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His promotion to Corporal came in December, 1931. Because of his knowledge of cattle and stock he was appointed stock detective to handle cases of cattle-stealing then frequent throughout Southern Saskatchewan. He was particularly well qualified for this work as he was familiar with the district and knew all the ins-and-outs of ranching and stock-handling.

On December 1, 1939 he was promoted to A/Sergeant and took over the duties of Patrol Sergeant in the Swift Current Sub-Division with headquarters at Assiniboia. In this capacity he concluded successfully many investigations into cattle rustling. Well-liked by ranchers and stockmen in the Shaunavon area, he was also held in high respect by members of the U.S. border patrols, with whom he always acted in the closest co-operation in the maintenance of law and order along the International Line.

At every place he served and in every rank he held, Barker built up a reputation as a fine policeman with a high sense of duty. In the enforcement of law he was absolutely impartial and went about his task in a fearless, straightforward manner that earned the respect of all who came in contact with him.

A brief funeral service was held in All Saints Anglican Church, Shaunavon, on March 19. In addition to a representation from this Force, five officers of the American Immigration and Customs Patrol attended the last rites. They were Chief Patrol Inspector P. T. McLaughlin, Superintendent P. G. Fraser, Captain Paul L. Coheen, Inspector Ralph L. Lefaver and Sergeant Matt Morgan, all from Havre, Montana. Making the arduous trip from the border in sub-zero weather, the American officers placed flowers on the casket—a votive offering to the memory of a comrade they loved and respected. Their action demonstrates the international goodwill and esteem in which the deceased was held, and which he promoted for the Force.

The remains were taken to Regina and an impressive ceremony was held in the R.C.M.P. Chapel. The body was laid to rest with full police honours in the Force's cemetery there in the afternoon of March 20, 1940.

Sergeant Major E. D. Fryett and five "F" Division Sergeants were the pallbearers. The service was conducted by Bishop Knowles, Canon Lee and the Reverend Canon Parker; gun carriage, horse and firing party were supplied by "Depot" Division.

The late Sergeant is survived by his widow, his seven-year-old son, a brother, S/Sgt F. W. J. Barker of this Force stationed at Yorkton, Sask., and a sister, Mrs. F. Phillips, residing in England. Our deepest sympathies go out to the bereaved in this sudden tragedy.

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