

January 31, 1963

John Dursma

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon, at 2:00 o'clock, in the Andover Methodist church for John Dursma, 91, with Rev. C. E. Means officiating. Mrs. Millard Denholm was soloist, with her daughter, Dolly, presiding at the organ. Pall bearers were John Charles, Harry W. Raynes, Silas Easterby, James DeBilzan, Clifford Lobland and Wm. Morehouse. Interment was in the Andover cemetery, beside his wife.

John was born December 16, 1871, in Holland, the son of Rudolph and Yitska Dursma. Here he grew to manhood. He was baptised and confirmed in a Protestant church. He married Weitzke Mulder January 4, 1896. He was employed as a baker. In 1900 he and his wife and daughter, Jessie, came to America and settled at Andover, S. D., where he has since made his home. For many years he was a car repair man on the railroad and later was a janitor of the school and operated the Dursma Dairy.

Mrs. Dursma passed away in 1951. The next ten winters he spent with his children in Washington and came back home in the spring. The last year and a half he has been in a nursing home. He passed away Jan. 17, at Prairie Center Nursing Home in Miller. He was 91 years and 32 days old and was the oldest Andover resident.

Survivors are two sons, Eugene of Tacoma, Wash., Yetzie of Ontario, Calif., and three daughters, Jessie of Redfield, S. D., Mrs. Chester (Jennie) Lovell of Seattle, Wash., Mrs. Wm. (Cora) Lobland of Tacoma, Wash, 22 grand children and 36 great grandchildren and one sister, Cornelia in Holland. He was preceded in death by his wife, a son and a daughter.