

INFANTS DEATH

4/13/32
George Dearing's Seven
Months Old Infant
Passes in Sleep

NO APPARENT CAUSE

Several Theories Are Put
Forward as to the Reason
for Sudden Passing

Mystery surrounds the death early this morning of Alberta, seven months old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Dearing, who apparently passed away in her mother's arms while both were asleep in their bed in the H. O. Harkness residence, 816 Seventh Street, Boulder City.

Mrs. Dearing, who was keeping house for the Harkness family, had been sleeping with her baby in her arms for an indefinite period, without untoward results, but when she awakened about dawn this morning she was horrified to find the little mite of humanity she held in her arms had become cold in death as she clutched her to her breast in sleep.

DR. P. W. WILLIAMS was immediately summoned, and while he found the baby dead, refused to certify to the cause, declaring he could find no apparent reason for its sudden demise.

Coroner Frank M. Ryan was summoned from Las Vegas, and after a careful examination of all witnesses, was unable to determine the cause of death and ordered an autopsy performed by the county health officer and Dr. Williams. The infant had been apparently in the best of health, and there was no indication whatsoever of anything unnatural in the baby's passing.

CHIEF OF POLICE Bud Bodell advanced the theory that the baby had been accidentally smothered to death while she slept in her mother's arms, or that its milk had become tainted by kalsomine from the walls of the home which had been gone over yesterday by painters.

Coroner Ryan was confident that an autopsy would bring out the real cause of death, although it was not expected to be completed until sometime tomorrow.

The mother, who is only 18 years of age, was prostrated by the death of her child, and was at a loss to explain the reason, being able to offer nothing which might cast any light on the occurrence.

MRS. DEARING was only recently separated from her husband, a former employee of the Big Four Club in this city, and has been doing housework in return for room and board for herself and baby.

This is the second death in her family within the past two years, Mrs. Dearing told the officers, her first-born having passed away in September 1930.