

CAR AND AUTO CRASH; 30 IN PANIC; 3 HURT

Machine Speeding on Ash Street Rams Fourteenth Avenue Trolley, Driving It Up on Sidewalk.

PASSENGERS MAKE DASH FOR DOORS

Supt. Averill, of Chevrolet Motor Company, and Bookkeeper Carson Injured in Accident.

The Injured.

D. M. Averill, 33 years old, superintendent of the Chevrolet Motor company; face cut.

Hugh Carson, 28 years old, bookkeeper for the same firm; head badly cut, internal injuries; taken to Grace hospital in semi-conscious condition.

Roy Wilson, conductor of Fourteenth avenue car No. 1302; fingers crushed.

Three persons were injured and 30 thrown into panic shortly before midnight Friday, in a spectacular street car accident in Detroit.

A big black touring car, speeding east on Ash street, plunged full tilt into a northbound Fourteenth avenue car, traveling at fast speed. The street car was forced from its tracks and deflected at a complete right angle, so that afterward its vestibule rested over the east walk. A shower of electric sparks illuminated the scene as the street car rasped over the cobble-stones.

Hurry to Get Home.

The touring car, now a wreck, was owned and driven by D. M. Averill. He and Hugh Carson had worked late at the office of the Chevrolet Motor company, 1145-47 West Grand boulevard, and were tired and in a hurry to get home.

This fact of weariness is taken to account for the high speed of the automobile as it started across Fourteenth avenue. Carson, half delirious, spoke of it as he lay on the operating table a few minutes later in the office of Dr. R. Kirke Young.

Motorman C. B. Wright was driving the street car. It was carrying a gay party of young men and women, returning from some festivity. Wright did not see the automobile until it was too late to avert an accident. The black car struck an instant before he applied the emergency brakes.

Terrific Impact.

The impact was terrific. The crash was heard three blocks away, and roused scores of sleeping persons in adjacent houses. Cries and fears of an explosion whitened the faces in the street car. There was a wild rush for the rear door while the wheels were still grinding on the pavement.

The motorman's body was hurled sideways by the shock, but his hands clung to the controller and brake lever. Wright was not hurt.

Meanwhile, Conductor Wilson, with a bleeding hand, was trying to quiet the passengers in the car. Some of them had been thrown against the seats and the car sides and bruised. A man was about to drop off the rear end of the street car and was thrown to the pavement as the platform was swept out from beneath him.

Traffic Blocked.

Traffic both ways was blocked for an hour.

The street car's fender was torn away, and the front end of the car, pointing directly eastward after the crash, rested on the sidewalk in front of the residence of Dr. Charles F. Groff, 572 Fourteenth avenue.

Averill, laughing at his own injuries, was much worried about the condition of Carson, who was alternately rousing and lapsing into partial coma when carried into the office of Dr. Young.

Averill could not explain how the accident occurred. He is said to be a careful driver. But he, too, told Detective Thomas Holland, of Grand River avenue police station, that he had been very tired and in a hurry to get home.

Carson was taken to Grace hospital in police ambulance No. 8, from Vinewood avenue station. The ambulance arrived on the scene simultaneously with the flying squadron from Grand River station, with Detective Holland in charge.

Thrown Through Windshield.

Averill resides at 159 Bagg street and Carson at 159 Cass avenue.

Both men were thrown from their seats through the windshield and on to the pavement. The automobile was wrecked when it rebounded against a tree.

The street car grazed a steel trolley pole.

This accident recalls a fatality at the same corner last autumn, when a young man driving a motorcycle was struck by a street car and killed.