

Pioneer Mother, Mrs. Anna M. Ritter-Hanf, Passes Away Tuesday

Services at Palmdale Church
Saturday Afternoon

Mrs. Anna Marie Ritter-Hanf, another of the Valley's pioneer residents, died at 10:00 Tuesday morning in Palmdale at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Frank J. Ikeler. Mrs. Hanf, as the mother of nine children and a partner with her former husband, in the project of development of one of Leona Valley's most fertile and prosperous homesteads, had a full, useful and interesting life during the 45 years of her residence here.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2:00 Saturday afternoon at the Palmdale Community Church.

Burial will be in the Palmdale Cemetery. Mumaw's Funeral Home of Lancaster is in charge.

Mrs. Hanf was born in Stuttgart, Germany, August 17, 1865. Her parents died during her early childhood, and she came to the United States at the age of eighteen. She lived first near Nebraska City, Nebraska, where she was married within a year or so to John G. Ritter. She and Mr. Ritter farmed there for seven years, or until 1892, when they came to Antelope Valley in California to settle here as one of the first of the pioneer families. Three of their nine children were born in Nebraska, the rest at the homestead in Leona Valley. The Ritter Ranch was developed as a fruit and grape growing center, also a grain and cattle ranch. It is interesting that all but one of the Ritter boys have remained in the Valley, continuing in ranching enterprises.

Mr. Ritter died in 1915, and his widow was married in 1925 to Philip Hanf, continuing her residence here until about two years ago when the Ritter Ranch was sold, and she and Mr. Hanf moved to a home at Cajon Pass. For the past six months, Mrs. Hanf returned to the Valley, living with her children and their families.

She is survived by her husband, Philip Hanf; by nine children as follows: Charles, Adolph of Burbank, Willie, Albert, Emil, Johnnie, Mrs. Mary T. Dyer of Bakersfield, Mrs. Frank J. Ikeler, and Mrs. "Buddy" Redman of Lancaster; nineteen grandchildren and three great grandchildren.