

Youth Drowned After 90 Foot Fall Down Well

PLATFORM GIVES WAY WHEN FALLING PIPE STRIKES WOODEN STRUCTURE

Robert Carr, eighteen year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Carr of Inyokern, fell ninety feet to his death last Friday afternoon when a well platform on which he was standing was crushed in by a falling string of pipe. Young Carr was standing on the platform when four sections of two inch pump line suspended from the derrick crashed into it and carried the youth with the wreckage to the bottom of the well.

Young Carr a frequent visitor the adjoining ranch arrived at the scene only a few minutes before the accident occurred. Although cautioned by the men engaged in "pulling the pump", Carr was standing on the platform covering the well when the shackles around the pipe slipped and sent the 360 lb. pipe line plunging downward. The well had been dug by hand and was consequently large enough to admit the boy's body and the falling wood.

There were four or five feet of water in the well at the time and post mortem examination revealed that the youth had died from drowning.

An immediate attempt to recover the young man's body was successful when one of the workmen was lowered into the well by means of ropes. Dr. F. P. Brockett of Palmdale was present when the accident occurred and made desperate attempts to resuscitate the victim but the attempt proved futile.

Robert and his brother Donald, were living on a ranch near the scene of the accident awaiting the arrival of their parents who planned to move here from Inyokern about the first of the month. Donald Carr attends the valley high school at Lancaster and was the younger of the two.

A large number of relatives and friends from Glendale and Inyokern as well as the parents of the young man attended the funeral, on Thursday afternoon. Burial was in Lancaster.