# WILTON, Thomas 6 November 1920

| Designation | Accident Location | Accident Due to |
|---|---|---|
| Fireman | Mornington Mill, Millar's T & T | Locomotive "JUBILEE" Derailed |

Thomas Wilton was 20 years of age and the fireman of the Locomotive "Jubilee" when he died in what was later to become known as the Wokalup rail disaster. The train guard, John Paulson, and 7 timber workers were also killed. John Paulson and three of the timber workers were veterans of the "Great War 1914-18". The locomotive "Jubilee" and its train of sleepers ran away on a steep down grade and derailed on a curve not far from Wokalup. Thomas' father, Christopher Wilton the Traffic Foreman, who was also on the loco jumped clear and survived. The driver, Clarence Cook and a timber worker Lloyd Morey were injured but also survived the accident.

**See also John Paulson, Guard.**

**FATHER'S TRAGIC ORDEAL.**
One of the most tragic features of the disaster is connected with the death of the fireman of the train. Thomas Wilton. His father, Christopher Wilton, is the mill traffic foreman, and was travelling in charge of the train on the footboard of his son's engine. The elder Wilton, subsequent inquiries have disclosed, realised that the locomotive was out of hand and jumped on to the permanent way, calling out to his son and the driver to follow his example.

As Wilton scrambled to his feet comparatively unhurt by his fall he heard the dull crash of the impact, and when he rushed along the line to the scene the disaster he found his son an inert, mutilated figure among the ruins of his engine.

It was mentioned today that the deceased who, in the ordinary course, is employed principally on "bush" trains, undertook to act as fireman on the ill-fated timber train in order to relieve a mate who wanted to go to a dance.

**Source**: Trove/Western *Mail (Perth)* 13 November 1920 Page 11.