SMITH, MERLE ROBERT November 25, 1919-December 15, 1938

Merle Smith, nineteen-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Smith of Slater, passed away in Wheatland Thursday morning, December 15, from first degree burns incurred on October 12 as the result of a gasoline explosion. Merle had carried a pan of blazing from the house after it exploded when a cigarette stub was thrown into it. He was rooming with two other boys at the time.

Merle was born November 25, 1919 at Wheatland and had lived on a farm near Slater with his parents all his life. He was graduated from Chugwater high school in 1937.

Surviving are his parents, one brother Laurel and two sisters, Frances and Jane, besides other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday afternoon from the Copley Funeral home with Rev. Wilbur Wood of the Methodist church officiating. Burial was made in the Wheatland cemetery.