Decatur Daily Democrat, Adams Co, IN; Monday, June 26, 1933

NORMA BRUNNER KILLED SUNDAY BY AUTOMOBILE Winchester Youth Looses Control of Car When Stung by Bee OTHER GIRLS ARE BADLY INJURED

At three o'clock this afternoon no charges had been filed by Prosecutor Ed. A. Bosse, against Joe Romizer, driver of the auto which struck and killed one child and injured two others; County Coroner Zwick and Sheriff Johnson were continuing the investigation.

One child was killed and two others seriously injured at about 11:30 o'clock Sunday morning on South Winchester street, when Joe Romizer, 17, of Winchester, driver of an automobile, who claimed he lost control of his car when a bumble bee stung him, struck the children as they were walking north on the sidewalk, near the Line- Winchester street intersection. The victims:

Norma Brunner, age four, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oren Brunner of South Line Street, killed almost instantly.

Wanda Brunner, aged 19, sister of Norma, severely injured on the head, possibly a slight fracture of the skull.

Norma Peterson, 10, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Peterson, 515 ?? street, right leg broken....(cut off)

The injured girls were resting as well as could be expected today. The Brunner girl regained consciousness shortly after she was removed to the Adams County Memorial hospital and physicians are hopeful of recovery.

Romizer is being held at the Adams county jail pending completion of the investigation of the accident. Charges of involuntary manslaughter or reckless driving may be filed if evidence in the case warrants it, Sheriff Burl Johnson, who took charge of the case stated today.

County Coroner Robert Zwick, in the absence of any official charges, returned a formal verdict of "death due to internal injuries received when struck and knocked down by an automobile." The child died on the way to the hospital, she, her sister, and the Peterson girl being taken there by Albert Beery, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Beavers, who came upon the scene a minute or two after it happened. At least one wheel of the car ran over the child, crushing the abdomen.

Prosecutor Ed. A Bosse was also conducting an investigation of the case. GOING TO PETERSONS

Norma Peterson had gone to the Brunner home, about two blocks distant, to accompany them to the Peterson home. They intended to come up town to see the Legion parade. They were walking on the sidewalk on Winchester street, about 100 feet from the intersection, when knocked down by the auto driven by Romizer. The youth claimed he was stung by a bumble bee and in trying to fight it off, lost control of the car, which ran up the sidewalk at the street intersection, knocking off a fire hydrant and then struck the three children. He claimed he did not see them until he was 'right on top of them' and could not turn his car to avert the accident, one side of the auto riding on the street, alongside of the curb. He was alone in the car and nearby residents did not see the accident until the car struck the children. He stated he was on his way to Fort Wayne to visit his mother, Mrs. Vina Miller, 1419 South Calhoun street.

Romizer is employed as a farm hand on a farm near Winchester. He also is a member of an orchestra that furnishes music two nights a week at Lake Blue Water, near Montpelier.

Sheriff Johnson stated the youth was almost hysterical with grief over the accident. Word was sent to his mother and she visited him here. Other relatives, including his grandmother, visited him today at the jail.

Funeral Services Tuesday

- Norma Eileen Brunner, four, was born in Decatur, 1051 South Line Street, January 25, 1929 (1939 sic), a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oren Brunner. Surviving besides the parents, are two brothers, Frank and Sylvan and a sister, Wanda. The grandparents, Mr. and Mr. J. J. Flory of Berne and Frank Click of Decatur, also survive.
- Funeral services will be held Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock at the home, 1051 South Line Street, and at 2 o'clock at the First Baptist Church with the Rev. a. B. Brown officiating. Burial will be made in the Decatur Cemetery.