

## Arthur Ehle ( - 28 Jun 1898)

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*The Evening Star, June 28, 1898*

### **Death By Drowning**

#### **Arthur Ehle Loses His Life at the Bathing Beach**

#### **Had Gone With a Companion to the Swimming Pool--The Body Recovered**

There was a distressing accident at the bathing beach this morning, which resulted in the drowning of Arthur Ehle, thirteen years old, son of Mr. John N. Ehle of the War Department, who lives at No. 118 4th street southeast.

The boys left home this morning on their bicycles and went to the bathing beach to take a swim. They had not been in the water many minutes before Life Guard McNamee's attention was attracted to Lawrence Frank by his calls for help, which were accompanied by the splashing of water. Frank was then in deep water between two floats, and the guard soon had him ashore.

The rescued boy was questioned by the guard but he was too badly frightened to tell where his companion was. After he had gone to the house the guards went and questioned him, and then he told for the first time that his companion had been in the water near him. Without waiting for an explanation an effort was made to find Ehle, and not more than a minute after the information had been received by Life Guard Tindall the body was taken from the water.

The guards and officers on duty went to work to save his life, and the Emergency Hospital physicians were summoned. When they had worked on him for nearly two hours the doctors concluded nothing more could be done and the body of the boy was removed to his father's home on Capitol Hill.

#### *Tells How It Happened*

Lawrence Frank gave the officers and guards an explanation of the affair. He did not know how to swim and he went to the beach with his companion to learn. When Ehle got out between the two floats he called to him to come in. As soon as he got overboard and found the water was deep, he says, he grabbed Ehle by the neck in order to save his life, and it was his idea he held to him several minutes before he was rescued. The condition of the dead boy's neck and bathing suit shows that he made a desperate struggle to free himself from the grasp of his companion.

This is the first fatal accident at the beach this season, and it is greatly regretted by the men who were on duty at the time it occurred. None of the men saw the Ehle boy before he went in the water, and unfortunately Frank could not in time give them the needed information.