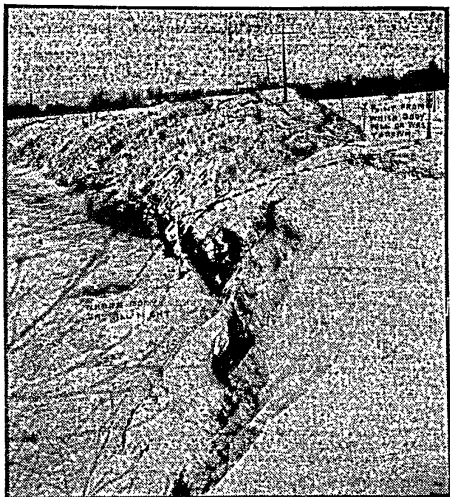


# WOODSMAN FALLS 20 FEET; ALL NIGHT IN SNOW BANK



Picture Showing Where Altonen was Thrown or Fell, a Distance of Twenty Feet, on Duluth & Iron Range Track at Thirteenth Avenue East.

**Charles Altonen, Believed to Have Been Thrown From Duluth & Iron Range Tracks, Over Rocky Precipice, at Foot of Thirteenth Avenue East—Life May Be Saved, Although Likely to Lose Both Feet—Is at St. Luke's.**

Charles Altonen, a woodsman, fell or was thrown over a rocky and steep precipice for a distance of 20 feet from the railroad tracks on the Duluth & Iron Range railroad Wednesday day night about 11 o'clock, to a snow bank on the shore of Lake Superior and lay there in an unconscious condition until 10 o'clock yesterday morning, when he was found by Louis Zalk of the Duluth Iron & Metal company, where he had fallen. He was taken to St. Luke's hospital, where it was found that both of his feet were frozen as were his ears. One eye was swollen and closed and he was suffering from numerous cuts and bruises about the head and face. Large lumps of snow and ice were frozen on his clothing, for Altonen had lain for almost 12 hours in a snow drift on the lake shore.

#### Skull Fractured.

Dr. Robert Graham, who attended Altonen, stated last evening that it was possible that the man had sustained a fractured skull, besides his other injuries. The fact that his face and head are so badly swollen precludes the possibility of making a thorough examination. Both feet will probably have to be amputated, they are so badly frozen, but it is impossible to ascertain this fact at this time also. Altonen came from Finland three months ago, and cannot speak a word of English.

William Bruman, Altonen's companion, is being held at the police station pending a further investigation into the details of the affair. The police are working on the supposition that Bruman threw Altonen over the cliff himself, after he had knocked him unconscious and robbed him of his money and watch.

Soon after Mr. Zalk had brought the injured man to the police station and he had been removed to the hospital, Bruman appeared at the chief's office and told Chief of Police Throyer his version of the affair. According to Bruman's story the men had been working at Smith's camp near Hornby for the past two weeks, and Wednesday morning left the camp, having been paid off, Altonen receiving a check for \$7.75 and his partner one for \$8.75. They walked to Hornby and purchased tickets for Lakeside, intending to get off there and take the street car into the city. The train was about four hours late that night, reaching Lakeside station between 10 and 11 o'clock. Bruman said that the street car which the men intended boarding, refused to stop for them and they then decided to walk into the city on the railroad track.

#### Approached by Highwayman.

At a point of about 200 feet west

of a switch at Thirteenth avenue east, he said, the men were approached by a highwayman. Both men had their knap sacks on their backs, and started to run with these impediments. Bruman stated that the man caught up with Altonen and dealt him a terrific blow on the head, felling him to the ground. The running man did not stop but came on towards the city, reaching his rooming house tired and breathless. He said that the house was dark and locked up, so he went over to the Bethel on Lake avenue. Here the clerk had gone to bed, but the place was open and Bruman entered and went to sleep, staying there for the remainder of the night.

#### Told of Accident.

In the morning he went to his rooming house and told of the accident to his companion. He was advised to go to the police headquarters at once and report the matter, thereby possibly clearing himself, but instead of this the police claim that he spent the morning in the city, cashing his check and drinking. He came to headquarters about noon and told Chief Troyer the above story.

Fred Johnson, Finnish Interpreter at headquarters, and Bruman were sent out to St. Luke's hospital at noon. The man was most anxious to hold a private conversation with Altonen, and on this account was sent from the room while the injured man was questioned. It developed that besides his check, he had \$53 and a watch on his person at the time, and the entire sum of money together with the watch was missing when the man recovered consciousness in the morning.