

Train wreck burned engineer, brakeman, killed horses

By Evelyn Ward
Sherman County Historical Society
May 9, 1905: WRECK AT EDSON — The worst wreck of the Rock Island on this division for years happened one mile east of Edson when three loaded freight cars, running at 30 miles an hour, collided with local freight No. 71, which also was making about 40 miles per hour.

today in history

The impact was terrific. Engineer Bush and Head Brakeman Chambers were seriously scalded by escaping steam. Fireman Pratt was burned slightly on the legs and bruised about the face, and 29 horses in the first of the three "wild" cars were instantly killed.

The slaughter of the horses presents a ghastly scene. The car in which they were imprisoned had to take the brunt of the collision on the part of the runaway cars. Not one es-

aped. Their bodies literally blocked the engine. Many of them lay crosswise on the track like so many ties.

One horse was partially buried in the debris in the left side of the cab of the overturned engine.

The car was smashed into kindling wood except the roof, which lay like a shelter over the engine. The second car of the ill-fated three, loaded with oranges, had the whole front end tore away, while the last, loaded with coal, was but little damaged.

The runaway cars got away from train No. 90 as it was being made up on track No. 1. The three cars were "spotted" on the east end of the yards. Another bunch of cars was "kicked" into them, which drove them through the switch out onto the main track, where the slight down hill grade carried them away without the notice of the train crew.

he heard the ominous crash. The cars in their mad career had disrupted the way with train No. 71, and the conflict was a draw with only wreckage and disaster as a result.

Train No. 71, of 10 cars, and engine 1603 were thrown in a zigzag manner and badly broken, except several box cars and the two passenger coaches which did not leave the rails. The 1603 lay on its side, half buried in the earth, its outside equipment gone, and its heavy oak timbers and many parts of its massive iron forced from their places and broken.

A relief train was sent out, and the injured men were brought to Goodland. Dr. Gulick and Dr. Smith, railroad surgeon, dressed the burns and wounds of the men before Dr. Smith sent the burned men to the hospital in Colorado Springs on No. 9 when it went through. Their con-

dition was considered serious. **May 10, 1905:** Train Crew Badly Burned — Engineer Bush and Head Brakeman Chambers were seriously burned by escaping steam when Train No. 71 collided with three runaway cars a mile east of Edson.

Fireman Pratt's legs were burned and bruises received. Engineer Bush, when relieved of his suffering by the use of drugs, smoked a cigar and talked to his friends.

"My engine had only an oil headlight," he said, "and was running on a little curve. I never saw the cars coming until they were about a car length off. The crash came instantly, and how I managed to get out of the wreck, I don't know."

Bush hadn't even time to give his fireman a warning cry, and Fireman Pratt, who was shoveling coal into the firebox, said he knew nothing of

the danger until he heard the crash, which seemed loud as the crack of a cannon.

Trainmaster W.C. Bevington was a passenger in the coach of the local freight. At Brewster station, Engineer Bush asked him to ride on the engine into Goodland and see what a fine running locomotive he had. Bevington put one foot upon the steps. He paused, remarking that he was tired and guessed he would ride in the coach.

Several passenger trains were delayed for several hours, but the temporary track around the wreck was completed quickly and traffic resumed.

From weekly issues of The Goodland News, provided by the Sherman County Historical Society. Since the paper was published weekly, some items were arbitrarily assigned a date.

Technical college holds drafting exhibit

The Northwest Kansas Technical College had another successful year for its annual drafting exhibit last month.

Students from 250 high schools were invited to participate in the event April 13.

Students could enter their drafting projects in 10 categories. Only five schools participated. Hays High, Norton High, Ellis High, Phillipsburg High and Flagler, Colo., Junior/Senior High.

Jared Mindrup, a Norton senior, took the grand champion award for advanced mechanical-hand drawn

for the second year. He said he has enjoyed entering his work in the college's drafting exhibit.

"There were a lot of good drawings," Mindrup said, "and I feel very lucky to have won two years in a row."

The son of Bernie and Jane Mindrup of Norton, he is a manager for the football and golf teams and a baseball team during the summer.

He plans to attend Butler Community College in mechanical engineering and then plans to transfer to Kansas State University.

"I have enjoyed having Jared as a drafting student for two years," said Jim Meyers, drafting teacher at Norton High School for 14 years. "He really excels in the drafting program and takes great pride in his work."

"I have taken students to this event for 14 years. I like the drafting exhibit at (the college) because they take a week to judge and they are very precise about the students' work. The instructors really take the time to judge the drawings for the students. This lets the students know exactly where they stand."

Dan Ordonez, college engineering instructor, said he enjoys seeing the drawings and having the participation from the students.

"The drafting exhibit has gotten smaller throughout the years due to some of the schools discontinuing their drafting programs," Ordonez said. "We would like to encourage those schools that still have drafting to enter the contest with their drawings."

The college's engineering department has over 40 years of successful job placement for its students, he said.

Farmers worry about freeze damage, can check wheat

With the cool temperatures this spring, farmers are worried about freeze damage on wheat.

To see if there is freeze damage and determine the severity, we need to understand the factors that affect freeze damage — the stage of growth of the wheat and the temperature.

Most wheat in Sherman County ranges from mid-joint to boot stage. When the wheat is in the jointing stage, temperatures of 24 degrees Fahrenheit for two hours or greater can result in freeze damage.

When the wheat is at the boot stage, temperatures of 28 degrees for two hours or more can result in freeze damage.



jeanne falk

• agron notes

tom show up, wait five to seven days.

Potential damage from last Friday night's cold temperatures should be evident by Thursday or Friday.

Damaged leaves may be evident before this, but the area we are most concerned with is the growing point.

To find the growing point of wheat, carefully split the stem. As you progress up the stem, there will be a tiny wheat head. Directly below the head is the growing point.

If there is no damage, the grow-

ing point will be a healthy greenish-white and firm in appearance. A growing point that has been damaged by freezing temperatures will be off-white to yellowish-brown, water-soaked and mushy in appearance.

If you have any questions, call me at (785) 462-6281 or contact the county Extension Office for a copy of the Kansas State Research and Extension publication "Spring Freeze Injury to Kansas Wheat."

Jeanne Falk is area agronomist for Sherman, Cheyenne and Wallace counties with Kansas State University Research and Extension.

Library has received new books and audio books this month

The Goodland Public Library has the following new books and audio books as of May 1:

In adult fiction: "Dead Man's Bones," by Susan Wittig Albert; "Hard Truth," by Nevada Barr; "No Place Like Home," by Mary Higgins Clark; "Company Man," by Joseph Finder; "The Chairman," by Stephen Frey; "Death of the Party," by Carolyn Hart; "The Good-bye Body," by Joan Hess; "Alibi," by Joseph Kanon; "A Thousand Tomorrows," by Karen Kingsbury; "Full Bloom," by Janet Evanovich; "Pretty Woman," by Fern Michaels; "The Breakdown Lane," Jacqueline Mitchard.

"Monster," by Frank Peretti; "Long Spoon Land," by Anne Perry; "The Serpent on the Crown," by Elizabeth Peters; "True Believer," by Nicholas Sparks; "Star Wars, Episode III — Revenge of the Sith," by Matthew Stover; "Ya-Yas in Bloom," by Rebecca Wells; "Moonlight on the Millpond," by Lori Wick; and "Two Dollar Bill," by Stuart Woods.

In adult non-fiction: "To Fly Again," by Gracia Burnham; "The World is Flat," by Thomas Friedman; "A Great Impression — Franklin, France and the Birth of America," by Stacy Schiff; "Miss Manners' Guide to Excruciatingly Correct Behavior," by Judith Martin.

"Wildflowers and Grasses of Kansas — a Field Guide," by Michael Haddock; "Our Bodies,

Ourselves — a New Edition for a New Era;" "Body-for-Life for Women," by Pamela Peeke.

"The Whole Pregnancy Handbook," by Joel Evans; "Encyclopedia of Dog Breeds," by Caroline Coile; "Mission: Organization," by HGTV; "Winning," by Jack Welch; "Baths," by HGTV; "Kitchens," by HGTV; "Debbie Travis' Facelift — Solutions to Revitalize Your Home;" "Backpacking and Hiking," by Karen Berger; "One Soldier's Story," by Bob Dole.

In children's books: "Whales on Stilts," by M.T. Anderson; "My Favorite Dinosaurs," by Ruth Ashby; "My Mom," by Anthony Browne; "Buster on the Farm," by Marc Brown; "The Quiltmaker's

Journey," by Jeff Brumbeau; "Princess in Training," by Meg Cabot; "Two Times the Fun," by Beverly Cleary; "Don't Know Much About Mummies," by Kenneth Davis; "e.guide — Space Travel," by Ian Graham; "The Golden Goose," by Dick King-Smith; "Arthur and the World Record," by Stephen Krensky; "Beetle McGrady Eats Bugs!" by Megan McDonald; "Stink — the Incredible Shrinking Kid," by Megan McDonald; "Carnival at Candlelight," by Mary Pope Osborne; "Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp," by Philip Pullman; "The Hoopster," by Alan Sitomer; and "Dragon Keeper," by Carole Wilkinson.

In audio books: "Hard Truth," by Nevada Barr; "Shadows of Yesterday," by Sandra Brown; "No Place Like Home," by Mary Higgins Clark; "One Soldier's Story," by Bob Dole; "Company Man," by Joseph Finder; "The Chairman," by Stephen Frey; "Alibi," by Joseph Kanon; "Pretty Woman," by Fern Michaels; "Maximum Ride," by James Patterson; "Cut and Run," by Ridley Pearson; "The Serpent on the Crown," by Elizabeth Peters; "Superstition," by Karen Robards; "Sullivan's Justice," by Nancy Taylor Rosenberg; "True Believer," by Nicholas Sparks; "Two Dollar Bill," by Stuart Woods; "Tales of Fourth Grade Nothing," by Judy Blume; and "Ramona's World," by Beverly Cleary.

SHERMAN COUNTY KANSAS TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT	
April 30, 2005	
Total Cash in the Treasury as at the above date	\$5,057,918.18
FUND	FUND BALANCE
APPRAISER'S COST	\$49,171.29
AUTO MOTOR SPECIAL	\$14,276.59
BOND & INTEREST	\$123,450.39
NO FUND WARRANTS	\$623.57
COUNTY HEALTH	\$63,238.54
DIRECT ELECTION	\$13,002.54
TRASH HAULING	\$139,534.94
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$356,695.43
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS HEALTH RESERVE	\$140,056.91
GENERAL FUND	\$804,757.17
HOME MAINTENANCE	\$1,685.77
LANDFILL	\$75,000.00
LOGAN CO FIRE #1	\$27.10
LANDFILL EXCAVATION FUND	\$200,000.00
NOXIOUS WEED	\$44,608.11
REGISTER OF DEEDS TECHNOL	\$13,943.59
OUT-DISTRICT TUITION	\$10,846.47
OVER & UNDER	-\$52.97
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY	\$1,416.66
PROS ATTY (DIVERSION)	\$10,907.52
ROAD AND BRIDGE	\$529,022.06
SALES TAX	\$17,158.65
SC RURAL FIRE DIST #1	\$135,143.32
SHERMAN CO SPILL CONTROL	\$304.70
SOLDIERS MEMORIAL PARK	\$7,386.82
SOLID WASTE FUND	\$821,586.40
SPEC ALCOHOL PROGRAM	\$2,281.92
SPECIAL PARKS & REC	\$355.30
SPECIAL MACHINERY FUND	\$169,971.74
TORT LIABILITY	-\$2,963.18
JAIL COMMISSARY	\$9,170.79
DRIVER'S LICENSE	\$374.50
GAME LICENSES	\$187.75
MTR VEH REPORT FUND	\$0.00
COUNTY ATTORNEY DRUG SEIZURE	\$1,417.27
SECRETARY OF STATE	\$2,368.80
NOXIOUS WEED CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$7,745.16
SPECIAL PRAIRIE DOG	\$7,628.63
SC RFD #1 EQUIP RESERVE	\$111,491.80
GOOD SAM CTR-HEALTH CARE	\$3,843.80
HERITAGE TRUST FUND	\$791.34
SHERIFF DRUG SEIZURE FUND	\$15,839.00
COUNTY HEALTH CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$29,724.53
AUTO MTR STATE/GENERAL	-\$164.99
HEALTH CARE SERVICES	\$180,609.09
COUNTY REDEMPTION	\$7,138.14
CURRENT TAX	\$377,885.26
DELINQUENT PERSONAL TAX	\$10,786.80
RECREATIONAL VEHICLE TAX	\$2,109.51
MOTOR VEHICLE TAX	\$121,491.94
RENTAL VEHICLE EXCISE TAX	\$0.00
MICRO LOANS	\$13,654.74
FEDERAL DRUG SEIZURE	\$0.00
SHERIFF REWARD DONATION FUND	\$34.92
SCRFD #1 SPECIAL FUND	\$6,283.49
911 TELEPHONE SERVICE	\$65,877.40
SUSPENSE FUND	\$21,271.69
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$94,269.95

TOWNSHIPS	
GRANT/GENERAL	\$0.74
IOWA/GENERAL	\$2.79
LLANOS/GENERAL	\$849.97
LOAN/GENERAL	\$0.04
SHERMANVILLE GENERAL	\$90.87
SHERMANVILLE PRAIRIE DOG	-\$0.39
STATELINE/GENERAL	\$24.08
WASHINGTON/GENERAL	\$19.48
CDBG GRANT	\$44.64
PROJECT FUND-HOSPITAL BOND	\$224,617.30
COST OF ISSUANCE ACCT-HOS	\$0.00
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$5,057,918.18

STATE OF KANSAS
 SHERMAN COUNTY ss.
 "I do solemnly swear that the above statement is complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, so help me God."

County Treasurer, Sherman County, Kansas

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, _____
 County Clerk - Notary Public
 "My commission expires _____, _____"

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