

H-R  
Monday, March 9, 1959

## Monte Man Is Victim Of Blizzard

Bill Ritchie, 77, Dies  
Saturday After Car  
Stalls In Country

Last week's big blizzard was indirectly responsible for at least one death in Poweshiek county. Sheriff Bill Welsh Saturday found the body of Bill Ritchie, 77, of near Montezuma, in the snow on a gravel road southeast of that community.

Ritchie had left his farm home about 3:30 that afternoon to make a trip to Montezuma. When some time passed and he failed to return, his wife notified the sheriff and he started a search for him.

At about 5:30 p.m., Ritchie's body was found on the road some distance from his car. He was dead when discovered.

Sheriff Welsh said Ritchie's car had bogged down in the snow and he apparently tried to dig it out. When these efforts proved unsuccessful he started out on foot and apparently suffered a fatal heart attack.

## MONTEZUMA REPUBLICAN

... MARCH 19, 1959

### rites held for William Ritchie

Funeral services for William E. Ritchie were held March 10, 1959 at 1:30 p.m. at the Church of the Brethren in Brooklyn, Iowa. The Rev. Leslie Rodgers officiated at the ceremony. Interment was in the Sixteen Cemetery.

Casket bearers were Lewis McKee, Jim Hutton, Cliff Steele, Marvin Campbell, Audrey McIntosh and William Mouchka.

### OBITUARY

William E. Ritchie, Deep River, long time farmer of Poweshiek County, died Saturday, March 7, of a heart attack, at the age of seventy-seven years and eighteen days.

Mr. Ritchie, the son of John W. and Virginia M. Ritchie, was born in Singers Glen, Virginia, on February 17, 1882, and came to Iowa in 1903. In 1913 he was united in marriage to Verdie Wise at Harrisonburg, Virginia, and to this union was born a daughter, Mrs. John (Gladys) Whitworth, Deep River, and a son, Allen Ritchie, Gibson, Iowa. Milan R. Kent, now Oskaloosa, joined the family at the age of fourteen and grew to manhood with the Ritchies.

Mr. Ritchie professed his faith in Christ and became a member of the Church of the Brethren at the age of twenty-one. He has been a member of the Brooklyn Church of the Brethren since coming to Iowa.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Verdie Ritchie, his children, Mrs. John Whitworth and Allen Ritchie, seven grandchildren, two brothers, Charles of Lima, Ohio and Claude of Singers Glen, Virginia, four sisters, Mrs. John Dove, Singers Glen, Virg., Mrs. Leslie Brown, Belle Plaine, Iowa, Mrs. Ward Fearneyhough, Hartwick, Iowa, and Mrs. Lila Custer, Hazeltown, Iowa.

One brother, Fred, preceded him in death.