

## 1936 Scrapbook, image 073

(Handwritten: Thursday, Nov. 5, 1936)

### DIES IN ACCIDENT

### FUNERAL FOR ELDON HABEGGER HERE FRIDAY

### Blue Creek Township Young Man Dies in Tragic Mishap at Decatur

This community was saddened Tuesday when word arrived here of the sudden and tragic death of Eldon Habegger, aged 26, son of Mr. and Mrs. David D. Habegger, of Blue Creek township. Eldon was instantly killed in an accident at the Central Soya Company, at Decatur at about 10:10 o'clock Tuesday forenoon. The young man was well known here and was the grandson of Mrs. Maria Habegger, living on West Main street here.

#### FUNERAL FRIDAY

The funeral will be held Friday afternoon at 2:00 at the Mennonite church here, following a short service at the home of his parents east of Monroe. Burial will be in the MRE Cemetery. It had at first been planned to have the funeral at the Salem M. E. church, of which church he was a member, but the place was changed because of the small seating capacity at the Salem church.

The young man was working on a machine known as the magnetic divider, located in the elevator of the new addition, at the plant, 136 feet above the ground.

It is thought that he reached into the big 16-inch belt of the machine to retrieve a bolt or foreign object that had fallen in.

He was working on the job by himself and there were no eyewitnesses. When Walter Harris, another employe of the plant, went up to the floor on which the machine is located he noticed Habegger lying partly in the machine.

Immediately he called to Herman Von Gunten, elevator superintendent on a lower floor to stop the machine.

When they returned they found Habegger lying on the floor, with his right arm horribly mangled and pulled nearly away from his body. His neck and shoulders bore evidence of being caught in the machine and blood was gushing from his mouth, giving evidence that he was crushed.

Employes estimated that he had been dead five minutes when they (cut off) ...as the main lift and stairway does not run to the upper floor. Employes of the plant had to lower the body with ropes to a floor below.

After investigation, Coroner Zwick returned a verdict of accidental death, attributing the exact cause of death to loss of blood and a crushed chest.

Mr. Habegger has been working at the soybean plant since July. He was well and favorably known throughout this part of the county. His father is trustee of Blue Creek township.

Mr. Habegger was born in Blue Creek township, where his father is still residing, Sept. 13, 1910. He was a son of David and Fannie Huser Habegger. He graduated from Pleasant Mills high school and on Jan. 1, 1935, was united in marriage to Miss Deloris Book, of Glenmore, Ohio.

Surviving are the grief-stricken young widow, one son, James David, one year of age, his parents, one brother and three sisters. The brother is Vilas Habegger of north east of Berne. The sisters are Mrs. Francis (Mildred) Ellsworth, of Decatur, and Dorothy and Juanita, at home. The grandmothers, Mrs. Jacob Huser and Mrs. Maria Habegger, survive. One sister preceded.

The young man lived with his wife and young son one and one-fourth miles south of Salem.

(Handwritten: Monday, Oct. 5, 1936)

#### DEATH TAKES BERTSCH CHILD

Daughter of William and Wilma Beer Bertsch Dies

Devona Irene Bertsch, who was born Sunday, Sept. 27, to Mr. and Mrs. William Bertsch, of French twp., who reside one mile east of the Christian Apostolic church, died Friday morning.

The mother was formerly Wilma Beer. Surviving the child are the parents; a brother, William, Jr.; and a sister, Beulah Jane.

Funeral services were held at the home at 10 o'clock Sunday morning.

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(Handwritten: Monday, Sept. 14, 1936)

#### NEW ARRIVALS

A daughter, Elsie Eileen, was born to Alton and Esther Sprunger Biberstein, Sunday morning.

A son was born to George and Blanche Nevil Cook of Jefferson Township yesterday.

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(Handwritten: Thursday, Sept. 17, 1936)

#### NEW ARRIVALS

A daughter, Marjorie Louise was born to Howard and Lois Zuercher Bluhm this morning.

Elmer and Lucille Liechty Rich are the parents of a son born yesterday. Mr. and Mrs. Rich reside in French township.

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(Handwritten: Thursday, Sept. 17, 1936)

Miss Kathryn Stucky is a new employe in the office of the Nussbaum Novelty Company here.

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(Handwritten: Thursday, Sept. 17, 1936)

#### BIRTH

A seven-pound boy was born to Milas and Clara Baumgartner Reiff at the Fort Wayne Lutheran hospital Friday. Both mother and baby are doing fine.

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(No handwritten date; most probably 1936)

## NEW ARRIVAL

A baby boy, named Ronald Leroy, was born Sunday to Elmo and Naomi Walters Stucky, of Monroe, (cut off)

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(Handwritten: Monday, Oct. 12, 1936)

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Beer entertained Mr. and Mrs. John Burkholder, Bluffton, Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. Levi R. Schindler, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Moeschberger and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Walter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Graber and Elizabeth Graber of Decatur, for Sunday dinner. Visitors in the afternoon were Mr. and Mrs. Menno Basinger and daughter Melita and Mr. and Mrs. Joel Schwartz and family.

Mrs. David Winteregg, of West Water Street, who had the misfortune of breaking her leg a few weeks ago, is suffering considerable pain, but she is getting along as well as can be expected.

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(Handwritten: Monday, Oct. 12, 1936)

## CHRIS STEURY HURT IN FALL

### Monroe Township Man Injured at Decatur Soya Plant

Chris P. Steury, well known Monroe township farmer, who has been doing carpenter and contracting work this summer, was severely injured Friday afternoon in a fall at the plant of the Decatur Soya Company. Mr. Steury was unconscious for two hours, but apparently was not hurt as badly as was feared at first.

Mr. Steury was working near the soybean dryer, many feet above the ground. He was standing on a board which was wet from the rain. He slipped and fell a distance of about 20 feet, landing inside the building on a concrete floor.

Mr. Steury was unconscious when picked up and was bleeding from his mouth and nose. He was rushed to the office of a Decatur physician, where he was revived. X-ray pictures showed that no bones were broken, but he suffered several bad gashes on his (cut off)

**Adams County Historical Museum**

**1936 Scrapbook, image 73**

**Transcribed by Karin King**