis while on a ranch some miles from Kemmerer and had been taken to the hospital at Kemmerer for an operation. While there he contracted influenza which developed into pneumonia and death resulted. Mrs. Payne was there assisting caring for her husband and she too fell ill and followed her husband to the realms of eternity early Monday morning.

The body of Mr. Payne was brought to Wheatland Saturday and funeral services were conducted by Rev. R.F. Paxton at the Pepper Mortuary. The body of Mrs. Payne is expected to reach Wheatland tonight and funeral services will be held tomorrow.

Mr. and Mrs. Payne were both very well known in this vicinity. Mr. Payne had lived here since childhood, always engaged in ranching or stock business except for two years when he served as deputy sheriff under Owen Carroll. Later he was a candidate for sheriff but was upon the losing ticket. He was a great horseman and rough rider and was always a star at wild horse shows and bucking contests. He was an unusually strong man, physically, and was always in demand where strength was required. Everyone who ever knew him always had a good word to say for John. About eight years ago, he and Miss Elsie Freeman, daughter of Mrs. Emma Freeman of this place, were united in marriage, and to them were born two children who are left as orphans. That they should both be taken from the world in the prime of life when there was everything to live for is a cause for general regret and deep sympathy is expressed for the bereaved children and other relatives.