

But I survived! /H/

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Veteran's Son Badly Hurt In Truck Accident

Jerry Hale, 6-year-old son of James Hale, an overseas veteran, and Dollie Hale, of Rhodes, was painfully injured and narrowly escaped death Friday night, when he was caught between a truck body and a garage door jam as he ran alongside a produce truck belonging to the Hildreth Produce company of Rhodes, driven by Fred Cheville, also of Rhodes, as the vehicle was being driven into a garage. His scalp was lacerated and almost torn from his head.

Altho the injury was most painful it was said by the attending physician that it probably would not prove serious unless infection developed.

TRUCK BODY WIDE.

The truck, with a wide body platform, which extends out on either side beyond the dual wheels, specially designed for the hauling of chicken coops and egg crates, clears the garage doors with but a few inches to spare on either side.

On the side of the floor of the body is an iron loop, shaped like,

Auto Box Score

	Total For Same Date	
	1945	1944
Accidents	46	52
Injuries	22	30
Deaths	1	5

Always Drive Carefully

and about the size of, a horseshoe, thru which ropes pass to carry over the coops and cases and secure them tightly to the truck.

From the truck driver and the owners of the produce business it was learned that the little boy and his 4-year-old sister were frequent visitors about the garage and were well known to the company's employees.

THOUGHT CHILDREN SAFE.

As Cheville drove in he noticed both the boy and the girl standing by a pile of chicken coops near the garage. As the children stood quite a little distance apart from the garage doors and the driver had throttled down to slow speed to enter the garage he did not sense any possibility of an accident. As he drove thru the doors, however, he heard a scream, he said, and set his brakes and stopped the vehicle.

Cheville saw the little girl, standing where he first noticed her, but staring toward her home but apparently the boy, screaming, was running toward his home. Blood on the door jamb disclosed to the driver that the boy had been caught between the iron loop on the truck and the door jamb. Cheville, too, hurried toward the Hale home.

BADLY LACERATED.

It was found that the boy's scalp had been badly lacerated on one side of the head and the scalp torn loose for several inches. As there is now no physician at Rhodes, the boy was put in an automobile and rushed to a doctor's office at Melbourne. Stitches were taken to close the wound and the doctor said the only danger would be from infection.

The sheriff's office was called and Deputy Sheriff W. L. Boswell went to Rhodes to make an investigation. He said Saturday the only logical conclusion was that the boy had attempted to dash into the garage alongside the truck and under the protruding side of the floor of the body. Had the boy been a half inch taller Boswell said, he probably would have been killed outright. He added that no blame is attached to the truck driver.