

Train Wreck-

2402

Jan 8th. '57.

Hertfordshire--- 500 passengers had miraculous escapes from death, when a London-bound express from Scotland ploughed into the back of a moving local train, in early morning mist.

The accident occurred at Twenty-Mile Bridge- just south of Welwyn Garden City.

Breakdown gangs were quickly on the scene- to clear the wreckage which ~~completely~~ blocked all tracks, EXCEPT ONE.

Part of the engine of the Express was embedded in the ground, while seven of its eleven carriages were derailed.

Working round the clock- welders cut through the tangled mass of ~~twisted~~ <sup>twisted</sup> metal- and the task of relaying the damaged rails was begun.

One passenger- (travelling in the last coach of the local train)-

~~lost his life -~~ <sup>lost his life -</sup> died in the disaster, and two platelayers were ~~subsequently~~ <sup>subsequently</sup> killed, ~~near the scene of the crash.~~

~~But~~ The death roll would undoubtedly have been higher, but for the automatic couplings on both trains, which prevented the coaches from telescoping.

Within twenty-four hours, the main lines had been cleared for traffic.