

## Charles M. Dawson

( - 30 Jul 1924)

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**Dawson.** Suddenly, July 30, 1924, Charles M., beloved husband of Cora M. Dawson, aged 26 years and devoted son of John W. and Hattie Dawson. Funeral from Chapel of T.A. Taltavull, 443 7th street southwest, Saturday, August 2 at 10 o'clock a.m. Interment at Congressional Cemetery.

**Dawson.** Washington, D.C. Lodge, No. 15, B.P.O. Elks. The lodge will convene in "session of sorrow" at 8 o'clock p.m., Friday, August 1, 1924, for the purpose of paying a tribute to the memory of our late brother, Charles M. Dawson, who passed to the Grand Lodge of the Hereafter, July 30, 1924. Funeral from chapel of P.A. Taltavull, 443 Seventh street southwest, at 1 o'clock p.m., August 2. Interment at Congressional cemetery. Elk services at grave.

Attest: W.S. Shelby, Secretary  
By Order of Jas. A. Balderson, Exalted Ruler

*The Evening Star, July 31, 1924, p. 7*

### **Wife Fails To Rescue Husband From River**

#### **Charles M. Dawson, 26, Drowns in Potomac While Learning to Swim**

Charles M. Dawson, 26 years old, of the Penhurst Apartment, 48 H street northeast was drowned in the Potomac River opposite the Three Sisters Islands yesterday afternoon, despite the heroic efforts of his young wife to rescue him. The body was recovered half an hour after it disappeared under the water.

Dawson, a moving picture operator at the Palace Theater, was camping with his wife on the Virginia side of the Potomac near the Three Sisters. After giving him a lesson in the art of swimming she circled out in the river a good distance from shore. As she returned Dawson is said to have leaped into the river to meet her, took two strokes and sank.

Mrs. Dawson said she dived under the water and grasped her husband's hair, but her strength failed and she released her hold. In her next attempt to save him, she said, her head struck a float and she was unable to dive again.

Coroner Nevitt is expected to issue a certificate of accidental death following completion of the customary police investigation.

*The Evening Star, July 31, 1924, p. 17*

### **Wife's Heroic Efforts Fail Drowning Man**

#### **Movie Operator Goes to Death When Woman's Strength Gives Out**

Charles M. Dawson, 26, a movie operator, apartment 34, 48 H street northeast, was drowned in the river near Three Sisters Islands yesterday afternoon in the presence of his wife, who, it is stated, was teaching him to swim.

Mrs. Dawson made a heroic effort to save her husband. She succeeded in getting him to the surface, but was forced to release her hold on his hair because of the weight of his body, and he sank to his death.

Word of the drowning was communicated to the police and the body was soon recovered. William T. Reynolds, boatman, applied a pulmotor, but failed to revive the drowned man. Dr. Edward Pickford, Emergency Hospital, responded, examined the body, and pronounced life extinct.

Coroner Nevitt viewed the body, learned of the circumstances attending the drowning, and gave a certificate of accidental death. The Dawsons were camping on the shore near the scene of the accident.

*The Washington Post, July 31, 1924, p. 1*

**Man Drowns, Though Wife Tries Hard to Save Him  
Mrs. Charles M. Dawson Teaching Husband to Swim  
Near Three Sisters When He Got Beyond Depth.  
Bodies of Two Others Recovered**

**Nearby waters yesterday claimed one man and gave up the bodies of two others.**

Charles M. Dawson, 26 years old, 48 H street northeast, a motion picture operator at the Palace theater, was drowned near the Three Sisters, despite heroic efforts of his young wife to save him. She was teaching him to swim. He became overconfident and got beyond his depth. Campers on shore saw Mrs. Dawson make frenzied efforts to save him. Once she dived and brought him up by the hair, but her strength failed and she released her grasp and he was drowned.

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*The Washington Post, August 1, 1924, p. 8*

**Elks, In Services Today, Will Honor Three Dead  
'Lodge of Sorrow' Is Planned for Members Who Died Here Wednesday  
Funeral Plans Given**

Members of Washington Lodge, No. 15, B.P.O.E., are to convene in "session of sorrow" at 8 o'clock tonight to pay tribute to the memory of three members who died in one day. The three, Charles M. Dawson, Frank E. Murray and Edward P. Schwartz, died Wednesday.

Mr. Dawson was the motion picture operator who was drowned near Three Sisters. Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at 1 o'clock in the chapel of P.A. Taltavull, 443 Seventh street southwest. Interment will be in Congressional cemetery, where Elk services will be conducted.

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