

Cotton, Retired Demo Chief, Dies

California friends and former associates today were saddened by the death of Hamilton H. (Ham) Cotton, 72, millionaire real estate developer, Democratic political leader, financier and racehorse breeder.

Mr. Cotton, who since his retirement five years ago had lived quietly at his 120-acre estate in San Clemente, died late Wednesday in St. Joseph's Hospital, Santa Ana, after a lingering illness.



H. H. COTTON

Rosary will be recited at 8 o'clock tonight in the Cunningham & O'Connor Mortuary chapel, Los Angeles. Private funeral service will be held in the chapel at 10 a. m. tomorrow.

Mr. Cotton, who was born in Chicago, came to Los Angeles in 1896, entered politics early and in 1914 became Democratic county chairman here. Later he served as state and national finance chairman for the Democratic party. In 1924, with the late Ole Hanson, he aided in founding San Clemente.

He was director of the Bank of America and the Holly Development Co., and at one time was president of the Municipal Bond Co. He led the fight for establishment of the first Federal Home Loan bank in this area.

Surviving are the widow, Victoria, a member of the pioneer Dominguez family, and two daughters, Miss Lucy Cotton at home and Mrs. Victoria Ogden of Los Angeles. Mr. Cotton was proud of the fact that his daughters were the fifth generation born in California.