

TWO MEN DROWNED IN SASKATOON LAKE

Whilst Out Duck Shooting Boat Capsized Causing Loss of Life

On Tue., October 29th, while out duck shooting, Wm. R. Thompson, of Bear Lake, and John Cochrane, of Beaver Lodge, lost their lives by having their boat capsized on Lake Saskatoon. They were accompanied by Fred Gault, of Lake Saskatoon, who witnessed the tragedy, but was powerless to assist. An old boat which had been used on the lake for some time was entered by the three men, and owing to the fact that they were too heavy to go out together in it, Mr. Gault was put back on shore. The other two men rowed out and broke their way through a thin ice which had formed in places on the surface the night before. After getting several hundred feet from shore one of them fired at some ducks which were passing and they apparently started towards the direction of the flight. Mr. Gault was watching from the shore at the time they started, and started on up the lake, when he heard a splash and looking around saw the two men in the water. Dropping his gun he started towards them but was warned back by Mr. Thompson who told him to get a fire going, as soon as possible, so that they could dry their clothes. He hastened back up the bank and started a fire, when he saw that one of them had disappeared, and saw the other go back alongside the boat to which his companion had been clinging and make an attempt to recover him from the water. Knowing then that the situation was getting desperate Mr. Gault seized a couple of poles for support and rushed into the water in an effort to help them but had gone only a short distance when he missed both Mr. Thompson and Mr. Cochrane. He however pushed out as far as he could

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GRANDE PRAIRIE, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5th, 1918.

get against the broken ice in an effort to assist, but never saw either again. With the assistance of the two poles he then made his way to the shore as rapidly as possible, and hurried up to the farmhouse of a brother-in-law of Mr. Thompson, Mr. Grant, where he broke down exhausted from his efforts and the effects of the exposure in the icy water, but managed to tell them of the accident.

Mr. Thompson's body was recovered in a few hours but the other was not discovered until the following day.

Mr. Cochrane was 26 years of age and has been in this locality for three years, having homesteaded near Beaver Lodge. He was a single man and the whereabouts of his parents or relatives are unknown. He possessed an interest in the race horse, Alpha Dell, with Geo. Finch of Lake Saskatoon.

Mr. Thompson who was 37 years of age, has been located here for seven years with his parents and the rest of the family at Bear Lake. He is survived by his mother, two brothers and four sisters.

The remains were interred in Lake Saskatoon Cemetery on Sunday the 2nd instant. Funeral services were held in the church at that place.

The sympathy of the entire community is extended to this bereaved family in their loss.