

# KILLED ON AIR LINE TRACKS

## GEORGE KNOCHE IS RUN DOWN BY A SWITCH ENGINE.

**He Was Deaf and Did Not Hear the  
Engine as It Thundered Down  
Upon Him—Was an Uncle of  
Dr. J. P. Knoche.**

George Knoche, a real estate dealer of this city, was struck by a west bound Air line switch engine, between Crescent station and the Milwaukee junction, about three miles east of the city, at 8:30 o'clock last night. His neck was broken and his skull fractured at the base. He was brought to the city, and died on the depot platform at Second and Wyandotte streets before a surgeon could reach him. He did not regain consciousness before he died.

Mr. Knoche was an uncle of Dr. J. P. Knoche and John Knoche, of this city, and lived on the Knoche farm, a mile and a half east of Crescent station. While not transacting real estate business in the city, he remained at the farm with his sister, Dr. and John Knoche's stepmother. He took an Air line train at the Grand Central depot at 6:50 yesterday evening, and Conductor Ellis, of the train, saw him get off at Crescent. He went to the farm of Charles Booker, where, as clerk of the school board of his section, he transacted some business. Leaving Mr. Booker's house about 8 o'clock, Mr. Knoche walked back to the Air line tracks and started eastward toward home.

He was almost totally deaf, and was walking along with his head down when he was struck by the engine. Foreman Edward Sheehan, of the switch crew, and one of his helpers named Martin McDonald, were sitting on the front of the engine. They saw Knoche approaching at a distance of about thirty yards and called to him several times to get off the track. Sheehan says Mr. Knoche paid no attention to him or McDonald and did not lift his head until the engine was almost upon him. Then he saw his danger and made an attempt to jump, but was too late, and the engine knocked him from the track, hurling the body twenty feet through the air. The engineer stopped the engine and Mr. Knoche was placed in the cab and brought to the city. Deputy Coroner Wheeler ordered the body removed to Stewart's undertaking rooms.

George Knoche was 47 years old and a native of Berleberg, Germany. He came to this country with his parents in 1858, settling near Martin City, Mo., where until eight years ago he owned a farm of 400 acres. He sold the farm and started a store at Belton, Mo., but it did not prove a financial success and later he came to Kansas City. Here he conducted a curbstone real estate business with little success. Five years ago his wife secured a divorce from him and with their four children returned to her folks near Martin City.

Dr. and John Knoche were notified of their uncle's death last night by a reporter for The Journal, and went to Stewart's morgue, where they identified the body.

Coroner Bedford will hold an inquest.

Georg Ludwig Knoche was born in Wunderhausen on May 19, 1850, and came to America with his parents in 1858. His death occurred on September 05, 1897.