

Explosion in House Cellar Grating Blown Across Sheffield Street Windows Broken

An elderly Sheffield couple had a shock to-day when their home burst into flames following an explosion.

They are Mr. and Mrs. Walter Vaughan, of 107, John Street, Sheffield. They were having breakfast in the living room at the back of the house when the explosion occurred.

Interviewed by a "Star" reporter, today, Mrs. Vaughan said that whilst they were in the living room they heard one or two queer noises in the fireplace.

"Thinking it was only the coal, we were not alarmed," she said.

"Shortly afterwards there was a loud explosion followed by the wound of breaking glass. I thought the house was falling down,

On Fire

Within a few seconds of the explosion a neighbour ran to the back of the house where we were, and told us that the front rooms were on fire.

The Fire Brigade was summoned, and quickly extinguished the flames before much damage could be done.

At the front of the house one of the windows, and the cellar grating had been blow right across the street by the force of the explosion. Fortunately there was nobody injured.

Pavement Torn Up

A large portion of the pavement, near the front door, had been torn up and scattered about the road, and other windows la the house had been broken.

A grating at the hack of the house was also blown several yards across the yard.

Later this morning the cause of the explosion had not been discovered.

Mrs. Vaughan said that she had just had the front, room of her home decorated and new curtains and carpets put into it.

These had all been ruined by the fire, as well as a large amount of Christmas' food which was in that room.

The damage is covered by insurance.