

1936 Scrapbook, image 130

(Handwritten: Monday, March 8, 1937)

BERNE MAN PLEADS NOT GUILTY TO CHARGE

Tilman Bauman, of Berne, plead not guilty to a charge of bastardy when arraigned before John T. Kelly in the Decatur justice of peace court Friday and was released on \$1,000 bond. The charge was filed by a young girl living in this community.

(Handwritten: Thursday, March 4, 1937)

NEW ARRIVALS

A daughter, Joan Kay, was born to Emerson and Mildred Mosser Neuenschwander Wednesday morning.

Samuel M. is the name of the son born to Dan S. and Mary Schwartz Wickey of R. R. 2, Geneva, on Tuesday.

(Handwritten: 1937)

DECATUR TRAIN WRECK KILLS THREE PERSONS

Erie Railroad Train Crashes Into Caboose of Another Freight

Decatur, Feb. 15 - With a roar that could be heard a mile, a westbound Erie freight train telescoped the rear cars of another which had been stopped during a blinding snow storm a mile and a half east of here about 10 o'clock Sunday morning, killing two trainmen instantly and seriously injuring two others, all from Huntington.

The dead:

James H. Karns, 67, conductor, 1208 Bryon Street, Huntington.

Edwin Nevis, 54, extra conductor serving as flagman on the ill-fated train, 503 Mayme Street, Huntington.

Lawrence McConkey, 35, of Huntington, an Erie railroad fireman, who died at 11:45 Sunday night at the Adams County Memorial Hospital. He suffered third degree scalds and other injuries in the train crash.

Charles Patterson, 73, engineer of Huntington is in a serious condition, suffering from scalds, cuts and bruises. Brakeman Victor C. Leatherman, 40, of Huntington, jumped from the moving train and escaped with crushed fingers on the right hand. He was released from the hospital today.

W. M. Sporleder of Huntington, superintendent of the Erie's Marion division, who with Claim Agent Robert Dinnen, also of Huntington, spent most of Sunday investigating the wreck, refused to comment on the pileup. Mr. Sporleder returned to Huntington after a trip to Ohio City, O.,

apparently to check orders issued to those in charge of the second train. Heavy snowfall is believed to have contributed to the (Continued on page 4 - not included)

(Photo)

Caption: The mangled bodies of Brakeman J. E. Nevius (left, inset) and Conductor J. H. Karns (right), both of Huntington, were found in the wreckage of a caboose shown above pinned between the boiler of a locomotive and a fence along the Erie railroad tracks a mile and a half east of Decatur yesterday, after a rear-end collision. Charles Patterson, 73, the engineer, and Lawrence McConkey, 35, fireman, both of Huntington, were scalded, the latter dying late last night. - Photo by courtesy of the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette.

Adams County Historical Museum

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Transcribed by Karin King