Unity Boy Killed In Abandoned Mine

12-Year-Old Pal Rescued from Slide

One boy is dead and another injured today as a result of a cave-in in an abandoned mine at Unity, Penn Township.

Joseph Haas Jr., 13, died of hemorrhages ad shock when he was buried beneath dirt and shale near the mine entrance.

Joseph Molchan, 12, rescued from the slide by his brother, Francis, 17, is in Columbia Hospital, Wilkinsburg. The extent of his injuries was to be determined today.

Francis Molchan also tried to free young Haas but finally needed assistance in this task by other members of the Molchan family.

John Molchan, father of two of the boys, said the Haas youth had asked his two sons to accompany him to the old pit where he helped to collect scrap fuel.

As they were digging near the mine mouth, he said dirt walls collapsed, trapping the two youngsters.

Joseph Haas Jr. was unconscious when removed from the debris.

His father, Joseph Haas Sr., was laid off as a trackman for the Union Railroad yesterday. Both families live near the mine.

1953 Dec thirteen year old killed in mine cave-in

Clipped By: usmra_rob Sep 19, 2024