

## **JOHN W. DURBIN IS NEAR DEATH FROM INJURIES**

**Local Log Hauler is Reported in Critical Condition**

The condition of John W. Durbin, 49, of 1003 Adams street, was reported by hospital attaches at a late hour this afternoon to be critical.

There is no hope for his recover, they stated.

Durbin is suffering from six fractured left ribs, a fractured left shoulder, severe head injuries and internal injuries, according to the attending physicians.

He was admitted to the hospital shortly after two o'clock Thursday afternoon, when he sustained the injuries in an auto-truck collision in Pleasant Mills.

The accident occurred when the log truck, driven by Mr. Durbin, and an auto driven by Tom Baltzell, 79, also of this city, crashed at the intersection of a by-road and federal road 527 in that village.

Mr. Baltzell, according to Sheriff Dallas Brown who investigated the crash, had pulled out onto the road and was starting north on 527 when the truck, enroute east, struck the rear end of the auto.

The auto was flung to the side of the road and the truck careened on down the road to strike a telephone pole. The impact of the crash into the pole sent the logs on the carrier of the truck plowing through the cab.

Mr. Durbin was pinned in the cab and had to be extricated after a half dozen passersby had helped removed several of the logs.

Mr. Baltzell and his wife, who accompanied him at the time of the crash, were uninjured but suffered considerably from the shock.

Sheriff Brown stated that there was no evidence of negligence on either driver's part, as far as he had been able to ascertain. Slippery pavements and faulty vision were the chief cause of the crash, he stated.

The truck was damaged considerably, with the hurling logs completely demolishing the steel cab. The auto was less heavily damaged.

Mr. Durbin, an independent log hauler in this vicinity for many years, was enroute to Shumm, Ohio, with a shipment at the time of the accident.

DURBIN FUNERAL RITES TUESDAY  
Decatur Log Dealer Dies of Injuries

(Special to The Journal-Gazette)

DECATUR, Dec. 5 - John W. Durbin, 49, prominent log hauler of this city, died at the Adams county memorial hospital at 1:10 a.m. today of injuries sustained in an auto-truck accident Thursday afternoon.

Durbin died from internal injuries when the logs he was hauling pinned him against the cowl of the truck cab, after he had crashed into a telephone pole on state highway 527 in Pleasant Mills.

In addition to being badly crushed about the chest, Durbin suffered a fractured left shoulder, and fractures of six ribs.

Mrs. and Mrs. Thomas Baltzell, also of this city, with whose car Durbin collided, escaped injury but suffered severely from shock.

County authorities, after an investigation, held both drivers blameless.

Funeral services will be held at the home, 1003 Adams street, at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday and at 2 o'clock at the First Baptist church, with Rev. Homer J. Aspy, pastor, officiating. Burial will be made in the Decatur cemetery.

Surviving besides the widow are the father and five sons: Danial and Richard of this city, and John, William and Kenneth, all at home; also two brothers, George of Rock Lake, N.D., and Joseph of Kalamazoo, Mich.