

MERBACH, MARY BLANCHE ZARING

January 19, 1914-May 31, 1940

Mrs. Blanche Merbach and Waldo Neely died early Friday morning of last week from injuries received in an auto accident at 10:30 p.m. Thursday evening of last week about five miles north of Wheatland on the Yellowstone highway.

Other occupants of the car were Mrs. Bonnie Peterson, sister of Mrs. Merbach, Henry Sommers and Howard Clark. Mrs. Peterson was badly bruised and cut and suffered from severe shock but at this time is reported to be recovering satisfactorily. Henry Sommers and Howard Clark escaped with bruises and minor cuts.

The accident occurred just as the party had crossed the Laramie bridge about five miles north of Wheatland. Immediately after crossing the bridge, they met a car which hindered them from seeing the slow moving truck which was going up the hill just ahead of them. Immediately after passing the car, the truck loomed up in front and Clark attempted to slow down to turn out, but was unsuccessful and hit the rear of the truck.

The crash was so great the car was completely wrecked. The right front side of the car received the most severe part of the blow and crushed the occupants.

The injured were immediately rushed to the Wheatland hospital where Mr. Neely passed away at 3 a.m. Friday morning and was followed by Mrs. Merbach about 5 a.m.

Mr. Neeley had grown to manhood in Wheatland and moved to Torrington about three years ago where he was manager of Neely Chevrolet Co. Mrs. Merbach was a former resident of Wheatland and was residing at American Falls, Idaho, but had returned to Wheatland in company with her sister, Mrs. Bonnie Peterson, for Memorial Day.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist church on Sunday of last week with interment in the Wheatland cemetery under the direction of the Watson and Dennis Funeral Home.