

# SCHOOL BUS KILLS EAST AURORA BOY

Victim Struck After Darting Into Path of  
Machine; Driver Not Held—Honey-  
mooners Hurt at Crossing.

10-22-31

Richard Putney, 5-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Putney, 400 Prospect avenue, East Aurora, was killed instantly about 8:30 A. M. Thursday when knocked down and run over by a bus driven by William F. Bradley, 35, of 104 South Willow street, East Aurora, in front of the East Aurora high school Main street and North Grove avenue.

Bradley, who was just starting the bus preparatory to driving away after discharging a load of Elma township children at the high school, made a statement to Lieut. Merritt E. Reed of the East Aurora Police department and was not held.

According to Bradley, the boy, who was one of a group being escorted to the kindergarten in the high school by an unidentified woman, darted out into the path of the heavy vehicle. The woman screamed, attracting the attention of Lieut. Reed, who was on duty at the intersection. Reed's back, however, was towards the child, and before he could stop the lad, the bus had passed over his chest.

#### Gets Forward Signal.

Reed said he had given the bus the signal to proceed after the children had left the bus. Bradley said he applied the brakes immediately, but the front part of the vehicle had already passed over the boy. His chest was crushed in addition to numerous injuries.

The medical examiner's office was notified by the East Aurora police department.

## **KINDERGARTEN BOY IS KILLED**

Richard Putney, 5½, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Putney of 400 Prospect street, was instantly killed at the intersection of Main and Grove streets at 8:20 this morning.

He is said to have darted away from a neighbor who was accompanying several small children to school, and run directly into the Washington bus which had just discharged the Elma district school children at the east entrance to the school, on North Grove street.

William F. Bradley, 104 South Willow street, was the driver of the bus. He was just pulling from North Grove to the right on Main street to go to the west end of the village, prior to the 200 mile run to Sunbury, Pa., on the Washington trip of the bus. He said that he did not see the child.

Lieut. Merritt Reed, on duty at the corner, had just given the signal for Grove street traffic to proceed, and was facing east, it is said. The scream of the lady who had accompanied the children was the first warning, both Mr. Bradley and Lieut. Reed told The Advertiser, that they had of the accident.

The child was dead when Lieut. Reed picked him up, about midway between the front and rear wheels of the bus.