

FRANK M. BELL TO BE BURIED TUESDAY

Body of Aviator to Reach City in the Morning; Funeral to Be in Afternoon at 3 O'clock.

The body of Frank Merrill Bell, who died in Meridian, Miss., Saturday, will be brought to El Paso Tuesday morning at 9:30 o'clock over the Texas & Pacific railway, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. E. M. Bell, and sister, Mrs. A. P. Coles. The body will be taken immediately to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Coles, 800 Magoffin avenue, where at 3 o'clock in the afternoon the funeral service will be held. The service will be conducted by the Christian Science church, and will be private, only the relatives and very close friends attending. The pall bearers will be Dr. James Vance, Z. T. White, Otis Coles, John Murphy, Robert McAfee and Charles Loomis. The burial will be in Evergreen cemetery.

Mr. Bell came to El Paso in 1890 and was among the first electrical engineers here. He helped to establish the electric plant under Pete Wehner. Later, when this was consolidated with the electric plant owned by Z. T. White, Mr. Bell was connected with Mr. White, and did much of the first electrical wiring in the city. About three years ago he became interested in aviation and studied under Tony Janus in the aviation school at St. Louis. Previous to his death, he had been making a tour through Tennessee, Kentucky and Mississippi, demonstrating the use of aeroplanes in time of war and giving lectures on the subject in connection with his demonstrations.

The accident which was responsible for Mr. Bell's death, occurred at Meridian, Miss., where he was giving a demonstration in bomb throwing. He was about 2500 feet in the air, dropping bombs, and in coming down about 1500 feet the controller of his steering gear got jammed, making the machine drop to the ground. Bell's knees were jammed against the mechanism of the aeroplane, and the knee caps broken and other injuries sustained. Mr. Bell died Saturday, at 8:45 a. m., as a result of blood poisoning, following an operation.

Mr. Bell was a successful inventor. One of his patents was the placing of the engine in front of the aviator, instead of behind it. He had taken out a number of patents on aeroplanes that are said by experts to be very valuable. He was the inventor of the automatic stop on elevators to keep them from dropping, which is very largely used now. He also patented a dredge which is being largely used. He brought the first automobile to El Paso in 1901.

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(Although Mr. Bell was first to own and operate a personal auto (1902), the first car on the streets of El Paso was an Elgin, brought here in 1900 by one Frank Hagen, who brought it here for the purpose of selling it. Hagen and a partner owned a bicycle shop.)