

R. C. LOOMIS DIES SUDDENLY

Passes Away in Short Time
After a Fight With
C. M. Barber.

BARBER IS IN JAIL

Is Held to Answer to Charge
of Murder; Regrets
the Death.

From injuries presumably sustained while in a fight with Charles M. Barber late Monday afternoon, Rockwell C. Loomis, a well known El Paso real estate dealer, died last night at his mother's home, on the corner of El Paso and Boulevard, about 11 o'clock, and a few hours later Barber was arrested by the police on the charge of murder.

Barber was taken in custody this morning about 1:30 o'clock in his room at the Lake house, on North Stanton street, and shortly before 8 o'clock was transferred from the city to the county jail, after complaint had been made in justice C. W. Marshall's court. The prisoner was arraigned for a preliminary hearing this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Rockwell C. Loomis and his brother, Ralph, according to reports received at the office of Loomis Bros. this morning hailed Barber as he was passing the place in his automobile, relative to a difference over an automobile bill, about 3 o'clock Monday afternoon.

Bystanders, who claim to have seen the affair, say that as Barber got out of his machine, he fell, but got up and that it did not take long for a fight to start between the three of them. Both Barber and Rockwell Loomis fell several times to the sidewalk, while Ralph sustained an injury to his leg against an iron post in front of J. B. Watson's store.

Blows were struck at first, Barber to-

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day having a black and blue spot over the left eye, but finally the fight, according to spectators, developed into a rough and tumble, with first one man up and then the other.

A crowd gathered and friends of the combatants finally separated them. Rockwell Loomis is said to have stated later in his office that he could have kicked Barber in the head several times while he was down if he had wanted to, but that he refrained. He remained in the office two hours after the occurrence without feeling any ill effects.

Doctor Is Called.

He then went to his home and spent the early evening hours sitting on the front porch talking. About 8 o'clock he felt ill and Dr. R. L. Ramey was summoned to the home. There was no skin abrasion and no apparent fracture of the skull. The physician administered a heart stimulant to Loomis and left the house. He was called again about two hours later, but before he arrived at the house Loomis had expired.

Dr. Ramey stated this morning that while it had not been definitely determined what caused the death, he was of the opinion that there was no question but that it was caused by a fracture and hemorrhage at the base of the brain. He said that when he first attended the deceased a heart stimulant was administered.

Mrs. R. C. Loomis, who was formerly Miss Marie Longuemere, has been in poor health for some time past and the shock of her husband's death has left her very nervous. She was attended by a physician this morning.

Rockwell C. Loomis, familiarly known as "Roxie," was born at San Luis Obispo, Cal., in 1876, and would have been 33 years of age at his next birthday. With his parents he came to El Paso when he was 7 years old, and this city has since been his home. He was united in marriage in the summer of 1907 to Miss Marie Longuemere, the young widow who survives him. He is also survived by his mother, Mrs. A. Loomis; two sisters, Mrs. W. B. Latta, residing in this city, and Mrs. M. H. Webb, residing below Clint; two brothers, A. M. Loomis, residing near Clint, and Ralph W. Loomis, his partner in the real estate business in this city. He was a member of the Elks.

The funeral will take place Wednesday but the hour has not been set.

Barber Is Reticent.

C. M. Barber, who is charged with murder, declined to make a statement today when seen at the county jail further than to say: "I regret as much as the family the death of Mr. Loomis." He was seen at the city jail at 3 o'clock this morning by T. C. Lea, of the firm of Jackson, Lea & Ware, which now represents him. Counsel for the prisoner also stated today that they had no statement to make pending the preliminary hearing.

FUNERAL HOUR OF LOOMIS IS SET

Barber Released on \$500 Bond at Preliminary Hearing.

The funeral of R. C. Loomis will be held at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning at the family residence, 718 North El Paso street, with interment in Evergreen. The Elks will have charge of the funeral. McBean, Simmons & Carr will have charge of the arrangements. The pallbearers will be N. G. Buchoz, Charles Davis, C. M. Newman, George W. Huffman, F. B. King and W. G. Dunn.

Deceased, by reason of his long residence in El Paso, was a member of the Pioneers' society, and the Pioneers will attend the funeral.

Bond Fixed at \$500.

After a brief preliminary examination this afternoon, in which four witnesses testified as to the fight between C. M. Barber and R. C. Loomis, justice C. W. Marshal held the defendant to await the action of the grand jury. Bond was fixed at \$500 and was immediately furnished with Robert Rinehart as one of the sureties. Attorney T. C. Lea for the defendant said James L. Marr would be the other bondsman.

After the court heard the testimony of James Munsey, D. L. Kelly, R. G. Tupper and J. E. Rhein, the state asked the defendant if he wanted to make a statement. He started to remark that he had just one statement, but was interrupted by counsel.

Testimony showed that while R. C. Loomis was at the side of the automobile Ralph Loomis climbed in behind and hit Barber. Witnesses said blows were struck, and one stated that Barber grabbed R. C. Loomis around the legs and let him down on the pavement.

Deputy constable James White this afternoon said that following the fight he arrested all three participants, taking a \$25 bond from each.