

# NEGRO HOBO'S BODY SEVERED BY TRAIN HERE

## Freight Runs Over Him After He Falls From Load of Poles.

A Negro hobo reached the end of the trail here last night about 8:20 o'clock when an M. & St. L. s. outbound freight severed his body at the waist after he fell from a carload of poles in a drunken stupor.

In his clothes was found a social security card showing his name as William Hart and the town of his source as Burlington.

With the man at the time of his untimely death was another "knight of the rods," Jim Hood, also colored. Hood said that the two of them, with another transient, had consumed a quart and a half-pint of liquor at Marshalltown before grabbing the freight for a ride to Oskaloosa.

### Tumbled From Car.

Hart was asleep on the top of the load of logs, near the end of a flat car, when the train stopped at the local depot. Hood roused him to ask what the time was.

"He never did get his watch out," Hood told the Grinnell police. "He just heaved two or three times when he woke up, and then when the train jerked he fell off between the cars."

As the fallen man muttered to his companion, "Pull me outa here," the train started to move. Hart had been creeping toward the side of the tracks and was half way across the west rail. The grinding wheels cut his body in two just above the hips and the upper part was dragged some 200 feet down the tracks as the train went forward.

### Familiar Figure.

Hood was unable to identify the dead man, saying, "We just knew him as BIL," so his name was not determined until the undertaker went through his clothing.

The accident occurred just south of Fourth avenue, beyond the Norris garage.

Bill Hart had stopped in Grinnell often and will be remembered by many business men as a short, rather stooped man who always used a cane because of an impediment in his walk. His companion thought him to be about 41 years of age.

Collaps Debatore

Hart William