

Her Burns Prove Fatal

2-19-1939

Mrs. Charles Halterman Dies
Thursday Morning After
Accident Wednesday

CLOTHING CATCHES FIRE WHEN KEROSENE EXPLODES

Three Children Make Their Escape
Through Upstairs Window—
House Is Badly Damaged

Mrs. Charles Halterman, who was fatally burned when her clothes caught fire at her home at 709 Main street Wednesday morning, passed away at the Community hospital at about 4:40 o'clock Thursday morning. The accident happened when she was putting paper in the heating stove. The paper caught afire suddenly and the flames ignited a kerosene can standing near the stove. The can exploded and although her clothes were afire she called the children who were sleeping upstairs and then attempted to leave the house through the front door.

The children, Paul, Maurice and Juanita made their escape from the burning house through an upstairs window. Mrs. Halterman was unable to get out of the house and was carried out.

The fire department responded promptly and made a heroic effort to save the house. They did succeed in putting out the fire but not until three rooms downstairs and two upstairs had been burned almost beyond repair. The house was badly gutted by the flames.

Mrs. Halterman was rushed to the Community hospital and everything that could be done was attempted to save her life. A special serum was rushed by train from Des Moines and was used at midnight by the doctor in charge but it failed to make the victim respond. She was conscious until the last.

She is survived by four sons, Maurice and Paul of Grinnell, Raymond of Philadelphia and Charles of Newton; two daughters, Juanita and Mrs. Lola Small of Grinnell; three brothers, Hiram and William Brown of Grinnell and Emory Brown of the Rock Creek neighborhood; four sisters, Mrs. Alex Hunter, Mrs. Flora Martins and Mrs. Horace Nichols of Grinnell and Mrs. Prather of Denver; and her husband.

She was born in the Rock Creek neighborhood and has lived in Grinnell and vicinity all her life.

Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the Baptist church, conducted by Rev. Wm. Welsh.