

# GRIGGS COUNTY MAN IS KILLED

**PETER BOLSTAD, OF COOPERSTOWN, WAS KILLED WHEN TRAIN HIT AUTO**

The following "close-up" account of the death of Peter Bolstad, of Cooperstown, was taken from the Red Lake Falls, Minn., Gazette, near which place the accident occurred:

Four men are dead as a result of a collision between an automobile north-bound and the Great Northern passenger train No. 135 at Delorme crossing on the county line eight miles south of this city Friday morning. The dead are A. Gjesdal, 68 years old, of Crookston; Wm. Riel, 36 years old, of Oklee, his son-in-law; Peter Bolstad, 45 years old, of Cooperstown, N. D. his nephew, and Carl E. Gjesdal, 22 years old, his son. Bolstad and Riel were instantly killed; A. Gjesdal died a few minutes later while in the baggage car when the train was at the Red Lake Falls depot and Carl Gjesdal died Monday morning at the Thief River Falls hospital from the fatal injuries he received.

The train, with Matt Milligan and Steve Withay, engineer and conductor,

respectively, both of Crookston, was going at a high rate of speed when it struck the automobile and its four occupants. The automobile was said to be traveling about 15 miles an hour and although the train whistled for the crossing and a bell alarm was given, it is believed the driver of the car failed to see or hear the passenger train. The front of the engine struck the car almost squarely, hurling the automobile through the air and damaging the automobile beyond repair.

Carl Gjesdahl, the only one to escape instant death was knocked unconscious. He was taken to the Thief River hospital and there were hopes entertained for his recovery in spite of a deep gash over his eye and a bad scalp wound but his internal injuries were so serious that he could not survive and he passed away Monday morning at 6 o'clock.

A Gjesdahl moved to Crookston recently and lives on South Washington avenue. He is survived by a widow, two sons, Carl, who was in the accident, and Frank Gjesdahl, an employe at the J. E. Morrissey foundry. He sells medicine over the county.

W. Riel is a son-in-law of Mr. Gjesdahl. A wife and an infant child survive him. He is the son of Mose Riel of Lambert town. His father and a brother were here Friday to

get the remains.

The third man killed, Peter Bolstad, is a nephew of Mr. Gjesdahl. He was visiting in Crookston and was preparing to go to Nofway on a visit. He is unmarried.

The remains of the three who were killed were put on the train and taken to Red Lake Falls and were removed to the city morgue. Coroner J. C. Wilkinson was out of the city and Coroner H. E. Nelson of Polk county was therefore summoned to view the remains.

The remains of W. Riel were taken to Oklee Saturday for interment while those of the two Gjesdahls and Bolstad were taken to Crookston where a triple funeral was held from the United Lutheran church at 2:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, the Rev. P. E. Moen officiating.

Several Red Lake Falls people motored out to the scene of the accident Friday afternoon and stated that spokes from the wheels of the car were found more than 150 feet from the crossing, and pieces of skull were found in the roadway. The car was nothing but a mass of junk covered with gore and human flesh.

The crossing is not in a cut but is in plain view and can be seen for a long distance away when approaching it from the west. The driver did not stop to look or listen but kept on his way. Whether he did not

hear or see the approaching train, or whether he thought he could beat the train across the track will never be known as all four passengers in the car are dead, but it is probable that the noise of his car and the fact that the top was up and curtains fastened prevented him from hearing the whistle of the train.

Wm. L. Riel was buried Wednesday afternoon by Frank Lund Post of the American Legion of which body he was a member, being one of Red Lake county's selective service men. The remains were laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery in Lambert town. He was married in April to Margaret Gjesdahl of the Town of Chester, Polk county, who survives him as does a few months' old baby.

## A Wooden Wedding

A real "wooden wedding" took place in Washington, N. C., last week when the Pine-Oaks nuptials were celebrated. Here is the cast of characters:

The groom, Walter Pine.  
The bride, Miss Ada Oakes.  
The best man, Robert L. Birch.  
The bridesmaid, Anna Lee Laure.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Oscar T. Wood of Columbia, N. C. The bride and groom left on the midnight train for Hickory, N. C., to spend a week with the groom's aunt, Mrs. E. W. ...