



## THE LIFE STORY OF — **John Paxton**

John Paul Paxton, son of Thomas Charles and Lois Anna Paxton, was born on a farm near Wamego, Kans., on Dec. 25, 1887. He died at the Exira Care Center in Exira, on March 24, 1977, at age 89 years, two months and 29 days. He attended country school and grew to adulthood on his parent's farm. As a young man he moved to Harlan, where he did farm work until enlisting in the Army in July of 1918. He served in France and Germany in WW I and after receiving his honorable discharge in Sept. of 1919, he returned to Harlan. On June 18, 1921, he married Karen Marie Jensen at Avoca. One daughter was born to this union.

After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Paxton made their home in Panora, where he operated a dry cleaning plant. They later operated dry cleaning plants in Stuart and Indianola. After selling the dry cleaning business in 1933, they moved to Harlan where Mr Paxton was employed as an insurance salesman. After Mrs Paxton's death in 1970, he continued to make his home in Harlan until recently becoming a resident of the Exira Care Center. John was a member of the First United Methodist church in Harlan. He was a member of the Helmer Reyelt Post No. 150, American Legion of Harlan and the Harlan Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 941 of which he was a Past Post Commander and also Past Commander of the Seventh District.

In addition to his parents and his wife, he was preceded in death by four brothers - Adam, James, Daniel and Joseph Paxton; and by a sister, Agnes. He is survived by his daughter, Irena and his son-in-law, Normal Mickelson of Hamlin; a step-granddaughter, Donnella Hart of Audubon; four step-great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan on Saturday, March 26, 1977 with Rev Larry LaVelle, pastor of the First United Methodist church in Harlan, officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery with John Scott, Elmer Potter, Norman Stamp, Richard Olson, Valen Christensen and Sheldon Christiansen serving as casket-bearers.

Military rites were conducted at the graveside by the Harlan V.F.W. Post No. 941.