

November 3, 1966

## John S. McCraw

John S. McCraw, son of Welcome B. and Mary Martin McCraw was born on January 24, 1872 in Wyoming, Ill., and grew to manhood there.

On January 9, 1895, he was united in marriage in Stark County, Ill., to Cora Nancy Down. Two daughters were born to this union, Mrs. Gladys Stotler and Mrs. Mary Burk, both of Groton.

For several years, Mr. McCraw was engaged in the mercantile business, later becoming a Realtor, bringing many homeseekers from Illinois to our state of South Dakota. He moved here in March 1919 and for the next twenty years he operated a dairy farm near Hecla. He held many offices of trust, as well as Mayor of Hecla at one time.

His wife passed away in 1948. Since that time he made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Stotler. He was a member of the Methodist church and faithful in attendance as long as his health permitted.

He departed this earthly life on Oct. 27th at St. Luke's Hospital in Aberdeen. Funeral services were conducted at the Groton Methodist church at 2 p. m., on Oct. 29 with the Rev. K. Oliver Brekke officiating and Miss Carol Frommel at the organ. She also accompanied Rev. Brekke, who sang, "The Old Rugged Cross." Burial was in the family lot of the Hecla cemetery.

Active pall bearers were Robert Rix, Arden Rix, and Henry Lehman, Groton, Virgil Osterloh and Eugene Mitchell, Hecla and Larry Patterson, Amherst.

Honorary pall bearers were Paul E. Krueger and Art Thurston, Groton, H. H. Osterloh and Thomson Zeller, Hecla, Roy Jackson, Columbia and Earl Klepfer, Aberdeen.

Relatives and friends attending from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mitchell and family, Hecla, Mrs. Gene Westerdahl of Lakeville, Minn., Mrs. Chas Black and Mrs. Merrill Cross of Des Moines, Ia., Mrs. Henry Brigham, Spencer, Ia., Mr. and Mrs. Millard Page, of New Hampton, Ia., and Mr. and Mrs. Ransom Wright of Mitchell.