

Daughter, grandson of Harlan couple—

Train wreck claims life

DUNLAP — The daughter of a rural Harlan couple and her three-year-old son were killed Wednesday morning in a car-train accident 1½ miles west of here on a county road.

Barbara G. Sullivan, 25, daughter of Mr and Mrs Virgil Koppold of Rt. 3, Harlan, and a resident of rural Dunlap, died a few hours after the accident in Clarkson Hospital, Omaha. Her son, Paul, was pronounced dead at Missouri Valley Hospital shortly after the accident.

Authorities said the accident took place at 10:45 a.m., when the Chicago & Northwestern mail train struck the Sullivan pickup broadside.

VISION OBSCURED

The Koppolds said eye witnesses told them a freight train was stopped on the tracks near the crossing on one of the two sets of tracks. Seeing the stopped train, Mrs Sullivan apparently crossed in front of the first train and did not see the mail train coming along side the stopped train.

The mail train was traveling 70 miles per hour when the collision occurred, authorities said.

State Trooper Tim Huntington, who investigated the accident, said, however, that the train striking Mrs Sullivan's truck was on the tracks nearest her vehicle as she approached

the intersection.

The Koppolds said their daughter was heading west, coming home from the Bob

Sullivans north of Earling with a wagon load of silage. They added that she was always very cautious about crossing train tracks.



Barbara Sullivan
... killed near Dunlap

of woman, son

the speed limit for trains in that area.

The spokesman added that there wasn't another train in the vicinity at the time of the accident but he did not know if a rain car was on the tracks. There were cross-bucks on both sides of the crossing, he said.

The Chicago & Northwestern official urged drivers to be very cautious around any railroad crossings. He said with all the upgrading of railroad track his company has been doing, the trains are traveling faster now than people realize.

the lives of two Woodbine residents.

On Aug. 27, Dennis Thompson, 18, and Catherine Pape, 24, both of Woodbine, were killed when their car was struck by a Chicago & Northwestern freight train four miles south of Woodbine. That train was reportedly traveling at 70 miles per hour at the time of the accident.

On June 8, a rural Portsmouth woman, Mrs Clifford Morrison, and her four children escaped serious injury when their car was struck by a Milwaukee Road freight train three miles north of Persia.