

# Local Farmer Fatally Injured When Thrown Off Tractor in Collision

H-R 6-23-55

Leslie Pinkerton, 36, Grinnell was fatally injured Monday afternoon in a collision six miles north of Grinnell on Highway 146. Pinkerton died at Community hospital where he was taken for emergency treatment.

He died a few hours following the early afternoon collision involving a tractor-sprayer which he was driving, and a panel truck driven by V. L. Palmer of Toledo.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon from Smith Funeral Home at Grinnell with Rev. T. W. Stark, minister of the Glad Tidings Assembly of God church officiating.

A farmer and Cargill Corn Plant employee, Pinkerton had lived at Grinnell for about 20 years. He was the father of four children.

## Driving Weed Sprayer

Pinkerton, an employee of Cargill Hybrid Corn Co., Grinnell, was driving a weed spraying machine north on the highway when a panel truck, driven by V. L. Palmer, 60, of Toledo, attempted to pass.

## Thrown 30 Feet

Palmer apparently misjudged the distance and crashed into the left rear wheel of the spraying machine. The impact of the crash tore off the left rear wheel of the sprayer and turned the machine end over end. Pinkerton was thrown over the

top and landed on his head approximately 30 feet from where the collision occurred.

## Swerves off Road

Palmer's vehicle swerved off the road and traveled about 400 feet before being brought under control. Palmer was not injured but his truck was damaged extensively.

Patrolman Gerald Kahler who arrived on the scene shortly after the accident happened, said that Palmer had failed to allow enough room for proper clearance when attempting to pass.

Pinkerton was driving north on Highway 146 when the mishap occurred.

## Wheel Pulled Loose

Palmer told investigating officers that he did not see Pinkerton until coming over the crest of a hill. When he attempted to pull around the tractor-vehicle, his right front caught the left rear and overturned the vehicle with Pinkerton aboard. Left rear wheel of the tractor was found on the left side of the road in a ditch almost 100 feet from where the collision occurred. Chunks of asphalt were torn from the road indicating the progress of the sprayer.

## Hospitalized

Rushed to Community hospital, Pinkerton's condition was described as serious and he submitted to emergency treatment.

## Truck Smashed

Front end of Palmer's panel truck was smashed in, the radiator cracked and the fan shoved back against the motor. The generator continued to run though the ignition was off. Palmer was not injured.

Born September 16, 1918, at Yarrow, Mo., Leslie Pearl Pinkerton was the son of the late John Calvin Pinkerton and Bessie Klingsmith Pinkerton.

He was married November 3, 1939 at Montezuma to Velva Kline, who survives. He came to Grinnell 20 years ago from Kirksville, Mo.

Surviving are his wife and mother; four children, Linda Lou, Leslie Dale, Judith Arlene and Leon Duane; five brothers and three sisters.

At the final rites, music was by Mrs. Bob Teed and flower bearers were Mrs. Floyd Beason and Mrs. Harvey Marcum. Pallbearers were Dwight Davis, Verl Garwood, Harold Gerard, Palmer Hegore, Larry Holland and Don Whitney.

Burial was at Lower Blue Point cemetery with Smith Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.