

KILLED AT DEPOT BY TONS OF ROCK

August Wedell, 55, Buried Under Wreckage After Avalanche From Roof.

MANY NARROW ESCAPES

Coroner to Sift Fatal Mishap, First Since Station Work Began.

Several tons of stone falling from the roof of the new union station structure at what is to be the 4th st. entrance, crushed and instantly killed August Wedell, 55, 391 Banfil st., laborer, at noon today.

Two other men were at first believed to have been killed, but a check of the payroll showed that no one else is missing, according to J. Stevens, president, Stevens & Son, Chicago, contractors, in charge of the work.

The removal of the debris will take several hours, he said.

STANDING ON PLATFORM.

Mr. Wedell was standing on a raised platform in front of the columns of the building giving signals to the derrick below.

The rock had been newly laid on the top of the wall in front of the building.

Suddenly, and without any warning, according to other laborers, the mass of rock fell.

It crushed the platform and Mr. Wedell to the ground below, killing him instantly.

Luckily nobody else was below at the time.

Several laborers had narrow escapes.

BODY IN WRECKAGE.

The body of Mr. Wedell was recovered from the wreckage shortly before 2 p. m. today.

It was considered unsafe to walk in front of the building, so a rope had to be lowered from the derrick on the roof. A fellow worker was let down to lift away the pieces of the rock from above the body.

Coroner C. A. Ingerson will investigate the case thoroughly, he said.

WIDOW DOES NOT KNOW.

The dead man is survived by his widow and a son, Gustave, employed at the Great Northern railroad shops. The widow has not been told yet of her husband's death.

Mr. Stevens said it was the first serious accident since the building began.

Hundreds of persons on their way to and from lunch, stopped to look at the debris.

Policemen were busy keeping people away from the vicinity considered dangerous.