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## EVENTS.

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# AUTO MECHANICIAN DIES AS RESULT OF ACCIDENT

CAUSE OF DEATH OBVIOUS, BUT  
AUTOPSY IS HELD.

## CORONER HOLDS THE BODY

Cliff Litterall, of Dayton, O., died at the Methodist hospital early this morning from the effects of injuries received when he was run over by an automobile in Capitol avenue Tuesday. Litterall, who was a mechanic, here for the races, was riding on the gasoline tank at the rear of a racing car and as the car turned a corner he was thrown off. The first report said the rear wheel of the same machine passed over his chest and abdomen, crushing him badly. Coroner Blackwell said today, however, that the evidence taken by him showed that Litterall was run over by another automobile following.

Although there was no question that Litterall's death was caused by the crushing injuries, Coroner Blackwell not only held an inquest, but also held an autopsy on the body. The law provides that the coroner's physician shall receive \$5 for performing each autopsy. Much criticism has been heard frequently of the practice of coroners of ordering post-mortem examinations in cases where the cause of death is obvious. The theory of the law, it is pointed out, is that a post-mortem examination may be held to determine the cause of death where such cause is surrounded by mystery, or where there is reason to believe a crime has been committed.

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