WOMAN DIES AWFUL DEATH

Clothing Ignites While Lighting Fire With Kerosene.

LINGERED FIVE HOURS

Husband Badly Burned While Assisting His Wife.

Mrs. John Dixon, a Russian woman living near the Edison school house, died last night at 10 o'clock at St. Mary's hospital as a result of burns sustained about 4 o'clock in the afternoon while lighting the fire by means of coal oil. Her husband lies at the hospital writhing in agony from burns trying to put out the fire which burned his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Dixon lived in a neat little home in the new addition to Pueblo between the Ellers smelter and the Edison school. They were industrious young Russians, and Mr. Dixon works at the Philadelphia smelter. Yesterday afteroon about 4 o'clock Mrs. Dixon went into the house to prepare the evening meal for herself and husband. He went to the near-by store to purchase a few delicacies for the meal. The fire in the kitchen stove was very low and Mrs. Dixon put in kindling and coal. Then she took the kerosene can and poured the liquid on the fuel. There were a few dying embers in the stove, and in an instant the oil caught fire and the flames enveloped Mrs. Dixon, burning her face, hands and chest frightfully. Her clothing was ablaze when her husband came home from the store, and rushing in he saw his wife a mass of flames, which were fast burning away her clothing. On the impulse of the moment he rushed to her assistance and tried to put the flames out with his hands and what crude material was at hand. His hands and flesh were badly burned in the attempt. The flames then enveloped them both, and they began to cry for help. Neighbors hearing the screams rushed in and found the couple like two masses of flames, rushing wildly about and waving their hands, while the flames seemed to gain headway and threatened to destroy the home as well as the inmates. The flames were quickly extinguished by the neighbors.

Mrs. Dixon was frightfully burned. Her flesh in many places was almost crisp and even the bones were charred slightly. She suffered terribly and moaned and cried for relief. The husband is not as badly burned and his injuries will not prove fatal. His hands and face are badly burned. The unfortunate young couple were removed to St. Mary's hospital and everything that medical skill could do was done for the poor creatures, but the woman was so badly burned that she died later in the evening.

From the moment they arrived in the hospital the physicians said there was no hope for the woman's recovery. All they could possibly do for her was to administer opiates to ease the pain. Both the husband and the wife suffered fearfully till the effects of the opiates were felt.

The dead woman has a sister named Mrs. Julia Dixon living on south Santa Fe avenue. Coroner Fugard inspected the remains but he has not yet decided whether he will hold an inquest. Father Cyril of St. Mary's church was summoned in time to administer the sacrament to the dying woman.