

# Woman Who Saw Pacolet Flood Dies

Mrs. Mary Ernest Massey, 92, of 486 Gentry Street, who watched four of her children drown in the June 6, 1903, flood which swept through cotton mills and homes along Pacolet River, died at a Spartanburg hospital Thursday.

Mrs. Massey died at 7 a.m. from injuries sustained in a fall at her home Wednesday.

Members of the family said she fell beside her bed after walking from the living room to her bedroom. She complained of dizziness and attending physicians said she suffered a stroke or heart attack.

Mrs. Massey broke her hip in the fall. She had recovered from a broken hip about four years ago.

Mrs. Massey frequently talked about the 1903 flood which claimed the lives of four of her children when Clifton Mills and the mill village was heavily damaged.

She often recalled that water forced her and the children to the second floor of the house. Then when it became apparent the house was going down before the swirling, muddy waters, Mrs. Massey climbed out a window into a tree top, holding two small children.

The tree toppled and the two children were swept away. Two other children also drowned.

Mrs. Massey was born and reared in Burke County, N. C., and was a daughter of the late Hampton and Limie Grastie Ernest. She was a former resident of Duncan but for the past three years had made her home with her daughter, Mrs. R. A. Arrowood of Spartanburg. She was a member of the First Baptist Church at Duncan and the TEL Class.

Surviving in addition to Mrs. Arrowood are: 10 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and five great-great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted at 4 p.m. today at the First Baptist Church in Duncan by Dr. D. Phillip Martin and the Rev. Dewey Welchel. Burial will be in Wood Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be: Bobby and Jimmy Allen, Ed Eustin, Walter Minton, Ralph Woodward and Billy Alexander. Members of the TEL Class of the church will be honorary pallbearers.

The body is at the Wood Mortuary in Greer and will be taken to the church Friday at 3 p.m. The family is at the home of the daughter, Mrs. R. A. Arrowood of 486 Gentry Street in Beaumont Mill community in Spartanburg.

## **Mrs. Mary Massey**

Funeral services for Mrs. Mary Ernest Massey, 92, of 486 Gentry Street were conducted today at 4 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Duncan by Dr. D. Philip Martin and the Rev. Dewey Welchel. Burial was in Wood Memorial Park.

Mrs. Massey died Thursday at 7 a.m. after sustaining injuries in a fall at her home Wednesday.

Pallbearers were: Bobby and Jimmy Allen, Ed Austin, Walter Minton, Ralph Woodward and Billy Alexander. Members of the TEL Class at the church formed the honorary escort.

Wood Mortuary of Greer was in charge.