

Decatur Daily Democrat, Adams Co, IN; Wednesday, March 30, 1927

W. P. Merriman Dies of Injuries

Fall from hay mow proves fatal to Blue Creek Township Farmer

Injuries sustained when he fell twenty feet from the hay mow in the barn on his farm to a wagon below, Tuesday morning, proved fatal to William P. Merriman, 51, prominent Blue Creek township farmer, and Mr. Merriman died at 5 o'clock yesterday evening, without regaining consciousness after the fall. A fractured skull caused his death.

Mr. Merriman was unloading straw into the barn from the wagon and was standing in the hay mow door above the wagon when he lost his balance while pulling on the trip rope attached to the hay fork, and fell to the wagon, alighting on his head and right shoulder.

Mr. Merriman was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Merriman, and was born in Blue Creek township, March 31, 1875. He would have been 52 years old tomorrow. Twenty-nine years ago, Mr. Merriman was married to Victoria Riley, who survives. Mr. Merriman was a member of the Salem Methodist Episcopal church. He taught school for 23 years and had spent the remainder of his life farming.

Surviving, besides the widow, are one brother, Lem Merriman, of Decatur; one sister, Mrs. John Meyers, of Blue Creek township; and the following children; Russel, of Decatur; Elisha, of Toledo, Ohio, and Omer, Beryl and Austin, at home.

Funeral services will be held at the Salem Methodist church at 10 o'clock Friday morning. with the Rev. F.A. Shipley, of Pleasant Mills, officiating. Burial will be made in the Salem cemetery.

Adams County Witness, Berne, Indiana, Wednesday, March 30, 1927

WM. MERRIMAN DIES OF INJURIES

Blue Creek Township Farmer Falls from Hay Mow Tuesday A.M. - FELL HEAD FIRST

William Merriman, 52, prominent Adams county farmer, died, Tuesday evening at his home in Blue Creek township from a fractured skull and other injuries which he received when he fell head first from the haymow. Mr. Merriman was unloading straw at the barn on his farm. He fell to the wagon below, a distance of about 12 feet, alighting on his head. He never regained consciousness and died at five o'clock Tuesday evening. His condition was considered too serious to remove him to the Adams County Memorial Hospital at Decatur. No one saw Mr. Merriman fall. His wife heard the crash, however, and investigated, finding her husband lying in a pool of blood. He was engaged in unloading straw from the wagon into the haymow by means of a hayfork. He had climbed to the door through which the straw was being carried into the barn, and in some manner, lost his balance and fell. Mr. Merriman was well known in Berne. He is survived and mourned by his wife and five children, Russel, who attended the Berne High School, Omer, Beryl, Elisha and Austin. One child, Don, preceded as did his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Merriman. One brother, Lemuel, of Decatur, and one sister, Mrs. John Meyers of Blue Creek township also survive. One sister, Mrs. C. A. Krugh, preceded him. Mr. Merriman was a cousin of Judge Jesse C. Sutton of the Adams county circuit court. Funeral services will be held at the Methodist church at Salem Friday morning at 10:00 o'clock. Rev. F. A. Shipfey will be in charge. Burial will be made at the Salem cemetery.