

Mrs. Clyde Woolsey Fatally

Burned in Gas Explosion

PCR 4-17-1930

Death Occurs Fifteen Hours After Explosion which Partially Wrecks Home

One of the most tragic accidents to occur in this section in years took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Woolsey in Wheatland on Wednesday morning at eight o'clock, when an explosion from gasoline fumes partially wrecked the Woolsey home and burned Mrs. Woolsey so severely that death took place on Wednesday night about 11 o'clock.

Mrs. Woolsey had been washing some window curtains in a bucket of high test gasoline, doing the work in the yard at the home, and had attempted to wring out the curtains by hand, but thought she could do the wringing operation more successfully with the electric wringer attached to the washing machine. She returned to the house and had just started the wringer when an explosion took place which blow out the entire side of the room. Mrs. Woolsey was thrown from the room into the yard by the force of the explosion, a distance of several feet, her clothing catching fire with the result that she was fatally burned about the body. Her mother, Mrs. Geo. J. Richardson, who lives next door to the Woolsey home, was also badly burned about the hands and arms in attempting to extinguish the flames which enveloped her daughter. Both women were immediately taken to the Wheatland Hospital for treatment, but the injuries sustained by Mrs. Woolsey as a result of the fire and force of the explosion resulted in her death last night.

The fire department was called but and prevented any conflagration of the building. The wall of the room was torn completely away from the rest of the house and turned plaster side down on the lawn as though some giant had pushed the lower part of the wall away from the foundation.

Mrs. Woolsey was one of the most popular members of the younger set in Wheatland, and was an officer and active member of the Wheatland Eastern Star Chapter. The accident and her death have cast a gloom over the city and the bereaved family has the heartfelt sympathy of the entire community.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday afternoon at two o'clock at the Congregational church by Cecil Smith, pastor of the local Christian