

Pilot Fails To Hit Graveyard

Considering everything, Francis Womack chose a good place to have his airplane motor go bad late yesterday when he made a forced landing in his "Jenny." He brought the lifeless plane down in a little three-cornered pasture just west of Highland cemetery, a most convenient place had the big machine refused to glide at the requisite angle. A shorter glide from the position in the air above the airport where the motor died would have placed the plane among the tombstones making a crackup inevitable.

The forced landing was made necessary when Womack's OX-5 motor "swallowed" an intake valve. The valve was sucked into one of the cylinders, and when the piston descended the engine was demolished. The crankcase was broken in nearly a dozen places. It will cost Womack \$200 to repair the motor.

The plane was about 150 feet in the air, headed west from the airport downwind, when the accident occurred. The motor was torn out under with a violent shock, which shook the ship and produced deafening noise.

Turning was out of the question and the cemetery stones loomed as a trap should the plane fail to respond to the pilot's control. But the "Jenny," assisted by a slight wind out of the northeast, stretched out in great fashion and settled to earth in the

small plot just east of the Santa Fe tracks without incident.

The landing occurred at about 7:30 p.m. while it still was light.

Womack too the wings from the plane and stored them at the airport, bringing the fuselage and damaged motor to town. He said he would set about immediately repairing the motor.

Womack was flying alone at the time.