

# YULETIDE TURNS TO TRAGEDY FOR MOTHER IN UTAH

Son Mails Christmas  
Packages to Mother  
Then Is Killed at Dam

12/23/32  
Up in Salt Lake City, there's a grieving mother, whose Christmas has been turned to tragedy by the sudden death of a beloved son, but there's a sweetness in it all, for on the wings of the Christmas spirit, is wafted the comforting thought that perhaps his last act was to wrap a present for her, and arrange for its personal delivery on Christmas morning by a pal.

The son, Walter Hamer, 25, plunged 200 feet to his death on the Boulder dam workings at 5:30 this morning just as he was nearing the end of the shift just prior to which he had wrapped that Christmas package for the mother he loved.

AND THAT package, with its last message of love, will be delivered in person as he had planned, by J. R. Brooks, also of Salt Lake, who went home for the holidays.

Hamer was not planning on a trip home, was devoting his entire efforts to earn money enough to tide himself and his mother over the depression, friends said.

HAMER WAS working as a jackhammer man on the site of the Arizona valvehouse, 200 feet above the canyon floor. He was drilling down on a ledge, when the hole suddenly became plugged. He put in a short piece of drill steel and bore down to clear the hole. Suddenly and without warning, the drill broke thru, and Hamer lost his balance, plunging 200 feet to his death.

The coroner was summoned from Chlovide, Arizona, to take charge of the body.