

## Wilbur H. Potter

( – 5 Feb 1921)

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**Potter.** We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our relatives, friends and neighbors for their kindness, sympathy, beautiful floral tributes, also to his schoolmates and playmates for the beautiful floral blanket contributed by them on the occasion of the sudden death of ur dear son,

WILBUR H. POTTER

Mr. and Mrs. Potter And Son

*The Evening Star, February 6, 1921, p. 2*

### **Boy Dies As Auto Leaps Over Curb**

#### **Machine Drags Him Across Sidewalk, Avoiding Jam.**

Coroner Nevitt will conduct an inquest at the morgue tomorrow afternoon in the case of Wilbur Herman Potter, nine years old, 752 13th street southeast, who was killed by an automobile almost directly in front of his home yesterday afternoon.

Morris Goren, forty-four years old, owner of the automobile, and David Portnow, twenty-four years old, who was being taught how to drive the car, were placed under arrest to await the result of the inquest. They were released on bond in the sum of \$2,000 for their appearance at the inquest.

Little Wilbur was standing on the curb line, one hand resting on a bicycle he had received as a Christmas present, when the automobile occupied by the two residents of H street northeast appeared. So suddenly did the machine turn from the street, strike him and drag him across the sidewalk and part the way up the terrace in front of a neighbor's house that he had no time to get out of its way.

#### *Effort to Avoid Accident*

The owner of the machine was instructing Portnow how to drive it. The automobile was moving north, on 13th street. In front of the house adjoining the Potter home a car was parked near the curb, and a second car was moving south. It was when an effort was made to avoid an accident with the other cars that the one in which the two men were riding made the sudden turn and killed the boy.

Inspector Grant, chief of detectives, had a photograph taken of the scene before the damaged automobile was removed from the parking, and Capt Sanford of the fifth precinct had members of his command make an investigation.

William M. Ferguson, a resident of 14th street southeast, took the injured boy to Providence Hospital, Mr. Goran accompanying him. Portnow remained at the scene of the accident until Detectives Wise and Nalley of the fifth precinct escorted him to the police station.

Coroner Nevitt was told at Providence Hospital that the boy was practically dead when he reached there. His skull had been fractured and he had received cuts and bruises. The coroner also was told that a companion of young Potter was standing near him and the two were engaged in conversation when the fatal injury was received. United States Attorney Laskey fixed the bond for the appearance of the two men.