

THE LIFE STORY OF.

LAURENCE PEDERSEN, 77

IRWIN- Laurence Pedersen, son of Jens Laurits and Elsa Marie Nielsen Pedersen, was born on April 15, 1898, in Hjorring, Denmark. He died April 2, 1976, at the Manning General hospital, Manning, at age 77 years, 11 months and 17 days. Laurence grew to adulthood in Denmark where he was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran church. He also served in the Danish Navy. In 1919 he was married Marie Margrethe Christensen and to this union three children were born. In 1920, Mr and Mrs Pedersen came to America and established their home in Shelby county, and farmed near Fiscus. He then worked as a plumber in Galva and Harlan, before returning to farming near Kirkman and Fiscus. In 1940, he opened a plumbing shop in Irwin and operated this for 25 years until his retirement in 1965. While a resident in Irwin, Laurence was a volunteer fireman. He continued to live in Irwin for a time after his wife's death on Oct. 30, 1965. In the fall of 1971 he moved to the Terrace Apartments in Manning where he lived until his health failed. He then made his home with his daughter until the fall of 1975 when he became a resident at the Manning Plaza. Mr Pedersen had been a member of the Bethel Baptist church in Harlan, the Merrill's Grove Baptist church in Fiscus, and at the time of his death was a member of the United Methodist church in Irwin.

In addition to his wife, Marie, he was preceded in death by his

parents; by two brothers- Herman and Svend; and by one sister, Lily Heideman. He is survived by his two sons- Gordon Pedersen, of Omaha, Nebr., and Kenneth Pedersen, of Irwin; one daughter, Vernie (Mrs Harold Wetzel) of Manning, by four sisters- Emmy Hansen, Anna Larsen, Kristina Neilsen, and Emilie Pedersen, all of Denmark; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at United Methodist church in Irwin, Monday, April 5, 1976, with Rev. J. Elmer Brunk, pastor of the Irwin United Methodist church, officiating. Burial was in Merrill's Grove cemetery with Robert Dale, Larry Reder, Jerry Weremy, Kenneth Kaul, Daniel Hansen, and Harold Wetzel, Jr. serving as casketbearers.