

**SAMUEL W. AIKEN**

**Born: 1881 - Died: February 17, 1931**

**Chester Reporter**

**February 26, 1931**

**DIED**

Samuel W. Aiken 49, died at his home in Whitefish on Tuesday, Feb. 17 after an illness of six days and was brought to Chester and interred in the local cemetery on Feb. 20th. His wife preceded him to the Beyond 14 years ago. He is survived by his two sisters in Michigan, Mrs. Bernell, Mrs. Sierns and Mrs. Yale. A large number of his old time neighbors in the Hills attended the services which were held from the Community church at this place.

## DILLISSA ARNDT

Born: March 23, 1852 - Died: April ?, 1931

Chester Reporter

May 7, 1931

### OBITUARY

Mrs. Dillissa Arndt succumbs at the home of her daughter, Mrs. James Fitzpatrick of Oilmont, Montana, after months of illness.

Funeral services for the late Mrs. Delissa Eoline Arndt were held at the Methodist church in Shelby, Montana Tuesday afternoon, April 28. Many friends were present. The officiating clergyman was Rev. C. G. Hannon. The choir sang: "O Beulah Land," "Speak to my soul", "I'm One Day Nearer My Home," and "Face to Face," favorite hymns of the deceased. Interment was made in the Shelby cemetery and Messrs. Glen Cox, Myron Gohn, Clarence Pellett, Roy Brown Lon Smith and Will Waydeman were pall bearers.

Dillissa Eoline Dean was born in Webster County, New York in 1852, March 23rd. When a little girl she she moved with her mother and father to Louisville, Wisconsin, being one of the early pioneers of that section.

She obtained her education in the schools of Eau Clair and several years were spent in teaching.

In 1877 she was married to Fred W. Arndt. To this union were born four children; Alpha now living in Oilmont, Montana; Ruth who died at the age of three; Ben, now living in Mondamin Iowa and Ruby of Eureka, Montana.

In 1910 she moved to Montana and settled on a farm near Columbia Falls. Since the marriage of her children she has divided her time among them, continuing her life of love and service.

It is a great comfort to them to know that they have been able to make her declining years comfortable and happy.

In the early years of her life and among the pioneer families of Wisconsin she formed some close friendships and these friendships have continued through the long years. She had a genius for keeping her friendships.

Only those who knew her intimately knew how many kind things she was doing.

In her early life Mrs. Arndt became a devoted Christian and thruout her life she practised the teachings of the Lord and Master. Her Bible was her daily companion, and a part of each was spent in silent communion with Him who gave her spiritual strength to carry on with ever patient endurance in spite of physical suffering.

She leaves to mourn her, besides her children thirteen grandchildren; one brother Isaac Elliot of Columbia Falls, a much loved cousin, Rose Thompson and aunt Antonett Ferris of Eau Clair, Wisconsin, from whose beautiful collection of verses the following has been chosen:

Gone is our dear one to Heavens  
fair shore;

All of earth's sufferings and toils  
are o'er

Yes, gone the bright spirit to sweet  
realms above,

To rest in the bosom of infinite love.

Evermore free from all sorrow and  
pain,

?Gone to meet loved and lost dear  
ones again.

Dear ones were waiting to wel-  
come her there,

Jesus has tenderly granted her  
prayer,

'Round the frail dear one the earths  
winds were chill,

Sweetly she bowed to the dear  
Father's will,

Patiently passing quite under the  
rod,

Made perfect through suffering,  
She's gone to her God.

**THERESA WERL BAKER**

**Born: January 17, 1895 - Died: December 29, 1931**

**Chester Reporter**

**December 31, 1931**

**DECEASED**

Theresa Werl, was born at Dallas, Oregon 36 ears ago on Jan. 17 and at the age of 19 was married to Mr. Walter Baker at the homet of her parents. To this union one son, Frank, now a boy of seven was born. She passed away at St. Mary's hospital in Havre Tuesday night at 11 o'clock. And the funreal was held from the local Catholic church followed by a large number of sorrowing relatives and friends. Father John pronounced a touching benediction over the remains. Shea leaves besides her husband and little son a sister, Mrs. Annie Stoke of Spokane and two brothers, Robert M. Werl of Selma, Montana and Ed. Werl of Kalispell. She is described as a lady possessed of the finest traits of her sex and leaves many warm and true friends to mourn her loss.

A. T. BELOW

Born: July 24, 1872 - Died: August ?, 1931

Liberty County Farmer

August 20, 1931

### AT HAVE

Havre, Aug. 19 — Funeral services for A. T. Below of Inverness were conducted from the Holland & Bonine chapel at Havre by Rev. William E. Smith, interment in Calvery cemetery.

Born July 24, 1872, in Wisconsin Mr. Below came to this country some years ago and lived on a farm near Inverness. He had been ill for some time previous to his death in a Havre hospital. A son in California was unable to attend the services. No known relatives live in the state.

MRS. JIM BONAR

Born: N/A - Died: September ?, 1931

Liberty County Farmer

September 23, 1931

Word was received of the death of Mrs. Jim Bonar of Portland. The Bonar family formerly lived near the Fairview schoolhouse. Cancer was the cause of Mrs. Bonar's death.

GEORGE B. BOURNE

Born: N/A - Died: February 25, 1931

Chester Reporter

February 26, 1931

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George B. Bourne died Wednesday at the Mayo Hospital at Rochester, Minnesota and the remains will be brought to Havre for burial. Mr. Bourne is well known in Liberty County, having been one of our earliest settlers and a former proprietor of the Chester Trading Company.

**MRS. CHAS. S. BRADFORD**

Born: N/A - Died: July 9, 1931

Liberty County Farmer

July 16, 1931

We are sorry to report the death of a beloved matron, Mrs. Chas. Bradford. Mrs. Bradford passed away at the Deaconess hospital Thursday evening, where she was taken some weeks ago. Her sister from Minnesota, Mrs. Hosmer has been with her as well as Mr. Bradford. The funeral service were held from the Holland & Bonine parlors at 1 p.m. Rev. Bickle officiating. Many friends from all along the High Line and Eastern stars and mason were in attendance. The floral offerings were beautiful and many.

Mr. Bradford and Mrs. Hosmer accompanied the remains to Minnesota on the evening train. The community joins in sympathy with Mr. Bradford in this sad and lonely hour of his.

**JULY 13, 1931**

The funeral of Mrs. Chas. S. Bradford was held at the Holland & Bonine parlors at Havre and a large crowd of friends gathered from all along the High Line, as well as Havre, to pay their last respects.

Those from Inverness were: Mr. And Mrs. L. Griffin, Mr. And Mrs. Cliff Woods, Mr. And Mrs. Geo. Johnson, Mr. And Mrs. L.B. Anderson, Mrs. Shultz, Miss Daisy Read, Mr. And Mrs. Leslie Read, Mr. And Mrs. Haaland, Mr. And Mrs. Geo. McFadden, Mrs. Farden, Mr. Woods, Berger Johnson, Mr. And Mrs. Boring, Mr. and Mrs. A. Rathbun.

Rev. R. M. Bickle officiated and the floral offerings were beautiful from friends, and from the Eastern Stars and Masons.

Mr. Bradford and a a sister, Mrs. Hosmer, who has been with Mrs. Bradford during her last illness, accompanied the remains to Minnesota where she will be laid away. The community at large joins in sympathy with Mr. Bradford.

S. M. BROWN

Born: 1852 - Died: April 25, 1931

Liberty County Farmer

April 30, 1931

April 27, 1931

S. M. Brown, one of the most highly respected citizens of this community passed away at his home Saturday evening at five o'clock. Mr. Brown had had the flu and developed into pneumonia Wednesday. Dr. Houtz was called from Havre Thursday, but owing to Mr. Brown's advanced age, 79 years, nothing much could be done.

The funeral was held Monday afternoon at the Bethel church, a large crowd from the surrounding country attending.

Rev. Bickle spoke from the 23rd Psalm and it was a splendid sermon. Many beautiful flowers were sent by North Inverness Local Farmers Union, of which Mr. Brown was a member and by the neighbors and friends. The Inverness choir rendered special music.

Mrs. Brown passed away a number of years ago.

Those left to mourn are his daughters, Mrs. E. J. Reid and Mrs. H. Dittmar and a son Judd Brown.

JOHN MURRAY ELLIS

Born: December 17, 1863 - Died: July 18, 1931

Chester Reporter

July 23, 1931

# J. M. Ellis Passes

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Well Known Rancher

Beyond

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Great Falls, July 20.--John Murray Ellis, 67, prominent Northern Montana stockman, died at a local hospital Saturday afternoon after an illness that had confined him to the hospital for more than a year. Mr. Ellis came to Montana 35 years ago and had been engaged in the stock business since that time near Whitlash.

He was well known thruout this part of the state, having run one of the largest ranches in the territory.

His ranch consists of around 4000 acres and at the time of his death had about 350 head of cattle. He came to this part of the state in the spring of 1896 and took over the ranch of of land which at that time had not been surveyed.

Mr. Ellis was born in Mound City, Kansas, Dec. 17, 1863. He was married to Effie G. Colvin at Pleasanton Kansas, October 11, 1888. To this union two children were born, Mrs. Burt M. Furnell of Whitlash and Mrs. J. R. Leach of Cody, Wyo. Mrs. Ellis and the daughter from Wyoming were at the bedside when death occurred.

Funreal services will be held at the W. L. George chapel Monday afternoon at 2. The body will be placed in the mausoleum south of the city.-Tribune of Shelby.

## C. J. FREELAND

Born: 1861 - Died: December 11, 1931

Liberty County Farmer

December 17, 1931

### C. J. FREELAND ANSWERS LAST CALL; HEART TROUBLE

The many friends of C. J. Freeland were shocked to learn that he had passed away suddenly at his home Friday evening, December 11th at 7:43. Mr. Freeland had been suffering with heart trouble for a long time and had suffered many serious spells from the same. He was up at the Club Café during the day and returned home shortly after the dinner hour. He remarked that he did not feel very well but the family did not think his condition serious. When Mrs. Freeland and son J. C. went home a little before 8 o'clock, they found him setting in a chair and almost unconscious. He smiled at them once and quietly passed away.

The funeral was conducted under the auspices of Joplin Lodge No. 116 A. F. & A. M., of which he was a member and he was buried with full Masonic honors. The Masonic Temple was filled to capacity by sorrowing friends and neighbors. Rev. John Stewart preached the sermon at the hall, and the Masonic organization conducted the services at the cemetery. The floral offerings were many and beautiful.

C. J. Freeland was born in 1861 at Florence Township, Centerville, Mich., and was 70 years, 10 months, and 25 days of age at the time of his death, Friday, Dec. 11th, 1931. He came to Montana in April, 1917, and moved to Spokane, Washington, August 1, 1918. He came back to Montana in March, 1925.

In 1884 he was married to Mary Peele, and three children were born to their union, Leon, Harlow and Zoe. His wife died June 2, 1895. On June 15, 1904 he was united in marriage to Julia Waterfield, and two children, Mildred and J. C. were born to them.

He was given his first degree in Masonry, in 1916, in Joplin Lodge, by his son Leon, who preceeded him in death on June 3, 1930. Later he moved to Hillyard, Wash., and was given the next two degrees by his son Harlow.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. C. J. Freeland, daughter Zoe Boyer, of South Bend, Indiana, son Harlow Freeland, St. Helens, Oregon, son J. C. Freeland of Joplin, Montana, daughter Mildred Shaffer of Great Falls, Montana, and ten grandchildren.

## RUSSELL JOHNSON

Born: 1905 - Died: July 4, 1931

Liberty County Farmer - Chester Reporter

July 9, 1931

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Russell Johnson, farmer of north of Lothair, Montana, who was badly burned while starting a fire with distillate, at his home died from the effects of his burns Saturday morning. The remains were shipped back to Idaho his old home. Miss Clara Olson who was with him at the time of the fire was severely burned about the arms and shoulder. She rode horseback to Lothair for help after the accident.

## Burned To Death

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A grim tragedy was enacted up at Lothair Friday morning when Mr. Russel Johnson, 26, was so badly burned when his house caught fire that he died on the following morning.

While starting a fire in his stove Friday morning with a can of distillate, the substance exploded, setting fire to his clothing and to everything in the room. Before he could make his exit he was wrapped in flames.

A girl staying nearby mounted a horse and carried the news to the towns people and Mr. Ben Nelson and Art Brady made the trip here for Dr. Hough. The charred man was too severely burned to endure the extreme torture, however, and he died at the Harris apartments in Chester on Saturday morning, July 4th at 9:35. His body was attended to at the Ainley morgue and sent on for burial to his home in Nampa, Idaho.

He was a man of more than ordinary physique, and at the time of his death was out on parole, to permit the planting and seeding of his crop.

HILDA PAUL

Born: 1855 - Died: June 11, 1931

Liberty County Farmer

June 18, 1931

**June 15, 1931**

Another death in our community the past week. Mrs. Hilda Paul died at the home of her daughter Jessie. Mrs. Paul has been near an invalid for the past year and near bedfast the past six months. Her devoted daughter Jessie was with her constantly, and all know that the mother received the best loving care that any mother ever had.

Mrs. Paul died Thursday evening at five o'clock, aged 76 years, and Saturday Rev. Ritter held very short services consisting of a prayer and the song "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" requested by the mother. A number of friends gathered at the home to show their respect, and the remains were then taken to Havre, followed by several neighbors and friends.

Mrs. Paul leaves two sons and one brother in Washington, who were unable to be with the sister in this sad hour. The entire community join in sympathy.

**JOSEPH D. POTTS**

**Born: December 5, 1869 - Died: December 20, 1931**

**Chester Reporter**

**December 24, 1931**

**DECEASED**

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Joseph D. Potts was born Dec. 5. 1869 at Embarass, Wis. At the age of 21 married Mary Curtis of Embarass. 16 years afterwards they moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho where they lived until 1911 and then moved to Chester. Mr. Potts farmed in Wisconsin but followed the lumber business in Idaho. He homesteaded in Chester. Mr. Potts was widely known and highly respected thruout this country. He died at Havre on Dec. 20. He leaves to mourn his loss, his wife and two children:— Curtis Potts of Hood River, Ore. and Mrs. C. L. Crawford of Havre; also two sisters: Mrs. Carrie Nicholson of Appleton, Wis. and Celia Hamilton of Clintville, Wis. and three grandchildren: Clyde Crawford of Havre and Gregory and Mary Potts of Hood River.

## ANNA RASMUSSEN

Born: December 1, 1840 - Died: July 19, 1931

Liberty County Farmer

August 13, 1931

### OBITUARY

Mrs. Anna Rasmussen nee Hanson passed away quietly at her home at College Place, Washington, July 19, 1931. She was 90 years old at the time of her death.

Mrs. Rasmussen was born in Denmark, December 1, 1840. On November 27, 1863, she was married to Morton Rasmussen. To this union eight children were born, four sons and four daughters, three of whom preceded her in death.

In 1868 the couple came to America and two years later settled on a homestead near Spencer, Iowa. There they lived for thirty years. In 1900 they moved to Kenmare, N. D., where they built another home. From 1910 until 1924 most of their time was spent at Joplin, Montana.

Mr. Rasmussen died five years ago, and for the past six years Mrs. Rasmussen has made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Madson, at College Place, Washington. She lived a consistent Christian life and was loved and respected by all who knew her.

She leaves to mourn, two sons, C. K. and J. B. Rasmussen of Kenmare, and three daughters, Mrs. A. M. Engeberg, Kenmare, Mrs. Christine Madson, College Place, Washington, and Mrs. E. C. Tolley, Shelby, Montana. One brother Henry Hanson, Battle Ground, Washington, one sister, Mrs. Elsie John, Downey, California. Also twelve grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder F. M. Oliver at Walla Walla, Washington. She was laid to rest beside her husband in the cemetery at Moscow, Idaho.

MRS. LEONARD REILAND  
Born: N/A - Died: July ?, 1931  
Chester Reporter  
July 16, 1931

## KILLED AUTO MISHAP NEAR BUFFINGTON'S

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Wrs. Reiland Killed  
Dies Crossing Teton

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News of the serious mishap which befall Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Reiland Thursday afternoon spread a gloom over the community in Liberty County.

They had started out with considerable camp equipment, intending to camp out in the vicinity of the city and enjoy a week of the out of door which is at its best at this time of the year.

Mr. Reiland was driving and when approaching what is known at the Buffington Hill she lost control of the car as it approached the steep ascent, and in the rough roads over which they were traveling the car upset, throwing them both out and turning over several times, crushed in one side of her head. Mr. Reiland received injuries to his spinal column and a broken collar bone. She died on her way to the Hospital at Great Falls before reaching the Teton, and Mr. Reiland is in a desperate condition, still, at last reports, hovering between life and death.

## CHESTER (CHET) RIDGWAY

Born: 1884 - Died: February 14, 1931

Chester Reporter

February 19, 1931

# FATAL ACCI- DENT VISITS CHESTERITE

Formerly With Chester  
Traeing Company

### Former Resident of Chester Dies Of Painful Lye Burns

Sunday morning Mr. A. R. Coon received the following message from San Pedro, Calif.:

Fatally burned when he fell into a vat of lye 12 days ago at the Half-hill Packing Corp., plant in Long Beach, Chester (Chet) Ridgway 47, died yesterday at the Long Beach hospital. He lived at 658, 39th street, San Pedro.

His entire body with exception of his head, seared by the deadly acid. Ridgway had been in a critical condition since the accident.

He had been employed by the Half-hill corporation for several years.

He is survived by his widow, Bertha Ridgway; a son, Robert; daughter, Mrs. L. B. Caulkins, and a grandson, Robert Calkins, all of San Pedro.

"Chet" Ridgway will be remembered to the people of Chester when he worked for five years as a clerk in the grocery department of the Chester Trading Company some years ago. Mr. Coon is a cousin of Mr. Ridgway. The many friends are sorrowed to hear of his untimely death.

## TRACY SMITH

Born: May 8, 1867 - Died: May 29, 1931

Liberty County Farmer

June 4 - 11, 1931

### TRACY SMITH, PIONEER NORTH OF INVERNESS DIES

Tracy Smith, of north of Inverness died at a Havre hospital on Friday afternoon May 29, following a surgical operation for ruptured appendix. The deceased who was 64 years of age was taken to Havre on May 22. He is survived by his wife, a son, Glen Smith of California another son, Alfred lives at home and a daughter, Mrs. Grace Stocker of Grant, Montana, who with her mother and brother Alfred were with her father when death came.

Mr. Smith was a member of the Masonic Lodge and the funeral services of that order were conducted at the grave at the Inverness cemetery Monday afternoon.

Mr. Smith came to Montana in 1910 settling 12 miles north of Inverness. He was a loving husband, a kind father and was highly respected by all his friends and neighbors.

### OBITUARY

Tracy Smith was born May 8, 1867, at Smithburg, Maryland, and died at Havre, May 29, 1931. At 21 years of age he moved to Rock Falls, Illinois, where he lived until 1910, and then moved to Inverness, Montana, where he homesteaded and farmed until his death.

He was taken very suddenly ill and was rushed to Havre and was operated on for ruptured appendix. Mr. Smith was of a jovial disposition and had a host of friends and neighbors who join Mrs. Smith and family in their sorrow.

He leaves to mourn his loss his wife, on daughter, Mrs. Roy Stocker of Grant, Montana, a son Glen of Los Angeles, and Alfred at home and one son Ray, deceased, having been just laid away some six months ago.

KATHERINE A. SUCKOW

Born: 1923 - Died: October ?, 1931

Liberty County Farmer

October 15, 1931

Katherine A. Suckow, 8 years-old daughter of Mr. And Mrs. Andrew Suckow of the Rudyard section died at Havre of infantile paralysis. Outdoor funeral services were held at the Suckow home north of Rudyard with the Rev. H. Ritter officiating. Burial in Grace cemetery 22 miles north of Rudyard.

**FRANK J. TRUESDELL**

**Born: April 18, 1856 - Died: January 11, 1931**

**Chester Reporter**

**January 15, 1931**

**OBITUARY**

Frank J. Truesdell was born at Middlesburg, Indiana, on April 18, 1856 and passed away at Chester, Montana on January 11, 1931, being 75 years 8 m. and 24 days of age. He leaves to mourn his loss a wife, five children, two brothers and many good friends.

G. W. Truesdale died early Sunday morning, shortly after sustaining severe injuries, skull fractures with concussion of the brain, extensive bruises and large lacerations and contusions of the scalp. He regained consciousness a few moments after the accident before going into a comatose condition from which he never was aroused, passing out quietly and peacefully several hours later. Dr. Trough was called at once on his arrival in town from the farm, but due to his declining years nothing could be done to save him.

It seems that he fell through an open cellar door dropping twelve or fourteen feet and striking the top of his head on a four by six.

RACHEL JENETTE TRUESDELL

Born: June 6, 1858 - Died: September 12, 1931

Chester Reporter

September 15, 1931

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DIED

Mrs. Rachel Jenette Truesdell, wife of the deceased Mr. Frank Truesdell, passed on at the home of her daughter Mrs. Muri Davis, 13 miles to the south of Chester, Saturday evening at 9 P. M. on September 12th, 1931 after a brief illness. Mrs. Truesdell was born at Lagrange, Indiana in Lagrange county in June 6, 1858: age 73 years, 3 months and 9 days. She leaves to mourn her loss 5 children. Mrs. Laura Davis, Mr. Albert and Miss Ethel Truesdell of Chester. Sarah Stauffer of Lafayette, Indiana and Mr. George Truesdell of Armstrong British Columbia, Canada, besides a host of loving friends who knew her in life.

DONALD WILMES

Born: 1929 - Died: April 21, 1931

Liberty County Farmer

April 23, 1931

Donald Wilmes, the two year old son of Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Wilmes, died at the detention hospital in Havre Tuesday noon of spinal meningitis. Burial was made in the Havre cemetery Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilmes are both well known and highly respected young folks whose many friends will be grieved by this sad news. The Farmer force wish to express their heartfelt sympathy to the sorrowing parents.