



MRS. WHITTAKER CHAMBERS
FREE ON BAIL—Mrs. Chambers leaves police station after accident.

MRS. CHAMBERS FACES CHARGE IN AUTO DEATH

Reported Driver Of Car That Fatally Injured Woman, 70

An automobile driven by Mrs. Whittaker Chambers, late yesterday afternoon struck and fatally injured a woman in the 4300 block Falls road, police reported.

Mrs. Chambers was on her way from her farm near Westminster to the Pennsylvania Station here to pick up her husband. He was returning after testifying before the Federal grand jury in New York which has been investigating reported Communist spy activities.

The dead woman was identified as Mrs. Maggie Thomas, 70, of the 4300 block Falls road. She died less than three hours after being admitted to Union Memorial Hospital.

Car Was Southbound

According to Patrolmen Leroy F. Davis and Arthur Plummer Mrs. Thomas was struck about 20 feet north of Roland Heights avenue. They said Mrs. Chambers was southbound. The accident occurred at about 5.30 P.M.

Mrs. Thomas was taken in an ambulance to the hospital, where she was treated for a fractured back, a fractured right leg, multiple rib fractures, shock, possible internal injuries and multiple lacerations and bruises. She died at 8.15 P.M.

Patrolmen Davis and Plummer charged Mrs. Chambers with reckless driving on the scene and permitted her to go to the station and then return to the Chambers farm in Carroll county.

Taken Into Custody

However, after Mrs. Thomas died, Northern district police notified State Police and requested them to take Mrs. Chambers into custody at the farm and bring her to Baltimore.

While the State police were enroute to Westminster, Richard F. Cleveland, Mr. Chambers's lawyer, arrived at the Northern Police Station and arranged for a bondswoman, Mrs. Carrie Hament, and Magistrate Reuben Caplan to be there to obtain Mrs. Chambers's prompt release.

Accompanied by State police and her husband, she arrived at Northern Police Station at 11 P.M. and conferred briefly with Mr. Cleveland.

Name Placed On Docket

Then, with Mr. Chambers beside her, her name was entered on the police docket by Sergt. Edward Hankie. The charge against her was assaulting, knocking down and thereby causing the death of Mrs. Thomas.

In a low, quiet voice, she gave her name, "Esther Chambers," age, "48" and address, "R.F.D. 2, Westminster."

Then Mrs. Chambers, her husband and Mr. Cleveland went into the courtroom, where Magistrate Caplan was waiting.

After Mrs. Chambers was released formally in \$1,000 bail, Mr. Chambers was told the preliminary hearing would be at 9 A.M. today.

The Traffic Court hearing on the reckless-driving charge is scheduled for 3 P.M. January 18.

The Chamberses were in the police station for approximately three minutes.