

May 29, 1942

Charles Talbert of Russiaville Killed When Team Stages Runaway

A runaway team caused the death Monday of Charles Talbert, 74, of Russiaville, in an accident that was being investigated by Dr. E. H. Showalter, Howard county coroner.

The elderly man had been spreading dirt around his residence on the south edge of Russiaville, had emptied a wagon of dirt and was driving the team hitched to the empty wagon when the animals became frightened and bolted.

The coroner was unable to ascertain what had scared the team, but the horses dashed the wagon against a tree in front of a residence on the eastern outskirts of the town.

Talbert was found lying dead on his back in the wagon bed. He had several bruises and lacerations on the left side of his face, but relatives said he may have died of heart failure. He had been suffering from heart disease for some time.

The accident occurred shortly before noon.

One of Talbert's sons, Elmer, was sitting in Dr. Showalter's

office when the call came in for the coroner to come to Russiaville. The son remarked that the dead man might be his father, since the latter had not been well.

Surviving are the widow, Melinda Talbert, and seven children. They are DeWitt, Elmer, Herbert, Arthur, and Russell Talbert, and Mrs. Mildred Lindley, all of near Russiaville, and Mrs. Florence Hankins, of Virginia. The funeral of Charles Talbert, who met death Monday as the result of a runaway accident, will be held at the Friends church here at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon. Burial will be in the New London cemetery.