

Man, Woman Said Lost Extensive Hunt Fails To Reveal Any Bodies

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Thousands of Dollars in Damage Done to Homes and Business Houses on Boulder Dam Highway in Vicinity of Midway City and Sunset Camp Last Eve

Death and disaster rode hand in hand with a terrific cloudburst in the Las Vegas area last night, and is believed to have taken a toll of two lives, besides piling up thousands of dollars damage to homes, business houses and the Boulder dam highway.

It was a cloudburst that swept down onto the low country in the vicinity of Sunset and Midway City, sweeping all before it and flushing two persons, a man and a woman, out of an automobile to what appears to be their death.

There was at least one other man precipitated into the swirling waters, between the two tiny communities on the highway, but he was rescued as he clung to a convenient mesquite tree, some 60 yards from where his car was upended by the flood.

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Drowned in

The two believed to be dead are Mrs. A. Grimes and another man, whose name could not be ascertained. They were riding in a light auto which was overturned in the midst of the roaring water, and were believed to have been drowned and their bodies buried beneath the tons of silt and boulders which rushed down the wash just a short distance from the bridge which spans the wash a mile east of Sunset.

THE BODIES of the two have not, as yet been found, despite continued search last night and today and there was some doubt that they might have drowned, but a thorough check-up among friends of the couple, failed to bring any word of their safety. It was explained that it would have been a simple matter for the roaring wall of water to bury them beneath the debris to such an extent that only a careful search might reveal them.

MAN, WOMAN

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He was carried off his feet and into the stream.

When the door was opened, it let a stream thru the machine, which tore off the door on the opposite side and sent the woman into the water and to her probable death.

Police were of the opinion that a definite check of the life loss, if any, might never be consummated because of the fact that the occupants of the machine which was supposed to have carried the missing man and woman, had been drinking heavily and could remember little of the details of the occurrence.

THE MAN who was rescued was believed to be J. A. Woodward, from out of the state, who was driving a Nash Sedan, which was shoved off the road by the force of the water. His car was brot to town last night and this morning he inquired for it.

The accident was reported to police headquarters last night by Las Buchanan, one of the five in the car. He had been drinking rather heavily, officers said, and reported only that the car had turned over in the flood and that five people were in it at the time. He knew the names only of C. A. Tucker, A. Grimes and wife and himself, leaving two unknowns in the party.

TUCKER, WHO was picked off a mesquite bush, was equally vague in his description of the accident. He said a party of friends had come into town from Boulder City Saturday evening, and returned early yesterday morning to go to work. They got back too late for the day shift, and laid around camp all day, leaving early in the evening for Las Vegas again.

"I guess I had a peach of a bun on, but I can't remember anything—not even being picked off the tree," Tucker said this afternoon. "Les Buchanan was with us, then I think a fellow named Fred Tribb, and another we called 'Yabbie'. I don't know whether there was anybody by the name of Grimes along with us or not. Seems like I've heard that name, but I can't remember any women in the car. Seems like I'd have remembered that much."

Tucker said if anybody was missing it was "probably Tribb, because he had been drinking the most and wouldn't be able to take care of himself very well in the water."

It was a horrifying sight, witnesses declared, to see the pair swept out of the machine and the last seen of Mrs. Grimes she was hanging desperately to a mesquite tree, which was bending fiercely before the onslaught of the water. When aid arrived the woman was nowhere to be seen.

A SEARCH, last night, brot forth a woman's sweater and under garment, about a mile and a half down the wash from the bridge. and this led to the firm belief that she, at least had been drowned.

Nothing was seen of the man after he stepped from the car into the water. Whether he was rescued or was also carried to his death will, for the present at least ,remain a mystery. His necktie was found wrapped around a bush in the same spot where the woman's belongings were located.

According to witnesses, the car was washed off the road and when the driver could not get it started, stepped out into the rushing water.

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SHERIFF JOE KEATE and party of Las Vegas and chief of police gas spent the night scouring the country but found nothing except articles of clothing. Deputy sheriff Bill Mott took up the search early this morning, but was still unable to find anything.

Chief Bodell said that at one o'clock this morning the water was running five feet deep and 100 feet wide in several portions of the valley as far as fifteen miles from the highway.

All of the men in the party were working day shift at the river, Tucker said and it is not possible to check for missing persons until tonight.

MIKE LEAVITT of the highway department said that the driver of the ill-fated car refused to heed warnings and plunged into the swiftest of the current.

The storm struck shortly before six o'clock last evening and it extended from Indian Springs on the west to Boulder City on the east and from Mountain Pass, on the south to past St. Thomas on the north.

The road between Las Vegas and Crystal was well washed by the water, but so far as could be learned no great damage was done.

DR. PRATT, optometrist at the M. W. Davis jewelry store and his wife returned from a wee end trip to Lee's canyon, in the Charleston range this afternoon after being misoned for nearly 24 hours.

Week-enders to Charleston park and Deer Creek were caught in the midst of a real mountain shower which started shortly afternoon and continued until late last night. While the roads were washed, they were not badly damaged.