

## Pioneer rancher succumbs at 87

8-12-1963  
Thomas Bailey Dodge was born to John Tyler Dodge and Mary Elizabeth Belville, July 29, 1876, at Herman, Nebr., and passed away August 12, 1963, at the Platte County Memorial Hospital at the age of 87.

In the spring of 1878, Mr. Dodge's parents left the little town of Herman and travelled to northern Colorado by covered wagon. There silver and lead were being discovered and many little boom towns provided good employment. In 1885, the family moved on to Laramie, and soon filed a claim on Duck Creek in the northern part of Albany County. Here a sister, Nora Dodge McGill was born in 1886. She preceded him in death, as did a half-brother, William A. Dodge.

In this area Tom Dodge grew to manhood and earned the respect of his friends and neighbors as being a "man of his word."

He worked as a cowboy for the 7L Outfit on Rock Creek in Carbon County where he broke horses, riding their rough string for four years.

Shortly after he became twenty-one he filed on a 160 acre homestead and constructed a home there. On December 26, 1906, he was united in marriage to Eva Dover. Together, they built the 96 Ranch.

To this union were born three children, George Dodge, Margaret (Mrs. James) Laycock and June (Mrs. Arch) Akers.

Mr. Dodge was a charter member and one of the organizers of the Siblee Horse and Cattle Association and was foreman for the Shot Gun Round-up Wagon from 1905 through 1908. This was a round-up wagon serving cattlemen in the Sybille and Laramie Plains area.

He remained an active stockman until the forties when he sold the 96 Ranch to his son, George, who still operates this ranch in conjunction with the River Ranch.

A member of the A. F. and A. M. Lodge No. 3, Laramie since 1910, he was also a fifty year member of the Wyoming Consistory No. 1 and the Order of the Eastern Star, a member of the Korein Shrine and of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

In addition to his wife, Eva, and their three children, Mr. Dodge is survived by six grandchildren,

Captain Tom K. Phifer, Tyler Dodge, David Dodge, Jim Dodge, George Akers and Peg Akers, three great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder Newell Yates in the Wheatland Congregational Church Wednesday, Aug. 18, 1963, at 2:00 p.m. Interment was in the Wheatland Cemetery with Masonic services at the graveside. Active pallbearers were William Kennedy, William Palmer, Vern Mortens, Or-