

## B. C. Cochran's Injuries Fatal

Beaster C. Cochran, 33, of near Bluff Point, died of chest injuries and a fractured skull in Jay County Hospital at 10:00 p.m. Thursday after his car had sideswiped a semi-trailer three miles south of Portland on State Road 27 an hour and a half earlier.

The Cochran car, a 1941 sedan, was traveling south at a terrific rate of speed according to Lewis Dykstra, of Grand Rapids, Mich., the driver of the semi.

Dykstra told Sheriff Clarence Bishop that as the car was approaching his vehicle it seemed to be swerving slightly.

End-Over-End

It passed the tractor of the truck and then swerved into the undercarriage of the trailer before glancing off and heading on its original direction end-over-end down the pavement.

The car finally came to rest on its wheels about 200 feet past the spot where the collision had happened. It was completely demolished. Cochran, the father of six children, was lying in the back seat when he was reached. The sheriff said he had no lacerations about the body when he was discovered but that he was unconscious and barely breathing.

### Brakes Damaged

The Dykstra truck continued on down the highway for a hundred yards before it could be stopped as the collision had damaged the brakes. Total damage to the truck was later estimated at \$500.

Luckily, there was no north-bound traffic in the path of the careening vehicle, Sheriff Bishop said.

Articles from the Cochran car were scattered along both sides of the highway for a distance of 150 feet according to the sheriff.

One man who was attracted to the scene of the crash said he thought he recognized the car as one belonging to a neighbor and up closer examination it was established that the man was Mr. Cochran.

### Taken To Hospital

Cochran was rushed to Jay County Hospital in the Baird ambulance as soon as he was removed from the car but he never regained consciousness.

The accident victim was employed by the Acme Lees Corporation in Muncie and was apparently returning home from his [cut off]

Mr. Cochran was born March 26, 1916 in Casey County, Kentucky, the son of William and Chloe Vancey Cochran. Both the parents, who now live in Redkey, survive.

On September 22, 1940 he was married to Zula Owens Cochran who survives along with their six children, Denford, Eugene, John, Linda, Hollis and Marcia who all live at home.

### Survivors Listed

Surviving also are nine sisters and three brothers: Mrs. Etta Roberts, Mrs. Vera Dorne, Mrs. Viola Ogden, Mrs. Melba Bowler, Mrs. Lela Hatsell, Mrs. Lois Besser, Mrs. Louis Reff, Miss Virginia Cochran and Mrs. Ruth Loyd all of Redkey. Also John Cochran of Albany and William Cochran of Winchester.

Funeral services will be held Sunday at 2:00 p.m. in the Williamson Chapel with the Rev. Lawrence Wertz in charge. Burial will be in the Hill Crest Cemetery at Redkey. The body will remain at the Williamson Funeral Home where friends may call.

This was the first fatal traffic accident in Jay County this year. There were four killed during 1949.