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Case No. 748

HELD IN THE

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Inquest upon the body of

Coroner's Office,

IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS,

Mary E. Kent,

at 9:30	o'clock	A. M.	Aug. 14th,	1911.
3:30	"	P. M.	" 14th,	11
9:30	"	A. M.	" 15th,	11
10:00	"	A. M.	" 16th,	11

Examination by T.L. Carriere, M.D.,

Deputy Coroner.

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(Jury no fee.)

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ADELE MATHIAS, stenographer

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Inquest held at the Coroner's Office, City of
St. Louis, Missouri, August 14th, 1911, at
9:30 o'clock A.M., upon the body of
-----Mary E. Kent-----

E X A M I N A T I O N

By T. L. Carriere, M.D., Deputy Coroner.

Sergt. John S. Fleming, being duly sworn, testifies:

- Q. What is your name? A. Sergt. John S. Fleming.
- Q. Your address? A. 3941 a St/ Louis Ave.
- Q. What district? A. 6th.
- Q. You made a report concerning the death of Mary E. Kent, did you?
- A. I didn't make the original report.
- Q. Who made the report? A. Officer Althoff.
- Q. Will you state the result of your investigation? A. I went to
the scene where the accident occurred, and I found from where
the body started to be dragged to where it stopped was a distance
of 57 feet. That is about all I know, I didn't see the body
or handle it in any way.
- Q. You didn't see the wreck? A. I saw the wreck of the buggy, it
was laying on the side of the road, and was a total wreck.
- Q. What do you mean, were the wheels off? A. Not all of them, but

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the lamps were all off, and the buggy was demolished.

Q. How long after the accident did you get there? A. About an hour, the accident occurred about 10:05, and I didn't get on duty until 11:00 P.M.

Q. How did you know this body was dragged so far? A. By the blood on the ground this side of the rail. You could see a large pool of blood where the body had stopped, and you could see where it started from.

Q. There was a line of blood? A. It was not a line a streak of blood from where it started.

Q. You take for granted that is where the body first started from?
A. Yes sir.

Q. There was no one there to indicate to you where it started?
A. No, only the marks on the street.

Q. Could you tell us just where that started? A. The blood started sixty feet south of Luther Avenue on the Broadway line, and continued to the south line of Luther Avenue.

Q. How wide is the street at that point? A. It is probably sixty feet, but the car tracks are both on the west side of the street at that point, along by the cemetery.

Q. What time of night did that occur? A. About 10:05.

Q. What direction were they driving in? A. North.

Q. The street car was also going north? A. That is the way I understand it.

Q. Did you have any conversation with the motorman about this accident?
A. I arrested him and brought him to the station, he and the conductor, and he said he couldn't see the buggy at all until he was too close

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He said there was a wagon between, and he didn't see it, and when the wagon turned out he was so close to the buggy, that he couldn't stop.

- Q. Did he say at what speed he was going? A. He was going fast, they ordinarily do there.
- Q. Was the buggy carrying a light? A. There were lamps on the buggy, but whether they were lit, I do not know, one of the witnesses told me they were.
- Q. Who told you? A. Miss Hoffman, she is sick in bed at home. She was in the street car, and when the street car crashed she was thrown against a seat.
- Q. What did this Nellie Dalton and Neudecker say? A. I didn't see Mrs. Dalton, but I was talking to Neudecker, and he said before he could get the horses turned around they were hit already, that is about all he could say. He could not give much of an account, as he was not aware of the car approaching until just a minute before.
- Q. Did the motorman say anything about ringing his gong? A. I do not know, he said he didn't see the buggy, so I couldn't answer that question.
- Q. That is all.

Officer Wm. R. Althoff, being duly sworn, testifies:

- Q. What is your name? A. Wm. R. Althoff.
- Q. Your address? A. 4225 a Maffit Ave.
- Q. What district? A. 6th.
- Q. You made this report concerning the death of Mary Kent, did you?

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A. Yes sir.

Q. I will read this police report to the jury and you may verify it.

(Deputy Coroner Carriere reads police report to the jury.)

Q. Is this a correct copy of your report, Officer? A. Yes sir.

Q. Have you anything to add to it? A. No sir, nothing at all.

Q. This report states that these two people were not injured, this Mrs. Dalton and John Neudecker? A. Yes sir.

Q. They are in bed at home . A. They claimed they were not hurt at that time, but they were shaken up. Neudecker only had a few scratches then.

Q. You got there immediately after the accident? A. No, it was about twenty minutes after.

Q. Were you the first Officer to get there? A. NO, Officer Lee was the first to get there.

Q. These people were still there, were they? A. Yes sir, they were still there.

Q. Was Miss. Kent lying in the street? A. No, they were taking her away in the ambulance.

Q. Did you get a statement from the witnesses? A. No sir, Mr. Fleming got the statement from the witnesses.

Q. That is all.

Officer Lee, being duly sworn, testifies:

Q. What is your name? A. Officer Lee.

Q. Your address? A. North 11th Street.

Q. What district? A. Mounted.

Q. What interest did you have in this case, Officer? A. I was going

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down, it must have been about twenty five minutes to eleven, Saturday night, and I saw a bunch of cars stopped, and I asked what was the matter and they told me they had a collision and there was a lady killed, and I saw the lady lying in the street. I got the motorman and conductor name, and the two parties who were in the buggy with this lady, and I went up to the box, and they told me they had called up the wagon, and I called up to see if they surely did, and I found that the wagon was on the way, and then they took the body to the morgue.

Q. Did you learn how the accident occurred? A. I spoke to the motorman, and he told me this buggy was right in front of him, and he didn't see it until he was right into it.

Q. Did he say anything about a wagon having been in front of the car? A. Yes, he said there was a wagon with some fishermen, and they were in the track right in front of them, and he got them out of the way, and got his car into a fast movement, and he went into this buggy. He said he didn't see any lights.

Q. Did you inquire if he saw a light? A. I asked, and he said no.

Q. What became of the fishermen? A. They went on out.

Q. Did you see them? A. No, Brockman got one of the names and he gave me his name.

Q. Gave you his name? A. Yes sir.

Q. What did he say? A. He made about the same statement, that as they turned out the car ran into the buggy.

Q. That is all, Officer.

Joseph Khorll, being duly sworn, testifies:

Q. What is your name? A. Joseph Khorll.

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- Q. Your address? A. 717 Baden Ave.
- Q. Your occupation? A. Learning to be a book binder.
- Q. Did you see the accident which caused the death of Mary E. Kent?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. Where were you? A. In the front end of the car.
- Q. Sitting in a seat? A. Sitting on the sand box.
- Q. So you saw the accident, did you? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Tell us what you know about it? A. I was waiting on Salisbury street for about 25 minutes for a car, and they ran an extra car.
- Q. Waiting for a car for 25 minutes? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Going north? A. Yes sir.
- Q. So they ran an extra car? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Why did you have to wait 25 minutes? A. There was a fire down town.
- Q. So they turned out an extra car, and you got on at Salisbury Street, did you? A. Yes sir, and I stayed on the car, and was riding in front, and when we got out that way, there was a wagon, that had a boat in it, and it turned out of the track, it had a light on it, and the car kept on going, and about 30 feet in front I saw a shadow, and I said "what is that" and no more than I said that he turned and we saw we struck the buggy, and I went out and I saw a lady laying down there in the street.
- Q. So all you saw ahead of you was a shadow? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Why was that? A. I could see it, and I couldn't tell what it was.
- Q. What sort of a head light were they carrying on the car?
- A. A top light.
- Q. There was not a search light on the car? A. No sir, just a light

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on top of the car.

- Q. Was there a light on the buggy? A. I didn't see any.
- Q. Do you know if there were any lights on the buggy? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Were there lights burning on it after the accident? A. No sir.
- Q. You didn't see any lights, only a shadow? A. Yes sir, it is a very dark spot.
- Q. How was it the car didn't strike the wagon? A. They turned out of the way, they must have seen the car.
- Q. The motorman didn't have to ring a gong? A. No sir, they saw the car.
- Q. How fast was the car going? A. Full speed.
- Q. Why do you say that? A. The lever was turned all the way.
- Q. Were you on the side of the controller? A. Yes sir.
- Q. How far had the car been running at that speed? A. As soon as it hit the bridge, it started from the Bellefontaine Cemetery.
- Q. How far was this from where the accident happened, is Luther Avenue alongside of Bellefontaine or Calvary Cemetery? A. I think it was near Calvary Cemetery, I do not know if it is near Luther Avenue, or not.
- Q. You know where Calvary Avenue is? A. Yes sir, we were not there yet.
- Q. You were alongside of Bellefontaine Cemetery then? A. Yes sir.
- Q. The motorman threw on the power then? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Did you have to slow down to let the wagon get out the track?
A. No, the wagon got out in time.
- Q. He didn't slow up then for the wagon? A. No sir.
- Q. The buggy was a few feet in front of the wagon? A. Yes sir.
- Q. What is the grade there? A. It was going down grade.
- Q. How much? A. Not very much.

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- Q. How far had the wagon gotten away from the track when the car passed? A. It didn't go very far, it turned out the way.
- Q. How many feet had the wagon gotten from the track when the car passed? A. I should judge about 30 feet.
- Q. It let the wagon pass 30 feet, had it gotten to the other side of the street? A. Yes sir, and there was a big road there, and as it turned out the car hit the buggy.
- Q. Were they driving in a trot? A. I couldn't say, I saw the wagon turn out.
- Q. Did you see this buggy before this wagon turned out of the track, or just after? A. Just after.
- Q. You didn't see it before? A. No sir, it was in the shadow of the trees. No more than the wagon turned out I saw it, and I asked the motorman what it was, and he saw it, and he shut off the speed, but it was too late.
- Q. That is all.

Linn E. Cole, being duly sworn, testifies:

- Q. What is your name? A. Linn E. Cole.
- Q. Your address? A. 808 Salisbury St.
- Q. Your occupation? A. Street Car Conductor for the United Railway.
- Q. What line? A. Broadway.
- Q. You were in charge of a car, on Saturday evening, which struck a buggy killing Mary Ellen Kent? A. Yes sir.
- Q. What was the number of your car? A. #3399, if I am not mistaken.

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- Q. Was the mechanical apparatus of your car in good condition, and working properly? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Did you finish your trip after the accident? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Up to the loop? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Did the Officer accompany you there? A. No sir, I was arrested at the shed.
- Q. So you made your trip to the loop , and came back to Salisbury?
A. Yes sir.
- Q. Give us your version of this accident? A. I was going north at 10:05.
- Q. You were running an extra car, were you? A. Yes sir.
- Q. This was your first trip out of the shed? A. Yes sir, I had made my run, and was making an extra run.
- Q. No time from the shed to the end of the line? A. Yes sir.
- Q. What time were you to leave there? A. At 10:14.
- Q. The accident happened at what time? A. 10:05 or 10:06.
- Q. And you had about 8 or ten minutes to finish your trip? A. Yes sir.
- Q. What is the running time from the Bellefontain to the end of the line? A. Eight minutes.
- Q. How far north of the Bellefontain gate is Luther Avenue?
A. It is called one block, but I should judge it would be two blocks if it were laid off.
- Q. You were running at what rate of speed? A. At about 12 miles an hour/ It is very dark there, and there was no light visible on the vehicle, and I was about 20 feet from the vehicle when I saw it, and I reversed the power on the car, but it was impossible to stop before I struck it.
- Q. What sort of a vehicle was it? A. I believe they call it a

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- storm buggy.
- Q. Were there any curtains on the buggy? A. I think there were curtains on the side, there were none in the back.
- Q. Are you positive they had no lights? A. There were none I could see.
- Q. Were you watching ahead? A. Yes sir, I was.
- Q. What sort of a head light did you have? A. There was no regular head light on the car, only a light on the top.
- Q. You would not have been able to see an obstruction on the track?
A. I couldn't have seen it until I was close to it.
- Q. How far did you run after striking that buggy? A. About 60 or 70 feet, something like that.
- Q. What position was the buggy in when you hit it? A. Direct in the middle of the track.
- Q. What direction was it facing? A. North.
- Q. You say you dragged the buggy 60 feet? A. It knocked the buggy to the side, and the car ran about 60 feet.
- Q. Where did you find this girl that was killed? A. To the left hand side of the street.
- Q. Which way did you knock the buggy? A. To the right, and she went to the left. She went towards the Cemetery side.
- Q. She went towards the Cemetery side? A. Yes sir, towards the Cemetery side.
- Q. What did you say you did when you first saw the buggy? A. Reversed the car.
- Q. That is all.

Edward C. Dreps, being duly sworn, testifies:

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- Q. What is your name? A. Edward C. Dreps.
- Q. Your address? A. 3729 N. 9th St.
- Q. Your occupation? A. Conductor for the United Railway.
- Q. What line? A. Broadway.
- Q. You were in charge of car #2399 which struck a buggy, on Saturday night, were you? A. Yes sir.
- Q. How many passengers were you carrying at that time? A. Between 20 and 25.
- Q. What part of the car were you in? A. On the rear platform.
- Q. Did you see the accident? A. No sir.
- Q. Do you know anything about it? A. Not until it was over.
- Q. Did you go to the assistance of this girl when she was knocked out of the buggy? A. Yes sir, we went back.
- Q. Was she killed outright? A. Yes sir, she didn't move when I saw her.
- Q. Did you speak to these two people, Mrs Dalton, and Neudecker?
A. No sir.
- Q. Did you see the wreckage? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Were the lights burning? A. No sir.
- Q. That is all.
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Taking of testimony resumed at 3:30 o'clock P.M., August 14, 1911,
at # 926 N. 22nd Street.

John Neudecker, being duly sworn, testifies:

- Q. What is your name? A. John Neudecker.
- Q. Your address? A. 926 N. 22nd St.
- Q. Your occupation? A. Clerk.
- Q. What line of business? A. Commission business.
- Q. You were driving a storm buggy, which was struck by a car on the evening of August 12th? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Who did the buggy belong to? A. Meyer & Hellmeyer, Broadway & Carr
- Q. Who was in the buggy with you? A. Miss. Kent and Mrs. Dalton.
- Q. Three of you? A. Yes sir.
- Q. It was an ordinary storm buggy? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Did you have the curtains up? A. Yes sir, they were up.
- Q. Were the lights lit? A. Just one light, at the inside.
- Q. What sort of a light was that? A. An ordinary carriage lamp that they usually have on storm buggies.
- Q. Was there a red light to the rear? A. I do not know, I couldn't answer that.
- Q. Do you know what they were burning, was it kerosene? A. It may have been, I do not know.
- Q. It was a box lamp? A. Yes sir.
- Q. State what you know concerning the accident, where did you get this buggy, at the livery stable? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Where did you start from with Miss. Kent and Mrs. Dalton? A. I went to Miss Kent's home and got her, and we got Mrs. Dalton at 23rd and

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Palm Streets.

- Q. Where did you drive into Broadway? A. At the North gate of O'Fallon Park, and then we stopped at Linns about ten or twenty minutes, and had a drink and one of the girls said, lets drive out to Fishers Grove, and I said yes, it didn't make any difference where we drove.
- Q. What time did you get to Linns? A. We were there about ten minutes.
- Q. Did you have more than one drink? A. No sir.
- Q. What did you drink? A. Mineral Water.
- Q. What did the girls have? A. A bottle of beer apiece.
- Q. Then what? A. Well, there was a machine coming, and he went towards the curb stone, and that put me towards the car track, that is how I happened to get in the car track. I do not think we drove in the car track more than a half block, and one of the girls hollered, there comes a car, and it was coming so quick I didn't get a chance to to get out of the track.
- Q. Did the man driving the machine stop? A. Oh, that put him away off by the viaduct.
- Q. He was coming on the out bound track? A. He was not in the track, but instead of taking the track, he turned towards the curve. I do not know, but he must have seen the head light of the viaduct.
- Q. There was plenty of room for both of you outside of the track?
A. Yes sir.
- Q. Did you see the wagon? A. I didn't notice the wagon, but a man told me the wagon was next to me, and by the time I was hit, he was helping me pick up the women.
- Q. Did he tell you who he was? A. He said, here is my card, if you want me, you can find me, I am going on fishing.
- Q. How many were on the wagon? A. I do not know, I didn't see, I didn't know there was a wagon.

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- Q. Was the car close to you when you first saw it? A. I believe it was a quarter of a block from us when the girls screamed. There was not much chance of me getting out of the way at the rate of speed they were coming.
- Q. Is there a street light there? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Which side? A. It hangs right over the track.
- Q. I didn't know they had electric lights out there. A. It is a gas light, the one close to where the accident was, was right over the track. Every other one is on the opposite side of the street,,I noticed that after the accident.
- Q. You had not come in the range of that light when he struck you, you were in the dark? A. Well, if we were, we should have had the rays of the lights from the opposite side of the street.
- Q. What distance are they apart? A. About three to a City block, about 100 feet apart.
- Q. That is about as much as you know concerning this accident?
- A. That is about all, except when I was thrown out I looked after the women. I went back to the buggy and picked up the other girl.
- Q. The buggy was knocked to which side? A. To the right.
- Q. And Mrs. Dalton was buried under the wreckage? A. Yes sir.
- Q. And the other girl? A. She was near the track with her head to the south, and I saw at once she was dead, so I went to help the other one.
- Q. So you realized she was dead? A. Yes sir, as soon as I got to her so I went to the other one.
- Q. You heard no gong? A. There was no gong whatever.
- Q. Did the motorman make any statement? A. Not what you would call a statement, he was talking to Miss. Hoffman on the car. She was injured, and he said he didn't see the buggy at all, and

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Miss Hoffman told him not wonder he didn't see it, he was too busy talking, and she said she was surprised they didn't ring a gong, and she got up out of her seat, as she knew something was about to happen.

Q. That is all.

Taking of testimony resumed at 4:00 o'clock P.M., Aug. 14, 1911,
at #3512 North 23rd Street.

Lillie Dalton, being duly sworn, testifies:

Q. What is your name? A. Lillie Dalton.

Q. Your address? A. 3512 N. 23rd St.

Q. You were in a buggy with John Neudecker and Mary Kent, on Saturday night when it was struck by a car? A. Yes sir.

Q. Will you state the circumstances of that accident? A. I do not remember much about it. We were going out Broadway, and I thought the car was a good distance from us, but it struck us, and I saw her laying there, and I called to her but she didn't answer, and I told Mr. Neudecker to see how she was, and Mr. Neudecker told me not to go and see her, and she was dead.

Q. Were you able to get up? A. Yes sir, I didn't think I was hurt then.

Q. How are you hurt now? I do not know, the Doctor couldn't even tell me, I couldn't walk yesterday at all. Mr. Crone had the automobile there, and he took us.

Q. Who saw the car approaching? A. Her and I both.

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- Q. What caused you to turn around? A. Well, I really do not know, the noise or something. We turned around and saw the car, but I imagine it was an awful distance from us to strike us so fast.
- Q. What was it attracted your attention? A. The noise.
- Q. The noise of the car approaching? A. Yes, we heard a noise, and we didn't know what it was.
- Q. How were you sitting, it has only one seat hasn't it? A. Yes sir. I was on the left and she was on my lap.
- Q. Did you hear the sounding of a gong? A. No sir, I didn't hear a thing.
- Q. Did you carry a light on the buggy ? A. Just one, I suppose, and he asked us if the light on our side was alright, and we said, yes.
- Q. You do not know if there was a light on the other side? A. No sir, I couldn't tell.
- Q. What did you say when you saw the car coming? A. We said Oh! and before we could turn out, it struck us.
- Q. How far did he turn out? A. Just got the horses head turned.
- Q. How far had you been driving in the track when it hit you?
A. Quite a distance.
- Q. Did you notice the wagon in back of you? A. There was a wagon ahead of us, and we were getting ready to pull out, and we passed them.
- Q. What sort of a wagon was it? A. They were working men, I suppose, I do not know, but it was piled up with something on it .
- Q. It was in front of you when the car struck you? A. No sir, before we were struck.
- Q. Did you see the wagon after? A. Yes, one of the young men handed

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him a card. I think he caught the horse, and he said he could get him there at any time, and said that car was going at a terrible speed.

Q. That is all.

Taking of testimony resumed at 4:30 o'clock P.M.,
August 14, 1911, at #439 Antelope Street.

Emma Hoffman, being duly sworn, testifies:

- Q. What is your name? A. Emma Hoffman.
- Q. Your address? A. 439 Antelope St.
- Q. Your occupation? A. With the Wipple Agency Printing Co.
- Q. You were a passenger on a car, that struck a buggy, on the Broadway line, on August 13th? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Where were you sitting? A. In the second seat from the front on the left, on the east side, on my right hand side, towards the window.
- Q. Was there anyone in the seat with you? A. No sir.
- Q. Was there anyone in front of you? A. No sir.
- Q. Was there anyone on the platform with the motorman? A. One boy.
- Q. How many passengers were on the car? A. I do not know, about 12 or 14 couple, maybe not that many, I do not know.
- Q. Were you injured? A. Yes, I hurt myself internally. My hip is blue, and the Doctor said he thought one of my hips were fractured. All day yesterday I was spitting blood, and if I take a long breath

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it hurts me.

Q. Who is waiting on you? A. Dr. Van Hoefen.

Q. Tell us what you know about this accident? A. All I can say is, I saw a light on the buggy, and the motorman was going at an awful speed, and the boy sitting on the front platform, I saw him speak to the motorman, and the expression I saw on the boy's face showed something was about to happen, he was going to get up and run, and I got up to get out, and I was knocked against the seat, and I didn't think I was hurt until after I got home and took my corsets off, and I couldn't sleep, and never rested all that time.

Q. You saw a light on the buggy? A. Yes sir, I could swear to that.

Q. At the same time you didn't know anything about about it until after the boy started up? A. Yes sir, I did, I saw the light and buggy before that, they were at the same place I was at.

Q. Did you know them? A. No sir. And I saw this wagon and buggy. It started before me, I had to wait for the car. I saw this buggy and coal wagon, I do not know what kind of wagon it was though.

Q. If you could distinguish the light and buggy, you could see you were not in any danger couldn't you? A. I thought the motorman could prevent the accident.

Q. How far was the buggy away? A. About from here to the other side of the street.

Q. Was the motorman going fast? A. Yes, at a terrible speed, I had to wait for the car a while, and it must have been behind time, I thought it was going so terrible fast when I was sitting in the car before that.

Q. When did he start going fast? A. Right past Linne.

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- Q. What sort of light did you see on that buggy? A. A small light like they have on a buggy.
- Q. That was facing the other way? A. No sir, it was on the back of the buggy.
- Q. It may have been on the wagon? A. No, it was on the buggy, I could swear to that.
- Q. Was it a red light? A. No, it was a yellow light.
- Q. Was there anyone else in the front of the car? A. This boy and I were the only ones in the front, there were others in back.
- Q. You saw the wagon and the buggy? A. Yes sir, the wagon was pulling out of the track, and it just got out of the track when the car hit the buggy.
- Q. Was the wagon far behind the buggy? A. I couldn't say, it was just pulled out of the track, I noticed that when I got out of the car.
- Q. Then they couldn't have run after they hit the buggy? A. It ran , a block after it hit the buggy.
- Q. After the street car passed the wagon, how far did he run before it struck the buggy? A. Not very far.
- Q. Then the buggy must have been immediately in front of the wagon?
A. Yes, it must have been. When I got off the car I thought I would walk down and see if I could do anything for the lady, and I had to walk about a block, the car had ran about a block after it hit the buggy.
- Q. What did the motorman do? A. He didn't do anything, he just stood there as contented as could be. He was so dumb he didn't know whether he should get off of the car or not, until another motorman told him to take the names.

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- Q. Did it appear that he was making any attempt to stop the car, did he apply the brakes? A. I do not understand that. The boy said something to him, the boy said he told him in time. It seems he could have stopped before that.
- Q. Did you hear the gong? A. No, I didn't hear it. Several motormen and conductors asked me if I wanted to send that young man to the penitentiary, and I said, well, I will speak the truth, and the truth only, and a lot of them around there heard me say it.
- Q. The young man told you he warned the motorman in time?
A. Yes sir, he told me he did.
- Q. Where did you see him? A. He spoke to me after the accident. The motorman stood there and he didn't know what to do, the other motorman in back had to tell him to take the names of the people.
- Q. That is all.

Taking off testimony resumed at 9:30 o'clock A.M., Aug. 15, 1911, at Coroner's Office.

Robert E. Dish, being duly sworn, testifies:

- Q. What is your name? A. Robert W. Dish.
- Q. Your address? A. 4212 Peck St.
- Q. Your occupation? A. Coal business.
- Q. Did you see the accident which caused the death of Mary E. Kent, on Broadway, Saturday evening? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Will you tell the jury what you know about that case? A. I was out riding in the street car, and I was sitting at the window.
- Q. You were in the car? A. Yes sir.
- Q. I thought you were on the wagon? A. That was my wagon, but I was

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not on it. There was a friend of mine, my boy and another boy by the name of Walter Linders, who lived in the same block I do.

- Q. Who else? A. Another friend, I do not know his last name, his first name is Fred.
- Q. You could locate him at any time? A. Yes .
- Q. They were on the wagon immediately ahead of the car? A. Our wagon was ahead of the wagon struck.
- Q. It was a buggy, was it not? A. Yes sir.
- Q. What part of the car were you in? A. About the center.
- Q. On which side? A. Right hand side.
- Q. Anyone sitting in the seat with you? A. Yes sir, Geo. Schaum of 19th and Bissel.
- Q. Tell us what you saw? A. Well, I was in the car, and I sat to the outside to watch out wagon, we were going on a fishing trip, and they had a boat on the wagon, and I rode from Grand Avenue to Baden on the car, and I watched to see if the wagon was up to the car, or if we could see them, and I looked out of the car and waved, and just then the car hit this buggy.
- Q. You saw the wagon ahead of you? A. Yes sir, a least little bit.
- Q. Before this accident happened you knew your wagon was ahead of you?
- Q. Yes sir, about a second before.
- Q. Then they had pulled out of the track? A. They were out long already.
- Q. You didn't see your boy in the track with the wagon? A. They were on the other side, they were not near the track.
- Q. When the accident happened, were they near the track? A. No sir.
- Q. You said you waved to them just then? A. Yes sir, and I

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said to my partner " There is our wagon", and just then the crash came, and struck that other buggy.

Q. Who was driving your wagon? A. The man who was with the boys.

Q. Schaum? A. No, he was in the car with me.

Q. Where did they turn out of the track, or were they never in it?

A. Well, they claim they were in it, and they turned out about a block ahead, they saw the car coming.

Q. The car was about a block behind when they turned out?

A. Yes sir.

Q. It came on them pretty rapidly? A. Yes sir.

Q. Were you coming pretty fast? A. Yes, if they had not, they would not have slid the buggy out, it only caught the left hind wheel.

Q. Some say they caught the buggy full force. A. No sir, I was looking right at it, I was looking out of the window.

Q. That is all.

Taking of testimony resumed at 10:00 o'clock A.M., Aug 16, 1911.

Fred W. Benkert, being duly sworn, testifies:

Q. What is your name? A. Fred W. Benkert.

Q. Your address? A. 3517 N. 23rd St.

Q. Your occupation? A. Glass blower.

Q. What do you know concerning the accident causing the death of Mary E. Kent? A. We were driving north on Broadway, we were going on a fishing trip.

Q. Was this Miss Kent, Mrs. Dalton and this man going out with you?

A. No sir.

Q. Where were they? A. They were between us and the car.

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- Q. Tell us what you were doing? A. We were going out on the Missouri River, and we had the boat in the wagon, and we saw the car, and we drove out fully a block and a half from the car, and all at once we heard a terrible crash, and our horses got frightened, and ran, and I saw someone lying on the tracks, and I saw it was a woman, and I saw she was dead, and I heard some groaning and I saw another stout lady, and I pulled her from under the buggy, and I asked her if she was hurt, and she said no, and I said, you are too excited to know whether you are or not. We got the other lady and picked her up and laid her on the sidewalk.
- Q. So you saw the car a block and a half away when you turned out?
A. Yes sir.
- Q. Where was the buggy? A. Behind us, between the car and us, and it had lights, I could swear to that. I couldn't say whether it was one or two, but I think it was two.
- Q. If the buggy was behind you how could you see the car? A. We had a big boat on the wagon, and we had to pull out in time.
- Q. Was there a top to the buggy? A. I couldn't say if there was a top on, I think it was a Standhope buggy, it was high. The buggy was torn in two.
- Q. One where the seat sets high on the springs? A. Yes sir.
- Q. You do not know whether the top was up or down? A. I didn't pay much attention to that, I couldn't say.
- Q. If you saw the car coming, and pulled away, these people could have done the same thing, couldn't they? A. The horse must have been out of the track.
- Q. How far behind were you? A. They must have been a block behind us.
- Q. It couldn't have been a block behind, and this accident happened

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- right alongside of your wagon? A. Yes, that is where it happened.
- Q. Then if the car was going so fast, how far did it go after hitting the buggy? A. Well, I couldn't say exactly the distance, but he ran about 150 feet before he got his car stopped. I couldn't say exactly how fast the car was going.
- Q. What sort of a wagon did you have? A. One horse coal wagon.
- Q. Where were you sitting? A. In the seat of the boat. We had the boat in the wagon, and we all had to sit in the boat.
- Q. You were all sitting in the boat? A. Yes sir, three of us.
- Q. Who was driving? A. Young Dish, I was driving, but he was at that time.
- Q. Where were you driving? A. We were close to the curb, because our horse went up on the curb and against the barb wire.
- Q. Linders was sitting in the boat with you? A. Yes sir, and Dish was sitting on the bob driving.
- Q. That is all.

Walter Linders, being duly sworn, testifies:

- Q. What is your name? A. Walter Linders.
- Q. Your address? A. 4228 Peck St.
- Q. How old are you? A. 16.
- Q. Do you work? A. No sir.
- Q. Do you go to school? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Where? A. St. Louis Commercial College, #810 Olive St.
- Q. You were going out north on Broadway with young Dish and Mr. Benkert on Saturday evening, were you? A. Yes sir.

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- Q. When a Broadway car hit a buggy and killed Mary E. Kent?
A. Yes sir .
- Q. Did you see the accident? A. I saw the car about a block and a half away, and I saw the car coming, and when we were near the curbing I heard the crash, and our horse got balky, and he got on the curb, and if it had not been for the barb wire he would have ran away, the barb wire stopped the horse. He went to the lady, and he saw she was dead, and then he went to the other lady under the buggy, and he got her out.
- Q. How did you get to North Broadway? A. Out Perry Avenue.
- Q. Were you driving in the track all the way? A. We drove in the car track all the way from Perry.
- Q. No car came for quite a while? A. Yes sir.
- Q. You say the car coming? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Did you see the buggy? A. Yes sir, I saw it and I thought it was the car.
- Q. Why did you think it was the car? A. It had lights on it.
- Q. How many? A. Two lights in the front.
- Q. Are you sure there were two lights on it? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Well, you saw the buggy where? A. Yes sir, in back of us.
- Q. How far back? A. About a block and a half.
- Q. And you saw it that far away? A. About that far.
- Q. How far away was the car? A. When I saw the buggy it was about a block and a half away, and the car came a few minutes after.
- Q. When the accident happened the buggy was right alongside of you?
A. We were in the curbing.
- Q. Was it dark along the Cemetery that night? A. Yes sir.
- Q. Were the street lights burning? A. I do not know, I did not notice, I believe there was a light on Luther Avenue.

- Q. Where is Luther Avenue? A. A couple blocks from the bridge.
Q. Do you know where it is? A. Yes sir.
Q. That is all.

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Robert Disch, being duly sworn, testifies:

- Q. What is your name? A. Robert Disch.
Q. Your address? A. 4212 Peck St.
Q. How old are you? A. 13 going to be 14.
Q. Do you go to school? A. Yes sir.
Q. Did you see the accident, that caused the death of Mary E. Kent, on North Broadway on Saturday evening? A. Yes sir, I saw the accident. The left hind wheel of the buggy was just swinging out of the track, and the car hit it, and the horse got wild and started to run.
Q. Did your horse get wild too? A. Yes sir, and the barb wire stopped him from running away.
Q. You saw the horse turning out of the track when the car hit it?
A. Yes sir.
Q. Why didn't they turn out before that? A. I do not know.
Q. This buggy was ahead of you? A. No sir, behind us.
Q. How long had you been out of the track when that car came along?
A. We were alongside of the curbing.
Q. You had just had time to pull that far? A. Yes sir.
Q. Why did you pull all the way to the curb, that is a wide street?
A. I didn't think of any accident, I just pulled that far away, I was just going up the street.

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- Q. What made you pull out of the track? A. I saw the car about a block and a half behind us.
- Q. Did you and the other boy see it? A. He said, there comes a car, and I saw the car too.
- Q. These people were behind you and they didn't see the car?
A. I do not know whether they did, or not.
- Q. Was it very dark there that evening under the trees?
A. Well, the motorman should have seen them, they passed one light.
- Q. You only passed one? A. Well, I know there was one a half block behind us.
- Q. Did they have a light on their buggy? A. Yes sir, because I thought that was a car, and the other boy said, here comes a car, and I said "That is no car, that is a buggy".
- Q. That is all.

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City of St. Louis

STATE OF MISSOURI, } SS.
CITY OF ST. LOUIS

AT AN INQUISITION INDENTED, Taken at the Coroner's Office
in the City of St. Louis on the 16 day
of August 19 11 before me J. L. Carriere M.D. Deputy Coroner of the
City aforesaid, upon the view of the body of Mary E. Kenk

AGE	SOCIAL CONDITION	BIRTHPLACE	OCCUPATION	RESIDENCE
<u>ab. 26</u>	<u>Single</u>	<u>St. Louis</u>	<u>Seamstress</u>	<u>1347 Garrison St.</u>

then and there lying dead, and upon a full investigation of the facts in the case and hearing the evidence, I find that the
deceased came to her death on the 12 day of August 19 11, at
about 10⁰⁰ o'clock P. M. On Broadway 60 ft. south

of Luther Ald from Haemorrhage of Brain due to fracture
of skull caused by being thrown from buggy to granite paved
street, said buggy having been struck by front end
car #2399 of the Broadway Div. of the United Rys Co. at time
and place aforesaid

Accident

Jurors

Ch. Walker
E. Alexander
Henry Gorky
Loren Knuebler
Wm. H. Maysack
John Rengel

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the aforesaid Deputy
Coroner has to this Inquisition put his name, at the place and
on the day and year first above mentioned.

J. L. Carriere M.D. Deputy Coroner. { SEAL }

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Metropolitan Police Department

Not For Secosixthly Relea District.

City of St. Louis

St. Louis, Aug. 13, 1911.

#148

Col. William Young,
Chief of Police.

Handwritten signature/initials

Handwritten signature: Mary Ellen Kent

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Copy forwarded to the
CORONER,
for his information.

Sir:-

I herewith report that at about 10:05 P. M. the 12th instant while John Neudecker of 1201 North 3rd St. accompanied by Miss Helen Kent 26 yrs. of age, single, residing at 1347 North Garrison Ave. and Mrs. Nellie Dalton 33 yrs. of age, married, residing at 3512 North 23rd St. was driving a horse attached to a storm buggy north on Broadway in the north bound tracks of the Broadway division of the United Railway and when at about 60 feet south of Luther Ave. the buggy was struck from the rear by a north bound Broadway car #2399 of the United Railway in charge of Conductor Edward C. Drees of 3729 North 9th St. and Motorman Linn E. Cole of 808 Salisbury St., all the above named occupants of the buggy were thrown out to the granite paved street Miss Kent's skull was crushed and her right shoulder and left arm fractured she also received internal injuries which caused instant death, her body was dragged to Luther Ave. by the car before it came to a stop, Miss Kent's body was taken to the City Morgue in an ambulance accompanied by Proo. Patm'h Brockman of this district where when searched she had on her person 1 purse, 1 ladies gold bracelet, 1 ladies back comb, 2 keys, 2 ladies set rings, 1 pr. ear rings, pearl set in one, no set in the other, 1 ladies breast pin, and 32 cents in money, Miss Kent's parents have been notified of the accident and the whereabouts of the body, Mrs. Dalton received a severe shaking up but was otherwise uninjured, Mr. Neudecker received several ~~scrapes~~ scratches about the face and hands both parties refused medical attendance they went home in an automobile, the buggy valued at \$300.00 was demolished, damage



#2.

Metropolitan Police Department

Office of the Medical Examiner Sixth

District.

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City of St. Louis

St. Louis,

Aug. 13, 1911.

to harness about \$10.00, the horse escaped injury, the outfit belonged to Meyer and Hellmeyer located at Broadway and Carr Sts., the horse was put up at Oexs stable 6800 North Broadway by Mr. Neudecker, damage to car about \$5.00, the crew was arrested by Serg't. John S. Fleming and Patm'n. Joseph Mannebach of this district and are now on the Hold over at this station to be held for the Coroner

Miss Emma Hoffman, 22 yrs. of age, single residing with her Parents at 439 Antelope Ave. was a passenger on the car states that when the collision occurred she was thrown out of her seat on the right side of the car to the left side of the car, she complains of injuries to her side but had no medical attention, she states that the car was running at a very high rate of speed when it struck the buggy, she also states that the body of Miss Kent was dragged quite a distance before the car came to a stop, Joseph Khorll, 17 yrs. of age, residing at 717 Baden Ave. was sitting on the sand box alongside the Motorman and R. E. Dish who resides at 4212 Peck St. who was also a passenger on the car sitting in one of the front seats also state that the car was going at a very high rate of speed when it struck the buggy.

Witnesses:-

Miss Emma Hoffman

R. E. Dish

Joseph Khorll

Mrs. Nellie Dalton

John Neudecker

Serg't. Fleming

Patm'n. Mannebach

" Althoff Wm.

Prob. " Frockman

" Lee

439 Antelope St

4212 Peck St.

717 Baden Ave.

3512 N. 23rd St. +

1201 N. 3rd St.

6th Police District.

" " "

" " "

" " "

Mounted District.

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Patm'n. Althoff Wm.
W.D.T.

Respectfully,

J. J. Donagan

Lieut. Commanding District