

Maine Fire Engines Crash, Kill 1, Hurt 5

[Special Dispatch to The Herald]

AUBURN, Me., July 7--A policeman was dead, two firemen were reported dying and three others were less seriously injured late this afternoon when fire trucks from Lewiston and Auburn collided at the busy intersection of Main and Court streets.

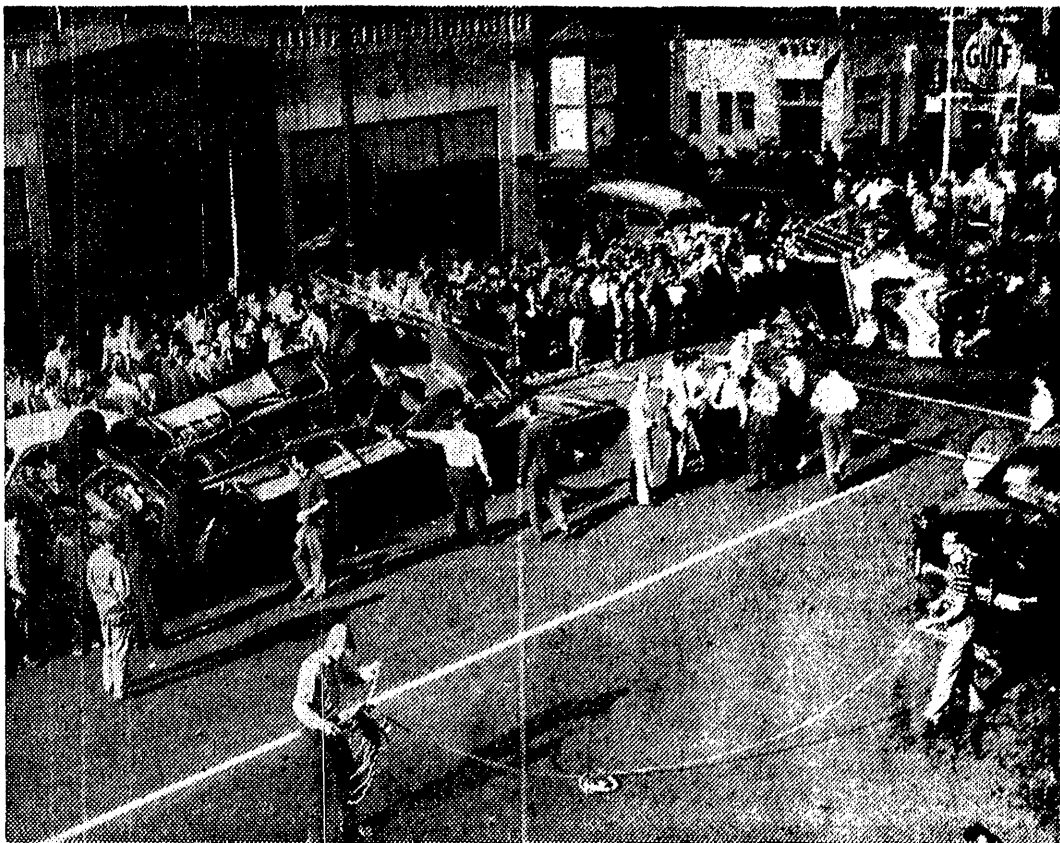
The Auburn truck was speeding up Court street on the way to a two-alarm fire in Turner street, while the other was going down Main street to the Auburn station to fill in as a precautionary measure.

Killed was Patrolman Norman C. Philbrick, a 30-year-old Navy veteran and father of two children who was directing traffic. He was attempting to halt the Auburn truck when a collision appeared imminent. He was run down and crushed between the two trucks.

Believed near death at Central Maine General Hospital were Capt. Russell H. Tarr, 47, of College road, and Pvt. Marcelene Vallee, 26, of Scribner boulevard, both of Lewiston, members of the Lewiston fire department.

Also seriously injured was Richard A. Taylor, 49 Whitney street, whose wife had given birth to a daughter an hour and 15 minutes earlier. He had been visiting his wife in the Central Maine General Hospital and, hearing the alarm sound for his neighborhood, got in his car and drove toward the area in the belief his home might be afire.

Philbrick flagged him over to the curb. As he parked his car, the collision came, toppling the trucks on his auto and crushing its top on Taylor.



(AP Photo)

FIRE TRUCK CRASH KILLS TWO—In Auburn, Me., Pvt. Marcien Vallee, 26, a Lewiston, Me., fireman, and Patrolman Norman C. Philbrick, 30, of the Auburn Police Department, were killed and five others injured when fire engines from Lewiston and Auburn collided and overturned. A private car was also crushed between the light pole and the left-hand fire engine.

Two Killed in Crash Of Maine Fire Trucks

Policeman Dies Trying to Avert Collision That Sends Five to Hospital; Fireman Killed

Auburn, Me., July 7 (AP)—A collision of two fire trucks at Auburn's busiest corner late today claimed the lives of a fireman and a policeman who tried to avert the crash.

Five Are Hurt

Five other men were injured, one critically.

Pvt. Marcien Vallee, 26, of the Lewiston Fire Department, died of a fractured skull late tonight.

Patrolman Norman C. Philbrick, 30, was crushed between the trucks which overturned at Main and Court Sts.

Two on Danger List

Philbrick tried to flag down an Auburn truck coming out of Main on its way to a residence fire just as Lewiston's Engine 2 crossed the intersection on Court.

Capt. Russell H. Tarr, 47, suffered

a skull fracture and other head injuries. His name is on the danger list at a Lewiston hospital.

A motorist whose car was wrapped around a light pole by impact with the Lewiston truck was seriously injured. Richard A. Taylor, 32, of Auburn suffered possible jaw and skull fractures and a cut cheek.

Taylor was taken to a Lewiston hospital where his wife had given birth to a daughter only one hour and 15 minutes earlier.

The crash practically demolished both fire trucks, Taylor's car and another car parked nearby.

Gasoline from the fire trucks' tanks spilled into the street. The Lewiston truck caught fire, some time after the accident, but the blaze was doused quickly.

Cop Killed in Crash Of Maine Fire Trucks

Auburn Man Dies Vainly Trying to Avert Collision That Sends Five to Hospital

Auburn, Me., July 7 (AP)—Two fire trucks crashed at Auburn's busiest street corner late today. A policeman was killed trying to avert the collision and five men were injured.

Patrolman Norman C. Philbrick, 30, was crushed between the trucks which overturned at Main and Court Sts.

Two on Danger List

Philbrick tried to flag down an Auburn truck coming out of Main on its way to a residence fire just as Lewiston's Engine 2 crossed the intersection on Court.

Capt. Russell H. Tarr, 47, and Pvt. Marclen Vallee, 26, of the Lewiston department suffered skull fractures and other head injuries. Their names are on the danger list at a Lewiston

hospital. A motorist whose car was wrapped around a light pole by impact with the Lewiston truck was seriously injured. Richard A. Taylor, 49, of Auburn suffered possible jaw and skull fractures and a cut cheek.

Taylor was taken to a Lewiston hospital where his wife had given birth to a daughter only one hour and 16 minutes earlier.

The crash practically demolished both fire trucks, Taylor's car and another car parked nearby.

Gasoline from the fire trucks' tanks spilled into the street. The Lewiston truck caught fire, some time after the accident, but the blaze was doused quickly.