

# DEATH COST OF FAILURE TO OBEY

Harry Martin, Stutz Racing Mechanician, Killed and Tester Hurt Seriously at Speedway.

WAS TOLD TO "SLOW DOWN"

Driver "Opened Up" on Stretch in Spite of Warning, President Stutz Testifies.

Harry Martin, racing mechanician for the Stutz Motor Car Company, was killed and Frank Agan, car tester for the company, was severely and perhaps fatally injured at noon yesterday when a new Stutz racer turned over after throwing a tire on the Motor Speedway. Martin was killed instantly. Agan is in the City Hospital, where surgeons are working desperately to save his life. He was operated on for injuries to his chest and head last night. Surgeons said he can not recover.

The fatal accident occurred after Harry C. Stutz, president of the company which owns the new car and employed the men, had signaled his driver to slow down, according to Mr. Stutz's testimony before Coroner Durham at the inquest. Mr. Stutz said Martin had driven four laps of two and one-half miles each when he was signaled to decrease speed. He did so, Mr. Stutz said, but when he had nearly completed the circuit of the track on the fifth lap he "opened up" and the front tire blew out and the shoe

Victims of Fatal Sp



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so, Mr. Stutz said, but he had nearly completed the circuit of the track on the fifth lap he "opened up" and the right front tire blew out and the shoe rolled away from the car.

The car swerved into the retaining wall, bounded outward and described several violent gyrations as Martin tried to right it. As it skidded forward the car overturned and rolled over and over.

### MEN PINNED UNDER CAR.

The two occupants were pinned beneath it at the first turn. The car rolled into the clear and stopped about 100 yards from the point of its contact with the retaining wall.

Other witnesses called were R. E. Maypole, vice president of the company, and Gil Anderson, a racing driver. They were first to reach the injured men and summoned the ambulance which took them to the City Hospital.

Martin's body was taken to Flanner & Buchanan's undertaking establishment. His mother, father and sister took charge of it during the afternoon. Martin was 23 years old and his home had been in Peru, Ind. Since his employment here he had lived in the Meridian Flats.

### MOTHER IS PROSTRATED.

Agan is 31 years old and lives with his mother in their home at 2241 Kenwood avenue. His father, John S. Agan, died eleven months ago yesterday. Mrs. Ella Agan, his mother, was prostrated by news of the accident to her son and was unable to go to the hospital.

Martin and Agan are two of the best-known mechanics in the racing game. Both have had many years of experience on tracks throughout the country and have been seen in cars well up at the finish in the three 500-mile races.

Martin formerly was connected with the National factory and was Dawson's assistant when he finished first in the big race in 1912. In the event in May Martin rode with Charley Merz, and furnished a big thrill of the race when he crawled out on the hood of their burning car and unbuckled the straps so that pit men could put out the flames.

### CONSIDERED VALUABLE MAN.

His ability to understand what was wrong with his car made him a valuable man and he was as adept at the wheel as many drivers. His work with Dawson helped materially to win the race, and for that reason he was chosen by the Stutz Company to race this year.

When he made his last trip on the track he was driving a new racing model of the Stutz car which was believed to be an entrant in the Elgin and other race events during the season. When the car

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FRANK AGAN.

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## Federal Motor Works Sends Check for \$50 to Baby Fund

Interest is extending in the success of The Star Summer Mission Fund. A check and a letter were received by The Star yesterday from John N. Willys of the Federal Motor Works. The letter accompanying the check follows:

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When he made his last trip on the track he was driving a new racing model of the Stutz car which was believed to be an entrant in the Elgin and other race events during the season. When the car skidded into the wall, after blowing a tire, it hit near the same spot where the big Knox car tore a hole in the cement retaining wall three seasons ago. It is believed by those who investigated that the hub cap on the right front wheel caught on some lumber which had been left after the wall was repaired, the contact being forceful enough to cause the car to swerve sharply and take away every chance for the driver to gain control.

Martin was ambitious to drive in the next big Speedway event, and it is said that he would have been successful in obtaining a mount. He was a licensed driver under the American Automobile Association ruling. Charley Merz, who was Martin's chum and partner when they finished third this year, is heartbroken over the accident.

### AGAN A MAINSTAY.

Agan is one of the old mainstays of the Stutz racing organization. He rode with Gil Anderson this season and was accounted a mechanic with no superior. Anderson never wanted to ride a race without Agan, and when his partner was taken to the hospital he spent the most of the afternoon near his bedside.

The Stutz Company is doing everything possible for the man who helped bring fame on the track. Special doctors are attending the injured man and two nurses will do all in their power to bring him back to health.

### BALM ASKED FOR ACCIDENT.

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"At the direction of Mr. John N. Willys, president of the Willys-Overland affiliated companies, of which this company is one, we are enclosing our check for \$50 for The Star Summer Mission Baby Fund.

"Mr. Willys considers this a very commendable charity, and we trust that you will have no difficulty in securing funds to carry on the work properly.

"Wishing you success in your efforts, we are,

Yours very truly,  
"FEDERAL MOTOR WORKS,  
"F. J. SLEIGHT, Treasurer."

## TIRE THIEF GETS 41 DAYS.

Negro Captured by Miss Elizabeth Claypool Is Sentenced.

Henry Wells, colored, who was captured by Miss Elizabeth Claypool, 2052 North Illinois street, when he stole tires from her brother's garage, yesterday was sent to the Marion County Jail for forty-one days. Miss Claypool caught the negro, and, although he dragged her through an alley, she held on until assistance came. Wells denied in court that he had stolen the tires, contrary to a statement he made when arrested.

## NO MORE RAINFALL SOON.

Weather Bureau Says That Showers Are Unlikely.

No further rainfall is likely soon, according to the Weather Bureau. Expected showers failed to materialize yes-

...man at the inquest. Mr. Martin had driven four laps one-half miles each when he had to decrease speed. He did not say, but when he had nearly completed the circuit of the track on the lap he "opened up" and the tire blew out and the shoe came from the car.

He swerved into the retaining wall and described several gyrations as Martin tried to stop it skidded forward the car and rolled over and over.

**PINNED UNDER CAR.**

The occupants were pinned beneath the first turn. The car rolled over and stopped about 100 yards west of its contact with the retaining wall.

Witnesses called were R. E. Mayberry, president of the company, and Frank Agan, a racing driver. They were with the injured men and summoned ambulance which took them to the hospital.

Agan's body was taken to Flanner & Co. undertaking establishment. His father and sister took charge of the afternoon. Martin was taken to his home had been in the city since his employment here he lives in the Meridian Flats.

**HER IS PROSTRATED.**

Agan is 31 years old and lives with his mother at 2241 Kenwood. His father, John S. Agan, died several months ago yesterday. Mrs. Ella Agan, mother, was prostrated by the accident to her son and was taken to the hospital.

Agan and Agan are two of the best mechanics in the racing game. They had many years of experience throughout the country and had seen in cars well up at the top in the three 500-mile races. Agan formerly was connected with the Hatfield factory and was Dawson's mechanic when he finished first in the 500-mile race in 1912. In the event in May he finished with Charley Merz, and during the thrill of the race when he came out on the hood of their car and unbuckled the straps the men could put out the

**LOST VALUABLE MAN.**

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**SCHOOL BOARD  
BUILDING**

**Makes Awards  
New Structure  
No. 21 at**

The board of school directors held a special meeting last night for the erection of new school No. 21, Rader and Tenth streets, No. 41, Southeastern street. The cost at school No. 21 is estimated at \$55,000 and at No. 41, \$70,000.

The William P. Johnson Co. retained the contract for the building at No. 21, its bid being \$9,787, more than that of its nearest competitor, J. H. Meid, whose bid was \$9,787. The contract was let to the Hatfield Electric Co. for \$9,787, and the Hayes Bros. obtained the plumbing, but no electrical work was fixed, as all details were to be determined.

The general contract for the building for school No. 41 was awarded to A. Schumacher Co. for \$70,000. The contract to Woolley Co. for the electric work to school No. 41 was awarded to the Woolley Co.

**CHANGES**

While J. C. Ertmer's bid was the lowest bid on the specifications, the alternate bid that was made by the goods of the Cranford Co. at the apolis be used. A