

PLAGA, MARY IRENE MCCOMBER
September 30. 3889-January 25, 1981

Mary Irene Plaga, 91, died Sunday, Jan. 25, 1981 at the Platte County Memorial Hospital.

Mary Irene McComber was born Sept. 30, 1889 in Banner County, Neb. The middle daughter of William and Mary Ella Nelson McComber. In 1896 the McCombers moved to Wheatland where Irene's father worked for the Two Bar and Wheatland Irrigation District. The McComber home was on the present site of the Libbey School. Irene attended Wheatland High School, but quit in her senior year to take a job teaching school at the Marten ranch, southwest of Wheatland. A short time later she met and married Albin Plaga, a neighboring rancher, on Jan. 8, 1908. Irene lived on the Plaga ranch until 1947.

She was an excellent horsewoman and used to ride from the ranch into Wheatland to visit her parents. After a long day's work at the ranch, by lamp light, she crocheted quilts and made wood carvings. Some of this handicraft is cherished by her grandchildren today. After Irene moved to Wheatland she was active in teaching Sunday school. She is past president of Platte County Women's Club, the W.T.K. and past matron of Eastern Star. In later years her favorite hobbies were her yard, flowers and writing poetry.

She is survived by her daughter, Thelma Garton of Wheatland; Thelma's husband, Robert; two grandsons, Steven and Greg and their wives Margo and Liz all of Wheatland; and two great grandchildren, Clay and Bobbie Ann Garton both of Wheatland.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Albin, who died in October 1973; and two sisters Avril and Bertha.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 10 a.m. at the the First Christian Church with Daniel D. Barcus officiating. Burial was in the Wheatland Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers were Mick Miller, Tony Testolin, Jack Radichal, Elwood Hanna, Owen McGill and Raymond Henke.

A memorial has been established to ESTARL (Eastern Star Training Aid for Religious Leaders) in care of Iren Jobe. The Schrader-Prell Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.