

Car-pedestrian accident takes life of Mrs. Whittaker

6-16-1962

A car-pedestrian accident last Friday took the life of Leva Irene Whittaker, 56, of Wheatland. She passed away in Platte County Memorial Hospital about 8:00 p.m. Saturday of multiple injuries.

Mrs. Whittaker was struck by a car driven by Larry A. Snook, 19, of Wheatland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Snook, as she was crossing the street north on 14th and Gilchrist. Larry was coming from the north on 14th and turned left on Gilchrist when the car struck her, throwing her 16 feet in front of the car.

According to investigating authorities, Snook applied his brakes as soon as he saw her, and the skid marks of the car were only 12 feet, indicating that he was driving approximately 18 miles an hour.

An inquest was held on the case Monday at four o'clock, with the jury verdict as follows: "Mrs. Whittaker came to her death on or about the 16th day of June 1962 in this county by the careless operation of a vehicle driven by one Larry Snook."

Snook was cited in City Court for careless driving. Due to the evidence presented before W. B. Jones, attorney; Ted Schrader, coroner; Sheriff Wm. I. Sutherland; chief of Police Jack Eddleman; and the three jurymen, Louis Mossman, Bob Straw and Harvey Coleman, Snook was fined \$35 and cost.

Investigation of Snook revealed that he had never received a citation for careless driving or any other charge, had never been in Justice of the Peace Court or the City Court. This clean record along with other evidence prompted the decision at the inquest.