

BEN L. FARRAR'S FUNERAL HELD

Philanthropist is Found Drowned in Mine Shaft Near Sierra Blanca

Funeral services were held at 10 a. m. today from Kaster & Maxon Chapel for Ben L. Farrar of 1127 Montana street who was found drowned Saturday morning in a mine shaft southeast of Sierra Blanca. He was 70.

Rev. Paul N. Poling officiated. Burial was in Evergreen cemetery.

Mr. Farrar was one of El Paso's best known citizens for many years. He was vice president of the old Border National Bank and was one of the institution's largest stockholders. Mr. Farrar was well known for philanthropic work. He contributed generously toward building the Y. W. C. A., Country Club and Tolttee Club. He gave large sums to charitable institutions.

Recently Mr. Farrar has been prospecting near Sierra Blanca and Van Horn.

Fell from Ladder

It is believed Mr. Farrar fell from a ladder in the mine shaft he was inspecting late Wednesday or early Thursday and was knocked unconscious in the fall. His body was found in about 20 feet of water in the shaft.

Coroner A. E. Polk at Sierra Blanca held that Farrar drowned.

Mr. Farrar and a friend, A. P. Williams, had been prospecting near Sierra Blanca. Mr. Farrar told Mr. Williams Wednesday morning that he was going to make some last minute inspections in the Black Shaft mining district. He gave Mr. Williams his bedroll and told him to bring it to El Paso, and that he would meet Mr. Williams here Thursday.

Mr. Williams returned here as agreed, but Mr. Farrar did not arrive Thursday. Mr. Williams and members of Farrar's family became alarmed Friday and went to Sierra Blanca to start a search. Laborers, who live near the mine shaft, told searchers they last saw Mr. Farrar between 5:30 and 6 p. m. Wednesday.

Came From Maine

Mr. Farrar moved to El Paso 20 years ago from Maine. For a time he was interested in the Cuisi Mine in Mexico, one of the richest silver mines in that country. He invested heavily in real estate and the Border National Bank here. He was a member of the American Institute and Metallurgical Engineers for many years.

Mr. Farrar was a trustee of the First Presbyterian Church and a member of the Shrine.

Survivors include his widow of 1127 Montana street, two stepsons, W. B. and Lewis Thompson; a sister, Mrs. Frank Folson of Bangor, Me., and his brother-in-law, J. W. Kirkpatrick, of El Paso.