

The Life Story of —

MRS WILLIAM J. LEWIS, 83

Bernice Ann Ouren, daughter of Francis W. and Luetta Ouren was born Feb. 3, 1891. She grew to high school age on a farm at Living Springs in Pottawattamie county, Ia. Her family then moved to Council Bluffs. Bernice graduated from Abraham Lincoln high school in Co. Bluffs and attended Maryland Boarding school at Lutherville, Md., and the University of Iowa at Iowa City. In 1913 she married William J. Lewis, and they moved to Rising City, Nebr. In 1915 they sold their banking interests in Rising City and moved to Harlan, where they purchased the majority stock interest in the Harlan National Bank. She has lived in Harlan since then and raised their three children. She also served as President of the Harlan National Bank for a period after her husband's death on Dec. 1, 1937. Mrs Lewis was a long time member of the Congregational Christian church of Harlan. She was also a member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood and the Order of Eastern Star.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by two brothers - Beryl, who died in France in WWI, and Horace W. Ouren, who died Mar. 9, 1974. She is survived by two sons - Francis J. Lewis and William O. Lewis, both of Harlan; by one daughter - Luann (Mrs Patten B. Harvey) of Mansfield Center, Conn. by eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Congregational Christian church in Harlan on Monday, April 1, 1974 with Rev. David E. Cave, officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery with F. J. Lewis, William O. Lewis, William J. Lewis, David O. Lewis, Jeffrey L. Lewis and Patten B. Harvey serving as pallbearers.
