CAR GOES OFF
BROKEN DIKE;
2 DROWNED

Mrs. Harry Dimmick, Small
Son Succumb At Break
Near Burlington

ROAD NOT BARRICADED

Husband, Exhausted As Efforts
Under Water Fail, Narrowly Escapes

Tragedy brought indirectly by
the high waters of the Skagit
River took the lives of a young
mother and her three-year-old
son early Tuesday night when the
automobile in which they were
riding slowly vaulted over the
edge of the broken dike-road be-
tween Burlington and Sedro-Wool-
ley and buried itself in about
eighteen feet of water.

The victims were Mrs. Harry
Dimmick and her son Perry. The
husband, who was driving the
car, managed to escape alive after
he had made fruitless attempts to
rescue the other members of the
family.

On the Dimmicks, of whom
was 21
years old, was the daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Shelley, well-
known Mount Vernon residents.
She and her husband had been
living on a farm two and one-
half miles southwest of Clear
Lake. The family was on its way
to visit at the Sherwood home in
Burlington at the time of the ac-
cident.

Unfamiliar with Washout

Dimmick stated that he was un-
familiar with the location of the
washout and that the high-
way was not blocked off. "I saw
no lights at all, as we approached
the washout;" he stated, "but I did
note a sawhorse which partially
obstructed the road. My wife
remarked, "There's been a little
washout.'"

A few moments later the black
gap appeared, Dimmick stated.
He saw it at a distance of about
10 feet and immediately set his
brakes, but it was too late.

Dimmick kicked open the door of
the submerged car and tried
to arouse his wife, but he could
not. He believed that she had been
knocked unconscious by the fall.
He then attempted to find the
baby who was riding in the back
seat of the coach model car. Un-
able to locate the child, he tried
to pull his wife through the small
hole but became exhausted and
had to come to the surface for
air. He immediately called for
help.

Resuscitation Fails

The car was brought to the sur-
faced by a wrecker approximately
45 minutes after the accident and
lung motors were put in action
immediately by the Mount Vernon
fire department, which had been
called to the scene. The bodies
had been in the water too long to
make resuscitation possible.

Lloyd Smalley, who works for
the Carnation Company, and Roy
Skogmo, who resides near the
dike break, were witnesses to the
accident.

Funeral services for Mrs. Dim-
mick and the baby will be held
from the Aaron Light funeral
chapel in Mount Vernon Friday
afternoon at two o'clock.