

George S. Frison

1894 – 1924

Worland Grit, Thursday, August 7, 1924

ACE

GEORGE S. FRISON MEETS ACCIDENTAL DEATH ON MONDAY

CARRIED LOADED GUN IN CAR FOR COYOTES AND IN CROSSING SLICK CREEK BRIDGE IT RECEIVED A JAR WHICH CAUSED THE SHELL TO EXPLODE

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Monday evening of this week a dreadful accident was discovered about two miles north-east of town on the Yellowstone Highway. Carl Walker, a twelve-year-old boy was riding along on his horse near the Slick Creek bridge, when he happened to look into George Frison's car, which was standing along side of the road, and he saw George lying over in the front seat with blood on his clothes; the boy called to him and receiving no answer, he immediately notified Mr. and Mrs. Louis Jordan, who live a short distance from where the car was standing; they in company with others went over to the car and found the dead body of George Frison. They immediately notified the authorities in town and Coroner Dr. W. O. Gray rushed to the scene and found that George S. Frison had been accidentally killed by a gunshot wound fired from the Winchester rifle he was carrying in the seat of the car with him.

Mr. Frison was in the employ of Alex. Healy and the First National Bank as ranch foreman and about one o'clock Monday on his way to town Mr. Frison had stopped at the Early ranch to see Mr. Early. Leaving that place about one o'clock he passed Louis Jordan a short distance from the Slick Creek bridge, driving alone in his car, shortly after one, and when he went over the bridge Mrs. Jordan, who was going out to hunt clothes on the line heard a shot and thought that the tire on the car had blown out; she also noticed the car stop a short distance from the bridge. The car remained there all afternoon and as the body was lying down in the front seat, it could not be seen, and those passing on the highway naturally thought that the car was unoccupied. The body was not discovered until about six-thirty in the evening when young Walker happened to ride along and discover it.

George was a great lover of guns and at the time of the dreadful tragedy, he had a Winchester rifle in the seat with him; he always carried a rifle for the killing of coyotes, and when the car passed over the bridge, the gun which was loaded, sprung and the butt end hit against the door which exploded the shell; the bullet penetrated the right side before the elbow and came out on the other side making a big dent in the side of the car. Death was almost instantaneous and when found the body was in such a position as to indicate that after the shot was fired no struggle had taken place and when the body was raised it was just in the position he would have been in while driving.

George S. Frison was born in Basalt, Colorado, November 19, 1891,

being 30 years, eight months, and sixteen days of age; he came to Wyoming with his parents in 1901 and located in Ten Sleep. For the past few years he has been in the employ of Alex. Healy as ranch foreman and was a steady, hard working young man, having a host of friends in all parts of the Big Horn Basin; his untimely and sudden death came as a great shock and especially to his young wife and parents, who have the sympathy of the entire community in their hour of bereavement.

On Wednesday afternoon the funeral was held at the home of his parents at Ten Sleep, the services being conducted by Rev. Father Endres and the remains laid to rest in the cemetery at that place. The members of Floyd Munch Post American Legion attended in a body and friends and neighbors from all sections of the country were present it was one of the largest funerals held in Washakie County for some time. The beautiful flowers sent by friends almost loaded an automobile.

In the Matter of the Inquest upon the Body of George S. Frison, Deceased.

To Doctor W. O. Gray, Coroner of Washakie County, Wyoming.

We, Glen Laird, R. V. Koontz and C. H. Hampton, Jurors duly empanelled and sworn in the above entitled matter, do hereby return this our information.

We inspected the body of George S. Frison, deceased, have heard the testimony of Guy Woodruff, W. C. Johnston, Carl Walker, Mrs. Mary Jordan, A. H. Early, W. O. Gray, J. Lee Mayes and Louis Jordan, and have made all needed inquiries, and we find:

That said George S. Frison was a man about twenty-nine years of age and came to his death in the County of Washakie, State of Wyoming about 1:20 o'clock P. M. on the 4th day of August, 1924 that his death was caused from a bullet accidentally fired from a Winchester Rifle that said Frison was riding alone in an automobile on the Yellowstone Highway about two miles east of Washakie and he had a Winchester Rifle in the seat with him, as upon crossing the Slick Creek Bridge it jarred the automobile, discharged the rifle and the bullet therefrom entered the body of said Frison and instantaneously caused instant death.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF We have hereunto set our hands this 5th day of August, 1924.

GLEN LAIRD,
R. V. KOONTZ,
C. H. HAMPTON,

Jurors

