

LITTLE, SHERMAN
?-August 10, 1926

The Wheatland Times
August 12, 1926

C. & S. EMPLOYEE STRUCK BY TRAIN DIES TUESDAY

Section Hand Tarries Too Long on Track, Meets Death
MISJUDGED SPEED

Various Stories Told By Eye Witnesses Of Tragedy

Sherman Little, 65 year old laborer employed by the Colorado & Southern R. R. on the extra gang employed at Wheatland now, was killed Tuesday afternoon when he was struck by the pilot beam of a southbound freight engine, while he was at work on the track at the Yellowstone highway crossing at the northeast corner of Wheatland.

Little was employed near the crossing with a crew of about 20 men, when a freight drawn by two engines approached from the north. All the other laborers stepped aside, but it is apparent that Little continued to work on the track, either misjudging the proximity of the train or for some other reason unknown.

In the report turned in by the foreman in charge to railway headquarters, it was stated that Little had stepped out of the way of the engine, but remained close to the rails, bending over and shoveling with his face in the direction in which the train was going, when the projecting pilot beam caught him in the back of the head. The foreman of the crew said that he had passed Little just before the accident, and that he had quit shoveling and was then standing up clear of the track. He had walked about 30 feet past the man when another member of the crew shouted that a man had been killed.

The pilot beam struck him in the back of the head, fracturing the skull at the base of the brain, the blow hurling his body out of the way of the train.

He was picked up by his fellow laborers, still alive, but unconscious, and taken to the office of the local railway physician, Dr. F. G. Huffman, where his case was pronounced hopeless. He lingered until 9 p. m., when he died without ever regaining consciousness.

Little had given Denver as his home address when entering the employ of the railway.