

**AFTER THE INITIAL** confusion, another bus was sent to pick up the surviving passengers. Robert Townley of Indianapolis, who was spending the night in Bloomington, was called out of bed to drive a relief bus to the scene. After his arrival there, the brakes failed, and his bus had to be pulled out of a ditch.

Bodies of the victims were taken to the Bloomington Armory, then on South Lincoln Street (now the Boy's Club), where a temporary morgue was set up by Dr. Robert Lyons, county coroner.

Unlike airlines, bus lines do not record passenger lists, and on the morning of Aug. 10 at the Armory, Dr. Lyons and police officers were faced with the task of trying to identify the remains of 15 humans, some horribly burned.

**IN AN INITIAL** statement in which he tried to account for the accident, Cranmer was quoted as saying, "A tire blowed out or a steering gear dropped." His story was to unfold later.

*The World-Telephone* listed the survivors as:

- Luke Shute, 50, Bloomington;
- Wilfred Luttrell, 34, Evansville;
- Wayne Cranmer, 25, Indianapolis;
- John Hironimus, 15, Evansville;
- Billy Ellerbrook, 24, Evansville;
- James Yocum, 18, Indianapolis;

- Mrs. Stanley Melton, 39, Mount Vernon;
- Judy Melton, 10, Mount Vernon;
- Herbert Litterell, 20, Cedarville, Ohio;
- Dale Iggaman, 30, La Porte and Ft. Campbell,

Ky.

- Leonard Long, 41, French Lick;
- Edgar Davis, 43, Indianapolis, and
- Wells Richardson, 18, Evansville.

**HIRONIMUS AND RICHARDSON** were on their way home from the State Junior Tennis Tournament at South Bend. The former was later to live in Bloomington while he attended Indiana University and played on the tennis team. He got out through the broken windshield when the bus was already in flames.

Private Yocum, returning to his air base at Barksdale, La., remembered being thrown into the aisle, and that "somebody kicked him in the rear."

A temporary survivor, the Dale Iggaman in the survivor list, turned out to be Dale Aikman, instead. He lost his wife and two children in the wreck and lived only until the next day. The mix-up in his name happened because when he lay dying in the hospital and was asked his name, his mouth was so badly burned that he was misunderstood.