

## COUNTY DEATH TOLL MOUNTING

### Durbin Death Sunday is Eighth Highway Fatality During 1938

With the Sunday morning death of Joseph Durbin in the Adams county memorial hospital as result of injuries sustained when struck by an auto, the county's traffic toll took another step toward establishing a new record for highway deaths.

Despite the fact that the county went through the first seven months of 1938 with but a single traffic death marked up against it, to date the number of deaths is identical with the same period in 1937.

To date in 1937 eight persons had been killed on Adams county roads. The same number stands for the same period in 1938 - and with the exception of one - all these were marked up in the past 43 days.

In additional to these deaths, one Decatur citizen and one former resident died in another county in auto accidents.

Should the rate of deaths continue on that scale for the balance of the year, 23 residents will have lost their lives by January, 1939 - more than twice the number of last year.

August, of course, was the worst month with six of the eight deaths occurring in the 31 day period. The first death was recorded in May.

Federal road 27 took the most lives, four deaths occurring in one accident last month and one in April. One died on federal road 224, west of the city, one was killed on a county road near the Ohio state line, east of the city. One was killed in Blue Creek township and now the death on federal road 33.

Those who were killed in the accidents or died later from injuries: Bert Bears of Hartford township, August Leimenstoll of Magley, Jerome Gase and Monica Colchin of Decatur, Detlef Petersen of Fort Wayne, Laura Niehaus of Anglola, Mrs. Mabel Ross of Wren, Ohio and Mr. Durbin of Pleasant Mills.