

Columbus Man Dies in Railroad Crash at Powell

Leroy R. Sears instantly Killed When
Train smashes Into Caboose of other.

LEAVES SIX CHILDREN

Fog Is Believed Cause of Accident – Other Workmen Escape Injury

(Columbus Dispatch, June 24, 1924)

Leroy R. Sears, age 37, of 342 East Gates Street, brakeman for the Hocking Valley Railroad, was instantly killed at 5 a.m. Tuesday when an extra freight train, south-bound, ran into the rear of a wreck train returning from having picked up a derailed car at Powell, Ohio. The caboose of the wreck train was demolished and Mr. Sears was caught in the wreckage.

One arm and one foot were cut off and he was severely crushed and burned.

Other members of the crew escaped uninjured with the exception of the flagman, who was only slightly hurt and was able to continue at his work. The wreck is said to he been caused by the heavy fog, which prevented the engineer from being able to see more than about 100 feet ahead. Neither train was moving fast, according to officials of the railroad. The body was brought to Columbus by the Schoedinger Co.

Mr. Sears was born at Milford Center, Ohio, and is survived by his wife, six children, the oldest 14 years old; his father, E.W. Sears, 956 Carpenter Street; one brother and five sisters.
