

KRETZ, MARY LOUISE

June 8, 1932-July 4, 1945

A double tragedy occurred at the Wheatland reservoir eight miles south of Wheatland on July 4th when little Maggie Locke, aged 7, who was wading in the reservoir, stepped into deep water and went down. Mary Kretz, 13, saw her cousin go under and rushed to help her back to safety, but she, too, went into the deep water, and both girls were drowned before help could be summoned.

The body of Mary Kretz was recovered about thirty minutes after the accident occurred, and every effort was made to revive her; but it was later found that she probably died of a heart attack as she was attempting to rescue the other girl. The local fire department was summoned to the scene and used the resuscitator and applied artificial respiration but to no avail.

A large crew of rescue workers spent the entire afternoon and evening attempting to recover the body of Maggie Locke, but it was not found until 8:25 a.m. on Thursday morning.

The accident occurred about 1:30 Wednesday afternoon while the families were attended a church picnic on the banks of the reservoir.

Mary Kretz is the daughter of Mrs. Jessie Kretz, and Maggie Locke is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Locke.

Double funeral services will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Methodist church with Mrs. Lon Miller officiating, and the Rev. Chaffin and Mr. James Cameron assisting. The Schrader Funeral home will be in charge arrangements.