

October's Traffic Toll Zooms To 23

By United Press International

Two triple-fatality accidents sent the Indiana traffic death toll for the first four days of October skyrocketing to at least 23 in a startling spurt of tragedies that defied explanation.

Three young women were killed late Wednesday night when their car was struck by a Pennsylvania Railroad train near Yorktown, it raised the train-auto collision toll in two weeks in three days to eight.

A father and his two young sons were killed Wednesday afternoon in an accident on Indiana 2 near LaPorte when their car struck a cable stretched between two road graders working on the shoulders of the highway.

And a 6-year-old South Bend boy, Gary A. Knapik, died Wednesday afternoon from injuries suffered Tuesday when he was hit by a car as he hurried home from playing in a woods.

The Yorktown train-auto victims were Etta Smith, 22, Anderson, driver of the car; Regina

Mills, 20, and Elizabeth Cox, 20, Anderson. Miss Smith and Miss Mills were killed outright. Miss Cox died this morning at a Muncie hospital.

Train engineer C.R. Campbell, Logansport, said the train was traveling more than 45 miles per hour when it struck the car. He said he saw the vehicle approaching the crossing and sounded the whistle but the car did not stop.

It was difficult to explain the sudden spurt in fatalities, which threatened to send the toll up to or past the comparative totals for 1960 after weeks of death reductions from the year-ago figures. Except for some rain Sunday on the first day of the month, the weather furnished no driving hazards.

The death toll reached 774 compared with 798 this time last year. Among the latest victims were a father and his two young sons killed in a freak accident near LaPorte. A third son was "very critically" injured when the family car hit a cable stretched be-

tween two graders.

Killed were Paul E. Eckman, 28, R.R. 1, New Carlisle, and his sons, Robert, 4, and Randy Lee, 6 months. Another son, Roland, 8, was critical at Holy Family Hospital in LaPorte.

Police said the Eckman car, en route from LaPorte to New Carlisle, approached the graders from the rear and Eckman apparently did not see the cable. The cable sheared the top off the car and decapitated one of the boys.

Ray Toppin, 62, Anderson, died Wednesday in St. John's Hospital in Anderson from injuries suffered Sept. 28 in a collision at the intersection of a county road and Indiana 109 near Anderson.

State police said the latest car-train collision killing three near Yorktown, and the five-fatality train-car crash near Indianapolis on Monday afternoon which killed Franklin Central High School pupils, raised the 1961 car-train accident death toll to 52 compared with 69 for the entire year 1960.

51 Bills Signed By Kennedy Wednesday

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Kennedy has signed 51 bills into law including authority to give France atomic weapons training information and a measure broadening the FBI's authority to chase fugitives across state lines.

In his busiest bill-signing day since he became President, Kennedy also approved measures Wednesday to:

—Extend for two years the program under which some 350,000 Mexican "bracero" farm laborers have been brought to the U.S.

—Create 760 more super-grade jobs in government agencies for administrators and scientists, mostly at \$18,500 and \$19,000 salaries.

—Make it a federal crime for an American citizen to spy against the United States while in a foreign country.

—Require employees of domestic organizations substantially controlled by foreign governments or political parties to register as foreign agents.

—Make it a federal crime to counterfeit bonds and other obligations issued by states.

—Authorize the President to lend 16 more warships from the reserve fleet to U.S. Allies.

If you have something to sell or trade — use the Democrat Want ads — they get BIG results.

Welcome Home Party For Tourists A Bust

WELCOME HOME PARTY CHICAGO (UPI) — Even the welcome home party for Erin's Own was a bust.

All 100 Chicagoans stranded for a week at the Shannon, Ireland, airport when a succession of troubles beset their chartered airliner, were home today, but the return flight added new chapters of fiasco to the bad luck of the Irish.

The final 92 travelers touched down at O'Hare International Airport more than four hours late Wednesday afternoon.

By the time they arrived, most of the sandwiches and coffee sent for the travelers from Chicago's swank Pump Room of the Ambassador East Hotel were gone, consumed by the crowd of about 200 friends and relatives awaiting them.

Only a few of the travelers appeared for a "social get-together" Wednesday night at Gene O'Hagen's West Side saloon, "unofficial headquarters" for the 100 Gaelic football buffs who formed Erin's Own Club.

"Most of them were too tired. Only a few showed up and they were rather subdued. There were more newsmen and curiosity seekers here tonight than club members," O'Hagen said.

Some drank Irish whiskey and mourned the 400 bottles of the dew of the hills which had to be left behind when their plane was found to be overweight.

There was no talk of another trip to Ireland next year, although O'Hagen said it "wouldn't surprise me if they decide to charter another plane. I don't think it will be from the same airline, though."

The flight back was dogged by the same string of misfortune which kept the Chicago Irish grounded at Shannon, some without funds, others ill and hungry.

The plane was late taking off and over the Atlantic the chartered aircraft encountered head winds which forced it to make an unscheduled refueling stop at Buffalo, N. Y.

Man Dies In Fire At Neighbor's Home

MADISON, Ind. (UPI) — Jack Sturgeon, 50, Madison, burned to death Wednesday when fire swept the home of a neighbor where he was spending the night.

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Mrs. Abbie Schoeneman Dies Last Evening

Mrs. Abbie Cora Schoeneman, 74, a native of Adams county, died at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at her home on Fort Wayne route 8. She was a member of St. John's Lutheran church.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Noble Hilly of Fort Wayne, and Mrs. William Deuter of Roanoke; four grandchildren; and three brothers, Ralph and Russell Ruch of Fort Wayne, and Chester Ruch of Long Beach, Calif. Friends may call at the Kleinh funeral home after 7 p.m. today.

Teacher Suspended For Whipping Girl

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — Merle N. Jackson, North Madison, was suspended without pay from his position as acting principal of Muscatatuck State School on charges that he whipped a mentally retarded girl patient with his belt.

Jackson was suspended Sept. 20 while authorities investigated the charge, according to Dr. Stewart T. Ginsberg, state mental health commissioner, who said he was told the girl was punished because she "misbehaved" in a classroom of the school building at the Butlerville institution.

Ginsberg said he is awaiting a report of a state police investigation.

Jackson appealed his suspension to the State Personnel Board which is expected to hold a hearing soon. He declined comment on the suspension and said "the facts will come out" in the hearing.

Jackson has taught at Muscatatuck for five years. He is chairman of the Muscatatuck local of the State, County and Municipal Employees Union.

Dr. Donald H. Jolly suspended Jackson on charges of "abuse of a patient."

Three In Jail On Narcotics Charges

LOGANSPORT, Ind. (UPI) — Three persons were jailed Wednesday night on narcotics charges after their arrest in a car police said contained two hypodermic needles.

The were identified as Helen Roach, 39, and William Roach, 45, Michigan City, and Dorothy Tate, 31, Perryburg, Tenn. The driver of the car, Richard Gregg, 32, St. Paris, Ohio, was charged with two traffic violations.

Trade in a good town — Decatur.

Most Of Corn Crop Is Safe From Frost

LAFAYETTE, Ind. (UPI) — Farm experts said today that 70 per cent of the Indiana corn crop was safe from frost by the end of last week, compared with a normal percentage of about 83.

R. E. Straszheim, agricultural statistician at Purdue, said the most advanced corn is in the northwestern counties and the least advanced in the east central counties.

Combining of soybeans is about 25 per cent complete compared with about 30 per cent normally.

Stormy weather limited field work last week. Top soils were moistened and pastures improved in the northern two-thirds of the state but southern areas continued to report moisture shortages.

Planting of winter wheat and barley was interrupted by rains in the north.

Straszheim reported that the picking of fall apples was in the final stages and the harvest of winter apples began during the week. Tomato picking passed the peak.

Ribicoff To Stump For School Program

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Abraham Ribicoff, secretary of health, education and welfare, said today the failure of Congress to enact the administration's school aid program "threatens our strength as a nation."

He announced, in a speech at the 44th annual meeting of the American Council on Education, that he was undertaking a personal, coast-to-coast speaking campaign to stir up public support for the program.

Ribicoff said he would speak to "audiences of educators, teachers, parents, civic leaders, and students" about the "urgent need" for action at all levels of government—including federal aid—to assure a "higher quality of education" for American youth.

He appealed to the 900 college and university presidents attending the meeting to join him in shaking the public out of its apathy toward the educational crisis.

"The people of this nation have not made a firm commitment to the idea of education of the highest quality," he said.

If you have something to sell or trade — use the Democrat Want ads — they get BIG results.

History Class On Television Here

Television has come to Decatur high school, as four days a week the entire sophomore class watches a "certain" program while in school.

The only difference between the television program in the school, and that in the home, is that the school television is a daily lesson in world history, presented in a new and unique way.

The programs are part of the Midwest program on airborne television instruction, sponsored and presented by Purdue University.

The first four days of each, the entire sophomore class assembles in the study hall at the school, and all 108 class members view the program for the day. Lowell J. Smith and Mrs. Dorothy Schneepf are the instructors for the class, and they report that the new idea in schooling is working out excellently.

Half-Hour Program

Smith does most of the lecturing of the class, while the two alternate in making up tests and grading papers.

Generally, the period, which is the first in the afternoon, beginning at 12 noon, consists of the TV program, which is half an hour long, and then Smith and Mrs. Schneepf discuss with the class the important items of the day's program, and outline the next day's lesson during the final 30 minutes of the period.

The television schooling, which runs a total of 32 weeks, deals with world history, covering the beginning of time up to the present. The programs coincide generally with the text the class uses, "Our Changing World."

As explained before, the program is sponsored, organized, and presented by Purdue University, with cooperation from many others. The university lines up the courses and teachers, and the programs originate from the school. The Ford Foundation assumes the expenses of the program, to initiate them to the school.

The television programming covers a five-state area, of which Decatur is very near the broadcast center, which is Montpelier.

Hope To Include

Smith explained that Decatur high hopes to include another class through the television program next year. He said that the students are very attentive both to the program, and to the study following the program. "The youngsters are responding very nicely," he further stated.

He also went on to explain many of the advantages of the television class in the school. Whereas a teacher can describe something in history to a pupil or class, the programs on television have already lined up interesting samples and pictures to fully illustrate the point. Such samples, pictures, etc., a teacher normally doesn't have in the classroom itself.

Thus, it definitely appears that

television is her to stay—even in the schools.

Plan Further Tests On Speaker Rayburn

DALLAS, Tex. (UPI) — A surgeon at Baylor University Medical Center announced today that he will take a tissue sample from ailing House Speaker Sam Rayburn for a diagnosis.

The surgeon referred to it as a "diagnostic biopsy." A spokesman for the hospital said that a biopsy is frequently but not always a test for cancer.

The 79-year-old Rayburn has had severe back pains for three months and has been losing weight. He reported at Baylor Monday on the advice of a doctor in Bonham, Tex., his home town, for exhaustive medical tests.

The surgeon, who asked that his name be withheld, probably will decide, upon the basis of the diagnostic biopsy, whether to operate.

The surgeon said Wednesday that Rayburn is seriously, though not critically, ill.

"Any man who has been ill for three months is in serious condition," he said.

10-Year-Old Boy Saves Schoolmates

WEST SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (UPI) — Ten-year-old Steven Eicker's habit of watching the school bus driver operate the vehicle saved 35 of his schoolmates from possible harm Wednesday.

The driver, Isaac Martin, 70, collapsed and died at the wheel as the bus was approaching an intersection.

Young Steven jumped from his front seat, slammed his foot on the brake and snapped off the ignition bringing the bus, with 35 youngsters aboard, to a safe halt.

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