

Car-Truck Crash Friday

Hiway Crash Near Grinnell Claims Life Of William Buchmeier

Death waited on the outskirts of Grinnell Friday morning for 31-year-old William A. Buchmeier of Rte. 2, Kellogg, who died instantly when the auto he was driving was smashed roadside by a heavy truck transport loaded with new automobiles.

Others Injured

With Buchmeier in the auto were his wife, May; their 14-year-old daughter, Lena; and her friend, Juanita Hoen, 13. Though her condition was not regarded as serious, Mrs. Buchmeier was hospitalized overnight in Grinnell for treatment for shock and head, arm, and hip injuries. The Buchmeier girl was treated for shock and hospitalized.

Miss Hoen was treated for cuts and bruises on her leg and later released. The driver of

the truck involved, Fred E. Kubat, 41, Mendota, Ill., received treatment for shock and was released.

Weather Not Factor

The accident occurred at about 9:15 a.m. at the intersection of the north-south road crossing Highway 6 by the Ahrens Mfg. Co. and the DeLong Jacket factory. Despite the recent snows and bad weather conditions, investigating officers said the weather was not a factor in the crash.

According to accounts of the fatal crash reported by Highway Patrolman Paul Gearhart and Police Chief Earl Brown, who arrived at the scene just a few minutes after the collision, three vehicles played roles in the crash leading to Poweshiek county's first traffic fatal-

ity of 1960, although only two were actually involved physically.

The officers said a car driven by Floyd Beason of Grinnell was proceeding west on Highway 6 and was being followed by the Treloar Trucking Co.-owned truck driven by Kubat. The Buchmeier auto, a 1954 model Plymouth coach, was traveling toward Grinnell from the west on Highway 6 as the three machines approached the intersection with the north-south road.

Waiting To Turn

In a statement made to the investigating officers, Beason said he slowed down and came to a halt, wanting to turn left from the highway but waiting for the Buchmeier car to pass. As Beason stopped, Kubat hit the brakes of the truck and its momentum caused it to slide into the opposite lane of traffic. The left front fender of the truck crashed into the side of the Buchmeier auto about where the driver's door opens.

The officers speculated that Buchmeier died almost immediately when the car and truck crashed together. His auto, then without a driver, careened for nearly 100 feet on east, and finally plunged into a high bank of snow.

Beason's car, ahead of the truck and north of Buchmeier's auto, was not struck by either machine.

Charges Filed

Officers said that charges of failure to give a continuous signal of intent to turn have been filed against Beason.

Total property damages in the crash were estimated at more than \$1,000. The Buchmeier car was considered a total loss while damages of between \$300 and \$400 were incurred by the truck.

County Coroner Rex Brame was summoned to the scene and after completing his investigation, gave approval for Buchmeier's body to be removed from the death car. The body was then taken to the James Schalinske Funeral Home in Grinnell.

Funeral Services

Funeral services for Mr. Buchmeier will be held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the St. Paul's Lutheran church in Kellogg with the Rev. Lloyd Dobroth officiating. Soloist will be Mrs. Russell Parsons, accompanied by Mrs. Harold Mason at the organ. Serving on the flower committee will be Mrs. August Schultz and Mrs. Louis Lenz.

Pallbearers will be Louis Lenz, Lowell Meredith, Arthur Osborn, August Schultz, G. A. Ebert and Jesse Newell. Interment will be in Newton Memorial Gardens, with James Schalinske Funeral Home in charge.

The son of Herman and Lena Buchmeier, he was born on Mar. 3, 1899, on a farm northeast of Kellogg. He attended the schools and grew to manhood in that community and was engaged in farming on the home place at the time of his death.

He is survived by his widow, May; a daughter, Lena May; a son, Carl; and a brother, Harry, all of Kellogg. He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, and one brother.

Mr. Buchmeier was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran church, Kellogg.