# MERREY, Robert 15 July 1921

| Designation | Accident Location | Accident Due to |
|---|---|---|
| Shunter | Perth | Shunting operations |

Robert Merrey, a returned serviceman, was 31 years of age when he was fatally injured by being run over by a goods van and two trucks while engaged in shunting operations at Perth shunting yard. He died in Perth Public Hospital the following day. Robert was single and lived at East Perth, he is interred at Karrakatta Cemetery (ROMAN CATHOLIC/DB/0516).

**A Shunting Accident**
Robert Merry (sic.) the railway shunter, who sustained injuries of a terrible nature early, on Friday morning through being run down by a guard's van and two trucks, which were being shunted in, the Perth railway goods yards, died yesterday, at the Perth Public Hospital.

It appears that Merry (sic.) was engaged in shunting operations, and having shifted one set of points, he ran along the track to adjust another set, when he was struck by the van and the trucks, the three Vehicles passing over him. One arm was severed from his body, one leg was crushed, and other wounds were sustained. The Injured man underwent a severe operation, but it failed to save him. Merry was a single man 21 (sic.) years of age, and resided at Tamar Street, East Perth.

**Author's Note:** As can be seen from the above report, the press of the day paid little attention to the details of the person who is the subject of their report. Robert's surname was Merrey not Merry and his age was 31 not 21 the guard's van was in fact a goods van.

***Source:*** *Trove/Sunday Times (Perth)* Sunday 17 July 1921 Page 1.

**INQUEST**
**Shunter's Death.**
Before the Deputy Coroner (Mr. C. Dent, J.P.), in the No. 3 City Court yesterday afternoon, Detective sergeant Johnston conducted an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of Robert Merrey (31), a shunter, which occurred at the Perth Public Hospital on July 16 as the result of an accident at the Perth railway yards on the previous day, in which deceased sustained terrible injuries. The evidence of four railway employees, D. Mouton, E. B. Murphy, J. Boucher, and J, McCarthy, was to the effect that on the 15th inst. the deceased was removed in the fire brigade ambulance to the Perth Public Hospital after having been knocked down and run over by a goods van and two trucks. Deceased at the time of the accident was engaged in shunting operations.

Dr. W. A. Collopy, acting R.M.O. at the Perth Public Hospital, stated that as a result of his examination of the deceased he had come to the conclusion that death was due to hemorrhage and shock. The injuries sustained were such as could have been caused by contact with a moving train.

A verdict of accidental death, no blame being attachable to anyone, was returned.

***Source:*** *Trove/The West Australian (Perth) Thursday 28 July 1921 Page 6.*



Robert Merrey, Shunter, died as the result of a shunting accident 16 July 1921.