

# TRUCK HITS GIRL, GUARD TRIES RESCUE

## Child, 7, Critically Hurt; Woman School Officer Pulled Under Vehicle

A school-crossing guard, mother of four children, yesterday risked her life in an attempt to save a 7-year-old girl from the moving wheels of a tractor-trailer.

Before the vehicle, going north on Reisterstown road at the Keyworth avenue intersection, came to a halt, dual wheels at the rear of the truck had passed over the child's body.

Mrs. Mary Hoy, 31, of 3528 Overview road, the crossing guard, who had run forward and grabbed the child's hand, found herself under the trailer. Its wheels, now stopped, had come dangerously close.

The child, Esther Wachsberg, of 3719 Towanda avenue, was in critical condition last night at Lutheran Hospital, where Mrs. Hoy was treated for shock and released.

### "It Was A Nightmare"

"It was a nightmare," Mrs. Hoy said after the accident. "I'll never forget it."

She had just taken a group of children across Reisterstown road, when she saw Esther start into the street against a red light, she said.

Her shouts to "get back" sent Esther to the sidewalk, but the child then ran into the street in front of the truck, Mrs. Hoy reported.

When the child realized she was going to be hit, she ran away from the truck, but its right side caught her and she fell under the wheels where the tractor and trailer join, the guard continued.

"I ran forward and was able to grab her hand," she said. "I saw the wheels pass over her body. I don't remember any more.

"I was under the truck. The wheels of the trailer were very close to me. I bruised my leg on them."

The child went to the hospital in an ambulance, and immediately was taken to the operating room. Mrs. Hoy rode to the hospital in a police car.

Yesterday was the last day of classes for the year at School No. 59, where Esther, daughter of Leon Wachsberg, has been a second grader.