

Death Claims Valley Pioneer



MRS. SARAH CASAD.

Mrs. Sarah Wakefield Van Winkle Casad, 92, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Edwin Burt, west of Canutillo, at 4 a. m. Thursday, following an illness of several months. Funeral services will be held at the Graham mortuary in Las Cruces Friday morning at 10:30 o'clock. Interment will be in the Masonic cemetery at Las Cruces.

"Grandma" Casad, as she was familiarly known to hundreds of friends, was born in Springfield, Ill., and moved to northern California in her early married life. In 1874, the Casad family moved to the valley, settling at old Mesilla, where they owned vast holdings and where the old Casad home still stands.

Mr. Casad owned the greater portion of the Brazito land grant at one time and built the first broom factory and first flour mill and started many other industries in the early days.

Mrs. Casad was always interested in the upbuilding of the community and civic improvement, and, with Mr. Casad, was among the first persons who took an active part in the organization of the New Mexico Agriculture College. In addition to rearing children of their own, Mr. and Mrs. Casad reared and educated Prof. Fablan Garcia, a member of the faculty of New Mexico State college, and Prof. Rafael Ramirez, who was with the Agriculture college in Juarez until his death several years ago.

Mrs. Casad is the last of 11 chil-

dren. Surviving her are six daughters, Mesdames Edwin Burt, N. D. Lane, Joseph F. Bennett, sr., M. C. Mandell and C. E. Rhodes, all of whom live in the Canutillo district; Mrs. R. J. White, Bakersfield, Calif.; two sons, Humboldt and C. D. Casad, also of Canutillo. Three children are dead. There are 36 grandchildren and 33 great-grand children. Her grandchildren living in El Paso are Mrs. John Fisher, Hinman Rhodes and Mrs. Julius W. Lorentzen.