

# GRIM HAND OF DEATH CLUTCHES OUR COMMUNITY

## ROY RUCK

Roy Ruck is dead! The news shocked Gunnison Thursday morning. We could hardly believe that this young lad of twenty, the picture of bounding health and activity, a favorite wherever he was known could have succumbed to the grim destroyer so suddenly.

Roy had been sick but a few days, and the influenza seemed to attack chiefly his heart which has been weak since babyhood. Wednesday, the doctor gave the family no hope and Roy died at 8:10 that evening.

The funeral services are this afternoon at 2:30 from the family home. Rev. Ferris will preach, and the body will be interred in Masons' and Odd Fellows' cemetery, by the side of a sister who died in infancy.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ruck is thus made desolate by the passing of their second son who was born on the 13th of December in 1897. Roy was brought up here, attended our schools, and early took up active work in the telephone office. Last summer, when not twenty years of age he was sent to Palisades as manager of the telephone office at that point. Last October, he resigned his place to answer his country's call to arms, and came up for a brief visit with home folks, barely reaching here before the armistice was signed. He then took a position in the car shops as clerk to the car foreman of the Rio Grande, and was making good splendidly in this place.

His brother George is in France, and two younger brothers, Lloyd and William are at home with the parents. We all extend to them our sincere sympathy in the loss of this brave boy.

## CHARLES APRIL JR.

Saturday night at 10:30 occurred the death of Charles April Jr. from pneumonia, following the influenza. Charles had been seriously ill for some days as the disease was complicated with weak heart action.

The funeral services took place last Tuesday morning, from the Catholic church, Fr. Wm. Hillbig officiating.

Charles April was born February 1, 1880, at Augusta, Ky. When four years old he came with his parents to Gunnison the family settling on a ranch just west of our city. Here he attended the public schools and grew up among us. Fifteen years ago his mother died, and since that time he has been an inmate of the Brunken home.

He is survived by his father, Charles April Sr., who lives in Gunnison, a brother Jake at Seattle and a sister, Mrs. Mary Allison also of that city, also a sister, Mrs. Christina Whipple of Sacramento, Calif. Having lived here since boyhood there are a great many friends who will join with the relatives in sorrow at his early death when only 38 years of age.

## RAMONA OUTCALT

Ramona Outcalt, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Outcalt, died last Monday night at 11:30 of influenza. This splendid young lady, so strong, hardy and well-poised, was a victim none dreamed that the grim reaper would garner now. She had been suffering with a light cold for a week, never thinking it could be the flu. Almost over it, by using different home remedies, some emergency arose which necessitated a little exposure and before the doctor could be summoned she was attacked by double pneumonia and nothing could save her.

Funeral services are expected tomorrow afternoon, but as we go to press the hour is not yet set. Services will be at the grave with Rev. Ferris in charge.

Ramona Outcalt was born in Gunnison at the ranch home of the Outcalt family on New Year's day, 1890. She grew up and was educated in the district school, later completing the high school course in Gunnison and later spending five years in finishing her education at the University of Denver. She then taught four years first at Castleton, then two terms near Denver, and last year was principal of schools at Dolores. Accustomed all her life to outdoor life and handling of stock and ranch work, she decided to remain at home this year and take the management of the large Outcalt ranches in part from the shoulder of her father, whose age now prevented his former active direction of the ranch.

Ramona was a splendid woman, finely educated, of unusual talent as an executive, and with great possibilities opening before her. The shock is no less to the community than to the grief stricken parents and the three sisters, Fernzelle Dulce and Veverelle, left to mourn her untimely passing.

## ALBERT SMITH

Perhaps no young man of the Pitkin region was more widely known or more popular than Albert Smith who died there Monday morning at three o'clock. Pneumonia, resulting from influenza took his life in spite of all that loving hands could do. His sister, Mrs. Mattie Berryhill is a trained nurse and was caring for him until the last.

Albert died at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Smith of Pitkin. He was buried Wednesday, funeral services being conducted by the Presbyterian minister from Salida.

Besides his parents, Albert leaves a brother, Hugh Gordon Smith in the city and a brother, Claude, at Pitkin. He was a fine young man and only 25 years of age. All friends of the family extend their kindest sympathy.