

4/3/55

Bio-R

# W. L. Robinson Dies After Heart Attack

Walter Leek Robinson, long time local dairyman and prominent in Masonic circles, died suddenly Friday afternoon as a result of a heart attack. He was 65 years old.

A native of Wolverhampton, England, Robinson came to Santa Cruz in 1905 to join his uncle, George Leek, in the operation of a dairy ranch at Bay and Meder streets where he maintained his home until his death. He retired from activity in the dairy business in 1947.

Robinson was active in church



Walter L. Robinson

work and had been a member of the First Congregational church for 50 years. He was a past chairman of the church's board of trustees and a senior deacon.

He took an active role in Masonic circles and was honored last month by being awarded the 5410th designation of Knight of the York Cross of Honor in all Freemasonry. The award is conferred only on those men who have held the highest office in each of the four bodies of the York Rite of Freemasonry.

He served as Master of the Santa Cruz Lodge 38 of Masons in 1955; as High Priest of Santa Cruz chapter, Royal Arch Masons, in 1949; as Master of Santa Cruz Commandry, Knights Templar, in 1952. He also was chaplain of the Santa Cruz lodge 273, Order of the Eastern Star, and was a representative of the Grand Lodge.

In addition to his activity in Masonic circles, Robinson also was a member of the advisory board for the Rainbow Girls, Masonic order for young women, for the last eight years, and was a member of the Shrine.

Robinson was president of the Central Coast Counties Dairy Herd Improvement association from the time of its organization in 1934 until he retired from dairying, and was president of the Farmers Cooperative Exchange. He was a member of the Santa Cruz Republican central committee and compiled an imposing record of civic activity, serving as a

county election precinct officer for 34 years continuously.

Carl Conelly, chairman of the county central committee, said last night: "Mr. Robinson was a valued member of the committee and we will miss him sadly."

He is survived by his widow, the former Mary Otto of Santa Cruz; two sons, Ray O., a member of the Santa Cruz high school faculty, and Dr. Clinton Robinson of Healdsburg; a daughter, Mrs. Ruth Simpson of San Jose; a sister, Mrs. Emily Foster of San Diego; a brother, Howard, of Tulare, and nine grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted tomorrow at 2 p. m. from the First Congregational church with Rev. Ed Cunningham and Santa Cruz Lodge 38, F. & A. M., officiating. Friends are respectfully requested to attend. Private entombment will follow in the IOOF mausoleum. White's mortuary is in charge of arrangements.