

COLLINS, WARREN ELMER

?-October 17, 1951

The burned body of W.E. Collins, who had lived alone in a 12 by 14 house about a half mile east of Wheatland for the past several years was uncovered about 12:45 Thursday morning by Wheatland firemen after they had extinguished a fire which consumed the poorly-built structure.

Firemen answered the call after the blaze was spotted by James Stewart, night agent at the Colorado and Southern depot. They found that the wooden building was almost completely burned when they arrived, and after putting out what fire remained, located the body in the center of the one-room hut between the bed and the stove. The cause of the fire was not definitely ascertained.

Collins, a college graduate, is believed to have been in his seventies, although no relatives had yet been contacted this morning. He is thought to have a son in Illinois and possibly another somewhere in Oregon. Authorities were attempting to locate a niece in Colorado, and it is known that a sister died in Fort Collins about a year ago.

The deceased came to the vicinity from east of Chugwater, having farmed there for a number of years. He was a familiar figure in Wheatland where he sold vegetables from door to door.

Funeral services were held at 3:30 p.m. Sunday for Warren Elmer Collins, about 75 years, who was fatally burned in his small home east of Wheatland October 17.

The last rites were conducted by the Rev. Henry Heaton and burial was in the Wheatland cemetery.

Collins had made his home near Wheatland since coming here from east of Chugwater four years ago.

Surviving are two sons, Allen H. of Bushnell, Ill. and Samuel E. of Salem, Ore.