

## **The Giddings News**

October 12, 1923

### **SAD ACCIDENT AT DIME BOX**

**One Killed; Another Wounded  
When Auto and Train Collide**

Saturday afternoon the hurry and hustle of the town of Dime Box was suddenly checked when the sad accident happened that killed Frank Zelenewitz and cut off one foot for Joe Spacek, Jr. The two young men were driving in a runabout and they collided with the Dallas-San Antonio passenger train which is due at Dime Box shortly before 4 p. m. The accident happened at the public crossing and the view is open on both sides.

Frank was killed instantly, his head being cut open. Joe's foot was cut off near the ankle. He was given prompt medical attention and taken on to San Antonio with the train. He is in a hospital and is reported as doing nicely. Interment of Frank took place Sunday afternoon in the Catholic cemetery in the Hranlee community near Dime Box. It has been years since such a large crowd was in attendance at a funeral at that place.

From what was learned, it seems that the auto struck the engine somewhere near the driving wheels and the car turned in the direction the train was moving, the auto becoming mashed possibly between the driving rod and the running board of the engine, as the driving rod was making an up stroke. The driving rod possibly cut Frank's head, and the other occupant of the auto was hurled out of the car and one foot cut off before the bodies were thrust forward. Both bodies fell near each other. The auto was completely demolished.

That particular passenger train does not make regular stops at Dime Box, but it happened to be carrying "through" passengers that afternoon and it was to make a station stop to discharge them. The indications were that the emergency brakes had been applied with full force and the train was brought to a stop before the station was reached. The passengers were somewhat shaken up. The train remained at Dime Box about an hour until Joe's wound could be dressed for his removal to the hospital.

The young men are of prominent families of Dime Box who have there for many years. Neither was married and their ages were 21 and 25 respectively. The News joins the many friends of the deceased in sympathizing with the mother, father, sisters, and brother in their hour of sadness. Joe is reported as improving rapidly and his many friends hope to see him up and about soon.