

**Amarillo Daily News (Amarillo, Texas) - Thurs, Dec 14, 1950 - Page ?**

## **Workman Killed By High Voltage**

BORGER Dec. 14, (Special) — One man was killed and another was painfully injured in an industrial accident at the Phillips Petroleum Company's Rice plant at Phillips about 1 o'clock this afternoon. Dead is James Travis Matthews, about 34 years old; Hereford.

Injured is L.C. McCaskey, 300 West Fifth, Borger, who is in North Plains Hospital suffering from burns on his hands and knees. The two men are employees of the C. F. Braun Construction Company which holds a contract for a construction project at the Philips installation.

Matthews, a rigger, was electrocuted when a pipe he was moving came in contact with a 13,000-volt highline on the petroleum company property. McCaskey told newsmen here a steam-line he and Matthews were moving from an underground position hit the highline and fell on Matthews. The Borger man said he went to Matthews and attempted to remove the pipe. When he touched the metal he too was hit by the current but he escaped with burns. He was knocked unconscious by the high voltage. His condition was described as "not too serious."

Funeral arrangements for Matthews, a resident of Herford several years, remained incomplete tonight at Gilliland Funeral Home.

Survivors include his wife, the former Juanita Knight of Gruver; a son, Jerry, 5 years old; two daughters, Anita 8, and Theresa Faye, three weeks old; a sister, Mrs. J. B. Harlin of Stephenville; and his maternal grandmother, Mrs. W. R. Matthews of Abilene.

**Amarillo Daily News (Amarillo, Texas) - Sat, Dec 16, 1950 - Page ?**

HEREFORD, Dec. 15 (Special) - Funeral services for James Travis Matthews, 32 years old, will be conducted at 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon in First Baptist Church with Rev. H.H. Cagle, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in West Park Cemetery under direction of Gilliland Funeral Home.

Matthews was electrocuted yesterday afternoon in an accident at the Phillips Petroleum Company Rice Plant at Phillips. He and another workman were removing a pipe from a ditch when the pipe came in contact with a highline.

L.C. McCaskey of Borger attempted to rescue Matthews but he was knocked unconscious and suffered burns about the hands and knees. His condition was reported favorable today. Both men were employees of the C.F. Braun Construction Company. Matthews was a rigger.

He was born in Eastland and moved to Hereford in 1925. He was reared by his grandmother, Mrs. W.R. Matthews. Survivors are his wife, the former Juanita Knight of Gruver; three children, Anita, Theresa Faye and Jerry; a sister, Mrs. J.B. Harlin, Stephenville; and his grandmother, Mrs. W.R. Matthews, Abilene.

Pallbearers will be Ray Newman, Carl Kropff, Wayne Evans, John Kuykendall, Horace Johnson and Troy Carmichael.