

Barry Resident, 70, Ends Life with Gun

Body of R. M. Hawkins Found By Daughter, Son-in-Law.

HASTINGS — Rollo M. Hawkins, 70, of Route 5, Hastings, shot himself to death with a 12-gauge shotgun about 9 a. m. Saturday at his home in Rutland township, near here. According to the coroner, Dr. Daniel Clarke, the shot entered below his left ribs.

Mr. Hawkins was found about 10 a. m., slumped on the rear outside steps leading to the kitchen of his farm home. His daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Schultz, found him when they returned about 10 a. m. to their home from a shopping trip to Hastings. The couple live about 1,100 yards from Mr. Hawkins' home.

Coroner Clarke stated that Mr. Hawkins touched off the right barrel of the shotgun when he pulled the trigger. He had obtained the gun from the Schultz home while his daughter and son-in-law were away in Hastings Saturday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Schultz stated that Mr. Hawkins also obtained a number of shotgun shells from a high wall shelf in their home. It was necessary for him to stand on a chair to reach the shells, they stated, expressing surprise that he was able to do so, since he had been crippled in the left leg recently by attacks of rheumatism.

Mr. Hawkins had been in ill health and despondent since the death of his wife, the former Barbara Scott, last November 19. They were married in September, 1901, and moved to Calhoun county onto a farm near Climax. Later they returned to Barry county, moving onto the Rutland township farm 37 years ago.

Mr. Hawkins was born Aug. 21, 1880, in Hastings township, the son of Fernando and Ruth (Bradford) Hawkins. For many years he was employed in the finishing department of the Grand Rapids Bookcase and Chair Co.

Besides Mrs. Schultz, Mr. Hawkins is survived by one brother, Curtis Hawkins of Hastings, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be at 2 p. m. Monday at the Leonard funeral home, the Rev. Leason Sharpe, pastor of the First Presbyterian church officiating. Burial will be in the Rutland township cemetery.



MRS. ORA HOKANSON

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166 Descendants Mourn Woman, 96

Mrs. Ora Fena Hokanson Resident of Eaton

(Special to The State Journal)

CHARLOTTE, April 23—Mrs. Ora Fena Hokanson, 96, believed to be the oldest resident of Eaton county, died Sunday at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Floyd Boyd, in Kalamo township.

Her survivors include 11 children, 38 grandchildren, 95 great-grandchildren and 22 great-great-grandchildren.

She was born Oct. 21, 1854, in Mecklenburg, Germany, the daughter of Carl and Fredericka Brookman Bartels. She came to the United States when she was three months old, and in June, 1872, she was married to John Hokanson, who died in 1905.

Surviving are five sons, William and Charley of Jackson, Ira and Oscar of Lansing, and Frank of Vermontville; six daughters, Mrs. Phillip Bigley, Mrs. Stephen Howard, Mrs. Mary Rugh, Mrs. Oliver Zeis and Mrs. Ralph Zeis, all of Charlotte, and Mrs. Boyd; 38 grandchildren, 95 great-grandchildren and 22 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 2 p. m. from the Pray funeral home, with Rev. Dow Nagle of Vermontville officiating. Burial will be in Millersburg cemetery in Carmel township.

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