

A. A. ADAM FOUND DEAD IN BATHROOM

Firemen called from this city to extinguish a slight blaze at Adam's tavern at 122 West Town street, Norwich Town, Sunday night at 7.45 o'clock, found the dead body of the owner and proprietor, Alfred A. Adam, on the floor of the small bathroom in the building.

Coroner Franklin H. Brown and Medical Examiner C. C. Gildersleeve, who made an investigation Sunday night, indicated two possible causes for Mr. Adam's death—apoplexy or asphyxiation by gas due to an explosion or an accident to a small gas heater that was in the bathroom.

The fire that led to the discovery of Mr. Adam's body was seen from the home of Henry J. Kilroy, a neighbor, who telephoned in to the Central fire station. Chief Howard L. Stanton caught the message just as he arrived at his home on Linden parkway and at once ordered the chemical from the station, preceding them to Norwich Town in his car. Mr. Kilroy and other neighbors got into the tavern through the wine cellar before the firemen got there, but were not able to do anything, as there was no water in the building, having been turned off at the street. They turned on the electric light, but saw nothing of Mr. Adam.

Chief Stanton and the crew of the chemical company found the fire blazing in the partition of a room at the rear of the building, where Mr. Adam had a collection of curios, and they quickly had it out by the use of chemical. Chopping a hole through the wall, they came into the bathroom at the extreme rear of the building and Fireman Joseph Tracy stumbled over the body of Mr. Adam in the dark. Turning on the electric light, he and Adam Ensling carried the body outside and tried artificial respiration but without result.

Drs. LaPierre, W. K. Tingley, Louis T. Cassidy, W. T. Driscoll and Hugh B. Campbell assisted in the effort to resuscitate Mr. Adam.

When found the body lay on the floor near the door, about five feet distant from the gas heater. The coroner and medical examiner concluded Mr. Adam may have been dead two or three hours when found. He was dressed in

his underclothes and a safety razor lay on the sink in the room, leading to the conclusion that he had bathed and shaved earlier in the evening. There were burns on the face hands and chest and a slight cut on the face which might have resulted from a fall. There had been a slight hemorrhage from the nose, which might indicate apoplexy, the doctors said.

The gas heater had been attached to a cock in the wall by a rubber tube, but this had disappeared or been burned off and the gas was discharging at full head into the room. The fire had evidently started in the floor around the gas heater and had been burning so long that it had burned a large hole in the floor, spreading from there into the studding and coming out into the next room.

Chief Stanton left the place in charge of Constable Durr of Norwich Town when he came away, and the coroner gave Undertakers Henry Allen & Son permission to remove the body.

Mr. Adam, who was between 60 and 65 years old, had been the proprietor of Adam's tavern for something over 35 years and was widely and favorably known all over this part of the state. For many years he had had a standing offer of a bottle of wine to the first person each winter who drove to his place in a sleigh, and early snowstorms were always eagerly watched for by horsemen, that they might claim the prize. He was warm hearted and generous in his friendships and was well thought of in the community. He was the owner of Eden lodge, a summer place at Gardner Lake.

Early in November last year Mr. Adam closed the tavern at Norwich Town and it had remained closed ever since. He was married on Nov. 6, 1918, at Providence to Mrs. Flora L. Berry of Seekonk, Mass., and had lived at Berry farm, Seekonk, since then until a short time ago, when he returned here. He had been at his Gardner Lake place recently, but left there about a week ago, saying he was going to Providence.

Mrs. Adam was reached Sunday night with word of her husband's death and is to come here to make the funeral arrangements.