

Mary Welsch, 85

Irwin — Mary Steenhusen Welsch, daughter of Peter and Emma Boldt Steenhusen, was born Aug. 4, 1892 in Irwin. She graduated from the Irwin high school and the University of Northern Iowa in Iowa City. Mary taught in rural schools in Shelby county and later in public schools in Irwin, Colfax and Audubon. She married Dale Welsch on June 25, 1918 in Co. Bluffs. Following the death of her mother in 1936 Mary returned to Irwin to care for her father. Following the death of her father in 1947 she continued to make her home in Irwin until failing health caused her to move to the Baptist Memorial Home in Harlan in Aug. of 1977. This is where she died Tuesday, May 30, 1978 at age 85 years, nine months and 26 days.

Mary was a member of the Church of Christ in Irwin, the Ladies Missionary Group, a 50 year member of the Order of the Eastern Star and a member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

She was preceded in death by two brothers - Henry and Peter, by two sisters - Alys S. Rasmussen and Irene Fossell. Survivors include three sisters - Dora (Mrs Walter) Andersen of Harlan; Laura (Mrs Edgar) Mellor of Tucson, Ariz., and Edith (Mrs Lester) Frees of Lakefield, Minn., and one brother - John Steenhusen of Irwin, nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Ohde Funeral Home in Manning.