

damaged by the flood, so there was clean water to use for cleaning. There were no cattle or horses lost by the Robinsons, but all their chickens and four or five pigs were gone after the flood. It took two or three years for the soil to grow good crops again, and for years, there were piles of debris everywhere.

In 1945, they leased their place, and George and Emma moved to their son's (Maurice) place and lived for seven or eight years until their health deteriorated then they went to live with Chester at Sheridan, where they were nearer to a doctor's care.

Emma fell and broke her hip while walking outside one day, and she passed away about ten days later of complications in August, 1956, at the age of 89. George passed away in May, 1957, lacking one month of being 91 years old. They were both buried in the Arvada Cemetery.

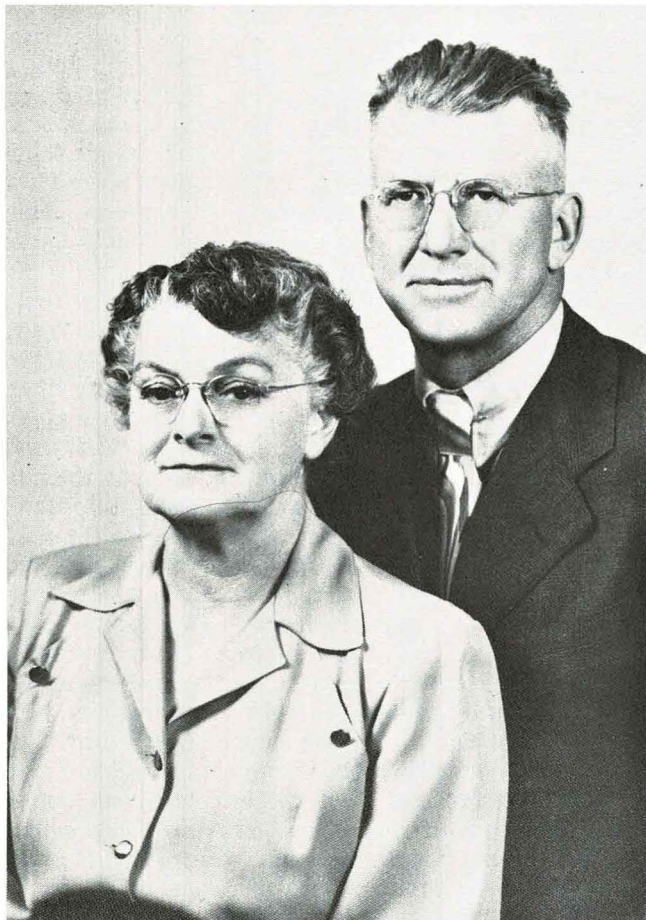
### **MAURICE NEWTON and FLORENCE ROBINSON FAMILY**

by Velma Drake

Maurice Newton Robinson was born September 23, 1900 at Moorcroft, Wyoming to George and Emma Robinson and was the second baby born in Moorcroft.

In December of 1923, Maurice left the home place and went to work at Fort McKenzie. On February 20, 1924 he married Florence Mary Smith.

A daughter, Velma Jean was born to them June 18,



**Maurice and Florence Robinson.**

1925. They lived on the homestead that Maurice had filed on, east of his father's homestead for a few years, then they moved to Sheridan and both worked at Fort McKenzie. After a time they both took the job of running the laundry room.

In 1933, Maurice and family left Sheridan and moved to Powder River to build a service station. Later added a few cabins on the new highway by the newly built bridge over Powder River, when the new highway bypassed Arvada.

In time they got around to oiling the highway and it became a tourist route and he built up a little business. One of the attractions was the homemade ice cream they made for a number of years.

In 1950, Maurice bought the Gabriel Grenier place on the Missouri Flats, so called because of the number of people from Missouri who homesteaded in the area. It was on the south fork of Spotted Horse Creek. Maurice farmed this place, which included about four homesteads, and raised wheat for 15 years, while Florence kept the service station going.

In 1963, they closed the service station and Maurice continued to farm. Then in 1966, they bought a home in Sheridan and retired, selling their home on Powder River to Carol Ann and Lloyd Malli. The dry farm they sold to their daughter, Velma and her husband Darrell Drake, who had been helping them with the farming since 1951.

Shortly after Maurice and Florence moved to Sheridan, Florence passed away at the age of 69. Maurice is still residing in Sheridan and has since remarried to the former Anna Coones.

Velma worked for Western Union Telegraph Company for three years as a multiplex and teletype operator, at Los Angeles, California and Billings, Montana. She married Darrell Drake of Crow Agency, Montana and lived for a short time at Crow Agency, Garryowen and Lodge Grass. Then in 1951 moved to her father's dry farm with Darrell and family and in 1966 they bought the place. They have four children: Barbara Charmaine married Douglas Fisgus of Denver, Colo-



**Darrell and Velma Drake.**