

# C. W. WOMBLE, EL PASOAN, KILLED AT NASHVILLE, TENN., AS PLANE DRIVEN BY SCHOOL FRIEND, FALLS



C. W. WOMBLE

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Nov. 3.—C. W. Womble, of El Paso, Texas, a Vanderbilt university student and veteran of the World war was killed when a Curtiss airplane in which he and Ted Clark, of Livingston, Tenn., were riding crashed to the ground, 14 miles from Nashville, Thursday afternoon.

### Companion Seriously Hurt.

Womble and his companion, the latter seriously injured, were pinned under the wreckage, the El Pasoan dying while his rescuers were carrying him to a Nashville hospital. The body is being held here prior to the arrival of the mother of the aviator.

Clark, a civilian flying student, was piloting the machine under the direction of Mr. Womble. He and Womble took off at 3:30 o'clock, Womble being the instructor and accompanying Clark to give him a lesson in plane control.

Officials at Blackwood field, where the 136th air squadron, national guard, was stationed, had condemned the plane as unfit for service.

That C. W. Womble, of El Paso, who was killed in an airplane crash near Nashville, Tenn., late Thursday was not acting as instructor but merely flying with his friend, Ted Clark, is the belief of Dr. Carl Lee Smith, 506 East Rio Grande street.

Mr. Womble was the son of Mrs. Carl Lee Smith by a former marriage. She is now on her way to Nashville where the funeral service will be held, her father and mother having been buried there.

"Mrs. Smith discouraged his flying after he got out of the army and I do not believe he was engaged in flying instruction as the reports indicate," said Dr. Smith.

Mr. Womble attended a private school, high school and the Texas School of Mines here. He left college and entered the army in April, 1917, enlisting as a sergeant. He was commissioned a first lieutenant, served as acrobatic flying instructor at Kelly field and was commanding officer of the 103rd aero squadron at Fort Sill, Okla.

In August, 1918, he went overseas with the 96th aero squadron and was awarded a Certificate of Merit in the Metz offensive. He was overseas six months, returning to the United States and receiving his discharge March 12, 1919. Lt. Womble remained an officer of the reserve corps.

He again enrolled in the Texas School of Mines. In the spring of 1920 he went to San Luis Potosi, Mexico, where he was assistant superintendent of the Cuahuila Mining company mines for a year.

Returning to El Paso he was employed by the city engineering department on the El Paso-Newman road.

Mr. Womble was president of the Calumus club from January, 1922, until he left for the University of Texas in May to attend the summer term. September 1 he left for Vanderbilt university to continue his course in engineering. Mr. Womble was born in Houston.

Lt. Womble had a claim against the government of from \$400 to \$500 for extra pay for flying service. It is under advisement in Washington and, if ruled upon in his favor, the money will be given to his mother, according to Col. N. Lapowski, chairman of the grievance committee of the local American Legion post, which was handling the claim.

## Death Of C. W. Womble Received With Sorrow By Friends In El Paso

NEWS of the death of Claudius W. Womble, son of Dr. and Mrs. Carl Carl Lee Smith, of this city, who was killed in an airplane crash near Nashville, Tenn., Thursday, caused much sorrow among his friends in El Paso.

Claudius Womble was widely known and beloved by many of the local athletes. He was a member of the Texas School of Mines football team for three years and always active in every form of athletics at that institution. During the gridiron season of 1921 Womble played with the victorious Calumus club eleven. He participated in basketball for several seasons and was a lover of aquatic sports.

His friends in the city remember him as a lovable character, jolly, friendly, and always willing and eager to assist in the promotion of helpful athletics.