

Adopted: May 19, 1944

File No. 4292-43

REPORT OF THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD
on the
Investigation of a Propeller Accident

Miss Florence Winnie, age 17, was seriously injured by an aircraft propeller while she was deplaning at the South Beloit Airport, South Beloit, Illinois, about 9 45 a.m. on October 10, 1943. Everett Eugene Pratt, pilot of the aircraft involved, held a private pilot certificate with a single-engine land, 0-80 h p. rating, and had flown approximately 169 hours, all in the type airplane involved. Miss Winnie held no type of pilot certificate and was not familiar with aircraft. The aircraft, a Piper J-2, NC 16699, owned by Oliver Neftal Rivord, sustained a broken propeller.

Pilot Pratt, upon landing after a local pleasure flight, taxied to the line to discharge one passenger and take on another. He allowed his motor to idle, and remained in the plane, looking out the left window to see if his other passenger was coming. Meanwhile Miss Winnie stepped out of the plane in front of the right wing strut and was struck on the head by the propeller, which inflicted serious injuries.

The probable cause of this accident was negligence of the pilot and thoughtlessness of the passenger.

BY THE BOARD

/s/ Fred A. Toombs
Secretary