

## DOUBLE FUNERAL TODAY FOR TRAGEDY VICTIMS

Funeral services for Eddie Kaltenheuser, 36, and his wife, Leda Sesker-Kaltenheuser, 27, victims of Sunday morning's double tragedy in Indian Creek township, were held at the Presbyterian church in Maxwell, at 2 o'clock today and burial was in the Cambridge cemetery.

Mrs. Kaltenheuser died in Iowa sanitarium at Nevada early Monday morning from the effects of blows over the head administered by her husband, Eddie, on the driveway in front of their farm home, before he slashed his own throat.

The couple was about to enter their automobile for a trip to Des Moines when the mind of the man evidently broke and grabbing a hammer from the car he made his murderous attack upon her.

Kaltenheuser, Eddie & Leda (Sesker)

d. 3-11-1937

OKLIN'S  
GAZETTE  
1937

### Hard Worker

The Maxwell community was stunned by the murderous ending of what for five years had been regarded as a happy marriage. Kaltenheuser was known as a hard worker. His wife was a pretty brunet, and the couple always seemed contented. They seldom missed the country dances.

Friends admitted Sunday night, however, that there were two dark clouds over the Kaltenheuser household:

Kaltenheuser feared he was losing his eyesight. Evidently he was starting for a Des Moines hospital Sunday morning when he went amuck.

The couple was childless.

Story county officers under Sheriff C. V. McGriff scrutinized evidence in the blood-stained Kaltenheuser home and pieced together a version of what happened.

The couple had finished breakfast. Two dirty cups and a plate lay on the kitchen table.

### Ready to Leave

The Kaltenheusers were ready to leave home, for their new car had been backed out of the garage.

There had been a scuffle, because Mrs. Kaltenheuser's torn coat sleeve was found on the ground 25 yards from where she was found.

### Handle Broken

Kaltenheuser swung the hammer down on his wife's head with terrific force. The handle was broken.

The farmer was standing over his wife and staring at her when the Viers drove up. He saw them and ran to the car.

Viers had stopped to inquire about some lost hogs.

### Woman Screams

Kaltenheuser climbed into the car before Viers could drive away. Mrs. Viers screamed and got out.

"I killed my wife, but you ain't going to leave and tell anybody," Kaltenheuser announced.

He was too late because Mrs. Viers already was running down the road to the Joe Bailey farmhouse.

# Terrible Tragedy Enacted on Farm Near Maxwell

## Young Farmer Kills Wife With Hammer Blows

Eddie Kaltenheuser, 36, prosperous Maxwell, farmer, hammered his attractive wife, Leda, 27, to the verge of death Sunday morning and then killed himself with a safety razor.

The tragedy occurred about 9 a.m. at the tidy Kaltenheuser cottage situated on 200 acres of fine land the couple rented.

### Two Witness Tragedy

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Viers, neighbors, drove up in time to see Kaltenheuser in his frenzy, and his wife lying wounded on the driveway. They fled on foot. Then Kaltenheuser took his own life.

Mrs. Kaltenheuser was unconscious in Nevada sanitarium Sunday night. Doctors don't think she will recover. Her skull was shattered by at least four blows.

KALTENHEUSER, Eddie

d. 11 Mar. 1937

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