

Meadham, Helen

GH 11/26/1918

MRS. F. T. MEACHAM.

(Washington Journal).

Mrs. Helen Cowden Meacham, wife of Rev. Frank T. Meacham, and the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Cowden, died last evening at the home of her parents on East Second street after a brief illness, Monday, November 4, 1918. The cause of her death was uraemic poisoning, following an attack of bronchitis which developed from a cold contracted after her arrival from Oklahoma two weeks ago.

The news of her death came to her friends last night with tragic suddenness. Many were not aware of her illness and were totally unprepared for the word that told them she had passed away. Her death occurred at 5:30 o'clock.

One week ago last Thursday Mr. and Mrs. Meacham returned from Lawton, Oklahoma, for a visit. The sudden change from the warm southern climate to the chilly Iowa atmosphere caused Mrs. Meacham to contract a severe cold which finally developed serious complications. Her condition last Saturday was recognized as serious and her case from that time on seemed hopeless. Yesterday she lapsed into unconsciousness and the end came in the late afternoon, after every possible effort had been made to prolong her life.

Everyone knew her in Washington as Helen Cowden. She was born February 15, 1892, at Memphis, Nebraska. Previous to her marriage in August, 1917, she made her home in this city for sixteen years, graduating from the Washington high school in 1919. For a year following her graduation, she taught at the State school near Ainsworth, and the next summer she accepted a position at the Journal office where she became an efficient assistant in the composing room in the capacity of linotype operator and proof reader. In her work, accuracy was her ruling trait. She was a close student of detail, had a quick receptive mind, and went about her duties in a cheerful manner that made her constantly popular with her associates.

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In church circles she was especially active. She was a member of the Presbyterian church here, in which congregation she was always actively identified with the primary and the young people's departments. She taught a primary class, held various offices in the Young People's society, and sang in the choir, lending her aid to all branches of the church work. It seemed particularly fitting that she should become the wife of a minister as her interests ran very largely along religious lines. She was united in marriage August 15, 1917, to Rev. Frank T. Meacham, of Grinnell, Iowa, the wedding being held in the Presbyterian church. They left immediately for Lawton, Oklahoma, where Mr. Meacham was pastor of the Congregational church and superintendent of the community service work at P. S. S. At Lawton, Mrs. Meacham entered into the work that her husband had undertaken and her training and education enabled her to accomplish splendid results as his assistant.

Sister In Persia.

Besides the husband, Mrs. Meacham is survived by her parents, one brother and one sister. The sister, Miss Margaret Cowden, is a Presbyterian missionary stationed at Hamadan, Persia. The brother, Bruce C. Cowden, is city editor of the Journal.

Her home life was a happy one and her attitude toward the members of her family was one of absolute unselfishness. The only regret that she expressed during her last illness was that she might not be a bother to them about her.

Her going leaves a trail of sadness. Her life was one of unclouded and service and the friends she leaves are numberless.