

Body mix-up after bus tragedy began controversy

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the last of three articles, author Rose Woertz recalls the tragic bus accident in August, 1949, just outside Dolan on what was then Ind. 37. Fifteen persons were killed as a result of the accident.

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Special to the H-T

Dr. Robert Lyons' Sept. 9, 1949, announcement of his new identification of body No. 11 found in the bus wreck on Aug. 10 near Dolan set off an unexpected controversy between two families.

HAVING PREVIOUSLY NAMED the body to be that of Vernon Trisler, Bedford, Dr. Lyons changed it to Maurice Adamson, also from Bedford. But a cloud hung over the ruling — for the Trisler family at least. They had already buried the body at Bedford.

There was also the puzzling mystery of the two keys found in the wreckage — one fitting the Adamson apartment and one fitting the Trisler's. Coincidence? Perhaps.

The bereaved Trislors refused to give the body to the Adamsons, and a lawsuit loomed. And if re-identification of body

No. 11 was right, where was Vernon Trisler? He could not have been the John Doe buried in Rose Hill Cemetery in Bloomington, because Dr. Lyons had determined his age to be between 50 and 70 years old. Trisler was 32 and Adamson, 24.

In elaborating on the difficulty of identification, Dr. Lyons had explained that some of the victims were so horribly burned they were nothing but piles of cinders and bones.

IN THE TRISLER-ADAMSON con-

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