

## Lost in Desert for Two Days — Dies From Exposure

**Anton Christie, Wilsona Resident,  
Victim of Desert Heat**

The story of two horrifying days of exposure to sun, hunger and thirst which resulted in his death, was graphically written on the sand out in the Wilsona District Monday and Tuesday by Anton Christie, 50-year-old resident of the Bates ranch in that area.

Mr. Christie, a devoutly religious man, had left the Bates ranch at about 8:00 Monday morning to go to a neighboring empty cabin to read and pray. He was found by Mrs. Hodges and Wm. Millikan, residents of the Black Butte district, at about 4:00 Tuesday afternoon, while there was still some life in his body. He was rushed to Lancaster to a hospital, but died before he could reach there.

Monday night relatives, including Mrs. Mildred Bates of Wilsona, a niece, became apprehensive about his disappearance. His Bible was found at the cabin to which he had gone that morning, but no other trace of him could be found. Believing that he might have gone to a Huntington Park relative's place, the Sheriff's office in Los Angeles was notified, and an attempt to locate him there made.

Tuesday morning, complete information of his disappearance was given deputies at Sheriff's Station No. 11 in Lancaster and three of them, Captain J. W. Hanby, John Allen and Walter Keating started out at noon to locate him.

They picked up his tracks at the cabin at which he had left his Bible, and trailed them to the south about five miles. There they found indications that he had fallen down and crawled about on the ground for a while before he could get himself back on his feet and wander on. His straw hat lay there. He went on in a southeastern direction, falling and stumbling at various intervals, the tracks disclosed. At one spot he had removed both shoes and one sock. The trail continued on to the Three Sisters Buttes, then turned northeasterly. Officers had covered about fifteen miles before they were forced to abandon the search because of nightfall.

Upon their return to Lancaster, they were informed that Mr. Christie's body had just been taken to Mumaw's Funeral Home. He had been found about half way up the north side of Black Butte.

Mr. Christie had lived at the Bates ranch just about three months, having come here from Denver, Colorado. He was a native of Norway, and had lived in the United States about 12 years.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 Saturday afternoon at Mumaw Funeral Chapel in Lancaster, and burial will be in the Lancaster Cemetery. Rev. McNally will be in charge.