

[Lobdell, Nelson L.]

NELSON L. LOBDELL, JR. AND THREE OTHERS LOSE LIVES AT CANTON CROSSING

Sorrow fell with crushing force upon this community, shortly before noon, Wednesday, as it became known here that Nelson L. Lobdell Jr., and three other young men had been instantly killed at about 9 o'clock that morning, when an automobile in which they were riding was struck by a fast New York Central train at the Gouverneur street crossing in Canton, N. Y.

Nelson, a St. Lawrence University junior, and one of his college friends, Raymond J. Beardsley of New Berlin, N. Y., had started out to hitch hike to Nelson's home in this village for the Thanksgiving recess.

A third student, Wheeler B. Anderson of Bridgeport, Conn., was on his way to spend the holiday with a sister. The driver of the car, Amos Goodbout, 25, picked the boys up to give them a lift to DeKalb Junction, where he was employed as a garage mechanic. Goodbout attempted to stop his car when he saw the train, but the road was wet, the wheels skidded and the car came to a halt on the tracks. The crossing, which is just outside the corporation limits of Canton, has been the scene of several bad accidents and is scheduled for elimination. Bob Gillis, a St. Lawrence student, and C. J. Cushman of Syracuse, with whom Gillis was riding, witnessed the accident and notified the Canton authorities.

Nelson L. Lobdell, Jr., was born in Japan, December 26, 1909, while his parents, the Rev. and Mrs. Nelson L. Lobdell, were Universalist missionaries in that country. With the exception of a visit here when he was about four years old he lived in Japan most of the time in Shidzuoka, until the Fall of 1920, when the family returned to this country and remained in California for the Winter. Since the Spring of 1921, his home had been in Victor. After graduating from Victor High School with honors, he became a student in St. Lawrence University in Canton, from which institution his father was graduated in 1900, and he had made good progress in his studies there. He was a charter member of Rho Chapter of Phi Pi Phi fraternity, a member of the Mathematics Club, and was on the staff of the Hill News, the Bubble and the Gridiron.

In Victor, Nelson took an active interest in many affairs, including school athletics. He was popular among his schoolmates and made many friends among the older people. Besides his parents, he is survived by a sister, Miss Marian E. Lobdell, who is a sophomore in St. Lawrence University, and by an aunt, Miss Marion F. Lobdell.

Funeral services will be held in the First Methodist church in this village at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon. Burial will be made in Boughton Hill Cemetery.

*Victor Herald*, Victor NY, Fri. 29 Nov 1929

[Lobdell, Nelson L.]

CHURCH FUNERAL FOR STUDENT ATTENDED BY MANY FRIENDS

Accompanied by two of his fraternity brothers, William Ellis and Peter Falter, the body of Nelson L. Lobdell Jr., came home, Thanksgiving Day, from Canton, where on the previous day he and three other young men had passed swiftly through the portal which we call death.

Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock the First Methodist Church was filled by the many friends who gathered to express by their presence at the funeral services their own sorrow and their sympathy for the bereaved family. A profusion of beautiful flowers gave their message of life that springs anew, persistent and triumphant from hidden roots, and we mourned not as those without hope.

Dr. Atwood, dean of the Canton Theological School, and the Rev. Arthur P. White of Syracuse spoke the words of comfort and faith, their messages following Scripture readings by the Rev. John V. Mills of the First Presbyterian Church of Victor. Dr. Atwood paid high tribute to Nelson, both as a student in St. Lawrence University and as a young man of good principle and high ideals.

Among those attending the funeral were the Rev. C. C. [Charles Clare] Blauvelt of the First Universalist Church of Rochester and Students Ellis, Falter, Wood, Casano, Lapointe and Lapointe, Denning and Zornow of St. Lawrence University.

Services in memory of Nelson and Raymond Beardsley and Wheeler Anderson, the two other St. Lawrence students who lost their lives in the same accident, were held in Memorial Chapel at the university, Thursday morning. Nelson's body was laid at rest in the Boughton Hill Cemetery.

*Victor Herald*, Victor NY, Fri. 6 Dec 1929