

FOUR DEATHS IN ONE FAMILY IN WEEK

Deadly Poison Claims High Death Toll

Baffling medical science the grim reaper of death made a harvest of four members of the Hasselquist family in one week's time, the victims of a strange malady that defied the efforts of the attending physicians.

The dead are Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hasselquist, their two year old son, John, and Stuart Hasselquist, an 18 year old brother of Howard.

On New Years Day shortly after the family had dined, the little two year old boy was the first to be stricken with the strange malady which appeared as a paralytic affectation in the lower limbs. The child was at once started to Wheatland where medical aid could be secured but died just before they reached town.

Thursday morning, Stuart Hasselquist complained of a numbness of the lower limbs that later developed in the same manner as in the child, and gradually extended upward affecting his breathing and throat, making it impossible for him to talk or eat, and he finally passed away on Sunday morning.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hasselquist developed the same general symptoms as the brother and son, Mr. Hasselquist answered the call Monday morning and Mrs. Hasselquist died Wednesday afternoon.

Dr. Johnston was called from Cheyenne Sunday and with the local physicians held an autopsy on the body of Stuart Hasselquist, after which a part of the organs were sent to Denver to be examined by specialists, who returned a report Thursday, pronouncing it a case of botulism, a poisoning that is sometimes found in canned fruits and meats. It is thought in this case that it was caused by eating canned peaches which were put up at home.

The Hasselquist boys were fine young men that had grown to manhood at the home of the parents, Mr. and Mrs. A.E. Hasselquist, south of town. And Mrs. Hasselquist was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. Turpen, pioneers of this locality, and like her husband and his brother, had been reared here, going through all the schools, and all were beloved by a host of friends who extend their profound sympathy to the relatives, especially to the little two months old babe that will never know a father's protection or a mother's love.

The little son was buried last Sunday and the three others will be buried next Sunday in the Wheatland cemetery.