

(Handwritten date: Monday, May 17, 1937)

DAVID LUGINBILL IS BADLY HURT IN FALL TODAY

Elderly Local Painter Falls From Ladder at Vilas Schindler Home

David Luginbill, aged 80, of North Sprunger street, well known painter, is in a serious condition in the Adams County Memorial Hospital at Decatur, suffering from injuries received in a fall at 8:10 o'clock this morning. Mr. Luginbill was painting the Vilas Schindler residence on North Sprunger street when he fell from the ladder on which he was standing. He fell a distance of about 16 or 18 feet, landing on his head and shoulders

Mr. Luginbill suffered concussion of the brain, a fractured collar bone and some fractured ribs. It was not definitely known early this afternoon how many ribs were fractured, but one was broken in several places. Mr. Luginbill also received a badly wrenched neck and suffered bruises.

More X-ray pictures were to be taken this afternoon to determine the definite extent of his injuries. His skull was not broken, the doctor said, and his neck, at first feared broken, was just wrenched.

Mr. Luginbill is given a "fair" chance to recover, provided no complications set in, according to his attending physician. Because of his advanced age, his condition is very serious.

Mr. Luginbill was painting the north side of the Schindler house. Noah Neuenschwander, former street commissioner here, who was also painting at the Schindler home, witnessed the accident. It is believed that Mr. Luginbill became dizzy and started to descend the ladder, but fell before he had taken more than one step. At first it was thought he may have suffered a light stroke, but this was denied by the attending physician. Luginbill was unconscious when picked up and has remained in a semi-conscious condition since. He was rushed to the hospital in the Bierie and Yager ambulance.

(Handwritten: Thursday, May 20, 1937)

INJURIES IN FALL FATAL TO DAVID LUGINBILL

Well-Known Local Painter Dies at Hospital; Funeral Friday P.M.

David Luginbill, 80, well known local painter and a resident of Berne and community all his life, died at 6:20 o'clock Wednesday morning at the Adams county

hospital. Death resulted from injuries Mr. Luginbill received at 8 o'clock Monday morning when he fell from a ladder while painting the Vilas Schindler house on North Sprunger street.

Mr. Luginbill fell about 20 feet, lighting on his head. He suffered a bad concussion of the brain, a broken collar bone, broken ribs and a punctured lung. He also suffered a deep neck injury. He never became conscious following the accident, and little hope was held for his recovery.

FIRST FATAL ACCIDENT

It was the first fatal accident in 1937 in which any Berne resident was involved, and brings the tragic death toll in the county this year to ten, or one more than were killed the entire year of 1936.

Mr. Luginbill had been a painter for 27 years, and had several contracts for this spring and summer. Before he started painting he was a well known farmer.

The deceased was born near Berne in Wabash township, November 26, 1856, the son of Peter and Barbara Steiner Luginbill. Both the mother and father were born in France. Mr. Luginbill's exact age at the time of his death was 80 years, five months and 23 days. He was exceptionally active for his age.

He was married to Mary Ann Lehman on June 16, 1880. His first wife preceded him, passing away May 20, 1910, which was 27 years ago today.

October 26, 1930, he was remarried to Mary Ann Sumney of Bluffton, O. His second wife survives.

Children surviving are Mrs. Abraham Habegger, Mrs. Rufus Sprunger of Berne, and Miss Nellie Luginbill, at home. Two sons preceded. All children were from the first marriage.

Four sisters survive. They are: Mrs. S. F. Sprunger, Mrs. David Bixler, both of Berne; Mrs. Christine Hirschy of Blue Creek township and Mrs. Mary Stucky of Decatur.

Three brothers and two sisters preceded. They are John, Sam, Christian, Susan and Elizabeth.

Funeral services will be conducted at the residence on 317 North Sprunger street Friday afternoon at 1:45 o'clock and at the First Mennonite Church, of which he was a member, at 2:00 o'clock. The Rev. C. H. Suckau, pastor of the church, will officiate. Interment will be made in the M. R. E. Cemetery.

Transcribed by Karin King