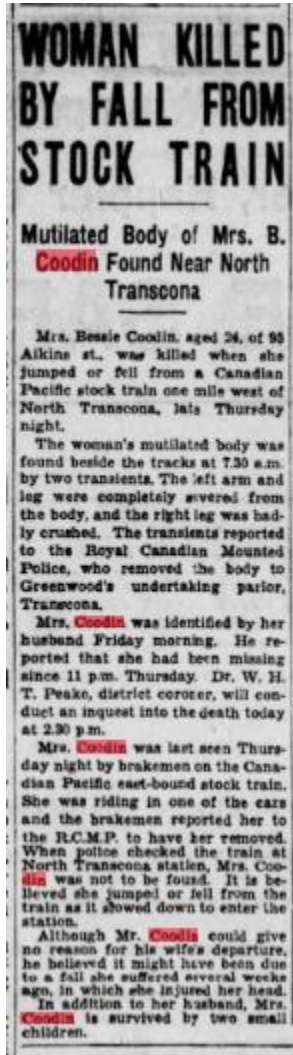


Bessie Coodin, Mottel's first wife, died in a mysterious train accident at the age of 24. The coroner ruled her death accidental, but family members always believed that Bessie took her own life. She might have been despondent about the death a few weeks earlier, of her sister-in-law Freda Coodin. The two were very close. Freda died of tuberculosis which she contracted while imprisoned for labour activity during a garment factory strike.

Mrs. Bessie (Max) Coodin
95 Aikins
b. 1911

Winnipeg Tribune
1935-05-25



Winnipeg Tribune
1935-05-27

DEATH OF RAIL VICTIM FOUND TO BE ACCIDENTAL

Jury Finds Young Married Woman Fell From Car Under Train

A verdict of accidental death was announced by the coroner's jury Saturday, investigating the finding of the mutilated body of Mrs. Bessie Coodin, 95 Alkens st., on the Canadian Pacific railway tracks one mile west of North Transcona early Friday morning. Dr. W. H. T. Peake, district coroner, conducted the inquest at Greenwood's undertaking parlors, Transcona.

Evidence given by Max Coodin, husband of the 24-year-old woman, showed that his wife had been acting queerly ever since a street car accident on May 12. Mrs. Coodin was admitted to the Winnipeg General hospital following the accident and had been treated for five days. The family physician told Mr. Coodin to watch his wife's conduct. She had since suffered from fits of depression and sleeplessness.

On the night of May 23, Mr. Coodin told the jury, his wife retired at 10.30 p.m. Unable to sleep she got up, explaining she would wait up for her mother to return from shopping. This was the last time Mr. Coodin saw his wife alive.

He reported her disappearance to the Winnipeg police, and on calling them for further information Friday morning, was told that a woman's body answering his wife's description, had been found at Transcona. He identified her at the funeral parlors Friday.

P. Costello, Canadian Pacific railway constable said on going to meet the east-bound stock train, he noticed a woman clinging to a ladder on the west end of a box car midway down the train.

At that time the train was slowing down to enter the station and was travelling at 30 miles an hour. After his inspection of the stock car Constable Costello could find no trace of the woman and reported the matter to Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Charles Carol, a transient from Kenora, described finding the body at 5.30 a.m. Friday. The left arm and leg were severed from the body. He reported to R.C.M.P. Corporal E. Burke.

Mrs. Coodin was buried at sunset Sunday at Sharrey Zedek cemetery.