

# Brings '63 Toll To 9

## Deep River Farmer Dies In Tractor Mishap; Equals 1960's Record Toll

A Deep River farmer, the father of five children, Thursday became Poweshiek county's ninth traffic victim of 1963 when he was killed in a tractor accident on a county road.

The death of Marion Henry Nelson, 38, of Rte. 1, Deep River, brought the county's death toll to nine — equalling the record number of traffic fatalities in the county for a single year. Nine were killed during all of 1960.

Although there were no witnesses to the fatal accident, Nelson was apparently killed almost

discovered shortly after noon by a passing truck driver, who then notified authorities. Dr. K. W. Caldwell of Montezuma, assistant county medical examiner, pronounced Nelson dead at the scene.

Funeral services for Nelson were to be held at Keokuk.

Damages to the tractor, grinder, and wagon were estimated at in excess of \$4,000.

Nelson was employed by William R. Widmer of Rte. 1, Deep River, and the damaged machinery belonged to Widmer.

He was the fifth person to be killed in Poweshiek county in a 22-day period. William Russell of Grinnell died Sept. 30th when his truck was hit by a train. Three other men were killed in two separate accidents on Sept. 16th. Not a single traffic death was recorded during the first five months of the year.

Following is a chronological account of the eight other traffic fatalities:

**June 4th** — Joseph Lacin, retired Grinnell farmer, in a two-car crash on highway 140 six miles south of Grinnell.

**June 13th** — Mrs. Elsie L. May, rural Malcom, in a car-truck collision at a rural intersection four miles north of the Malcom junction of highways 6 and 62.

**June 24th** — Ernest Bodine, Haddonfield, N.J., in a two-car accident south of Grinnell at the intersection of Interstate 20 and highway 146.

**July 9th** — Edwin Wolf, Deep River, of injuries received May 9th in a tractor-truck accident near Deep River.

**Sept. 18th** — Earl Mittle of Grinnell and Iver Iverson of Longmont, Colo., in the collision of their car and a truck at the intersection of highways 6 and 63 six miles east of Grinnell. Also, Paul Krumm, rural Grinnell, in a two-car accident just northwest of the Grinnell city limits.

**Sept. 30** — William Russell of Grinnell, in the collision of his truck and a train at a rural crossing about two miles south of Grinnell.

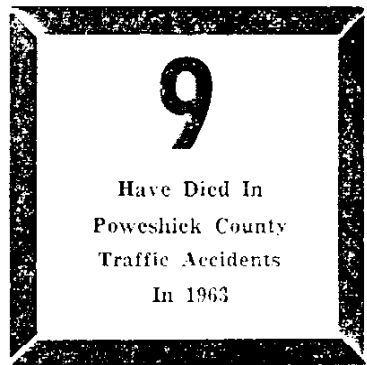
### Tractor Accident Fatal To Deep River Man

Marion Henry Nelson, 38-year-old Deep River farmer and father of five children, last Thursday became Poweshiek county's ninth traffic victim of 1963 when he was killed in a tractor accident on a county road.

Nelson was apparently killed between 10:30 and 11 a.m. His body was discovered around noon.

At the time of the accident, he was driving a tractor with a feed grinder attachment. Behind the grinder was a wagon loaded with oats. Investigating officers surmise that as Nelson was driving down a steep incline about three miles south of Deep River, the wagon whipped across the road, pulling the grinder and tractor into the ditch. Nelson was thrown off the tractor.

Funeral services were held in Keokuk.



instantly sometime between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Thursday. Discovery did not occur until about noon.

At the time of the accident, Nelson was driving a tractor with a feed grinder hitched on behind. Behind the grinder was a farm wagon loaded with oats.

Highway Patrolman John Flannery, who investigated the accident along with Deputy Sheriff Ernie Mitchell, surmised that as Nelson was driving down a steep incline about three miles south of Deep River, the wagon suddenly whipped across the road and plunged down the steep ditch bank.

This probably pulled the grinder and tractor into the ditch then, also throwing Nelson into the ditch. The tractor rolled across his body and continued its roll to the bottom of the ditch. Nelson was not pinned under the machine.

The body and wreckage were