



## FOUR STRUCK BY WAGONS: MOTHER AND CHILD DEAD

A young Swannington woman was killed instantly, her seven months' old baby has since died and another child and the woman's mother were seriously injured in a terrible tragedy yesterday afternoon, when two railway wagons on a private siding ran into them.

The woman killed was Elsie May Horrobin, wife of Horace Horrobin, a miner employed at the South Leicestershire Colliery, and living in Main-street, Swannington. She was 34 years of age and was the mother of nine children, whose ages range from seven months to 14 years.

The baby, Horace, was in his perambulator which was smashed to matchwood, and he has since died in Leicester Royal Infirmary.

The tragedy was reported in a late edition of the Leicester Evening Mail last night.

It was at the bottom of the old Swannington Incline, leading to the Swannington Pumping Station that the accident occurred.

### BABY IN PERAMBULATOR

Mrs. Horrobin was out for a walk with three of her children and her mother, Mrs. Charlotte Kinton, wife of an unemployed miner of Main-street, Swannington, with whom the Horrobin family live.

She and her seven-month-old boy, Horace, in a perambulator. Two other children, Sheila, aged two and Hilda, aged five, were walking with her.

They were walking along the line when two wagons came around a bend and ran into the women and children. Mrs. Horrobin was terribly injured. And the perambulator was smashed to matchwood. The baby lost a leg, the girl Sheila was cut about the head, but Hilda luckily escaped.

Mrs. Kinton was also knocked down and severely bruised about the head and face.

### TRAGIC NEWS FOR HUSBAND

At the time of the accident Mr. Horrobin, who had not been able to work that day, as the pit had been idle, was at home cleaning his bicycle. A little boy conveyed the news of the tragedy to him.

The baby was rushed to the Leicester Royal Infirmary by private car, and the other injured people were attended by Dr. A. Hamilton of Coalville.

Shortly after the admission of the baby to the infirmary, the father was informed that a blood transfusion would probably be necessary in the efforts to save the baby's life.

### NO RIGHT OF WAY

Mr. T. J. Sales, secretary of the Whitwick Colliery Co., who was early on the scene, stated that there was no public right of way along the line, which serves the collieries maintaining the Swannington pumping station. The wagons are usually horse-drawn.

In an interview Mrs. Kinton said: "I was walking with my daughter and the children when two wagons came round the corner. We tried to get the pram on to the bank, but the wagon caught it and dragged the pram and the woman underneath.

"As soon as I saw the wagons I shouted," said Mrs. Kinton, "but it was too late."

The news of the accident soon spread and many villagers rushed to the scene. Mrs. Smith wife of Mr. T. Smith a miner, of The Tan Yard, Swannington, bareheaded and with a shawl round her shoulders, kept vigil by the body until it was removed.

"I was there from 3.30 until 7 p.m., when the ambulance came to take her away," she said.

The two men in charge of the wagons were William H. Rowse, of Main-street Swannington, and Herbert Matchett, of Fone-hill, Swannington. They followed the wagons round the bend and saw the woman lying on the line. Matchett 'phoned for the police and the ambulance.

### LINK WITH STEPHENSON

The Dowager Lady Beaumont whose home Swannington Hall, is only 200 yards away, visited the scene of the accident. She informed the Leicester Evening Mail this morning that all she could do was to send her car to take the injured children to hospital.

The Swannington Incline, to which the siding is attached, formed the terminus of the old Leicester to Swannington Railway built by George Stephenson just over a hundred years ago, and was the first piece of railway to be opened in the Midlands.