## Harlan, Towa New Advertiser Friday June 19, 1992, pg 9-A L. Merle Pitt, 74

March 30, 1918 - June 3, 1992

**PERSIA** — L. Merle Pitt, son of Levi and Lulu (Knauss) Pitt, was born March 30, 1918, in Persia. He was raised near Persia, and attended country school and high school near Logan. He farmed in the Persia and Woodbine areas for a number of years. He married Vera Wilson in 1940 in Omaha; the couple later divorced. He worked for the Campbell Soup Company in Omaha for 26 years, retiring in 1978 due to failing health. In 1982, he moved to Harlan to live with his sister, Alice Jorgensen. He died June 3, 1992, at Immanuel Medical Center in Omaha, at age 74 years, 2 months, and 3 days.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Everett, Ted, and Lawrence; and three sisters, Stella Shreves, Bessie Harter, and Esta Fountain. Survivors include two sons, Duane and Rodney, both of Kings, IL.; two daughters, Judy (John) Brahmsteadt of Pilger, NE.; and Julene (Robert) Crawford of Choteau, MT.; one brother, Carrol of Yuba City, CA.; three sisters, Alice Jorgensen of Harlan; Nellie Meier of Logan and Arlene Hall of Woodbine; and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were held June 6, 1992, at Burmeister Funeral Home, with Elder Mark Hensley of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints of Harlan, officiating. Serving as casketbearers were Skip Leonard, Darrell Stephens, Arlis Stephens, Marion Pitt, Bob Stahl, and Ken Kuster. Burial was in the Valley View cemetery in Persia. Burmeister Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.