

Bodies Of Two Youths Found Dead In Abandoned Mine

CLEARFIELD, Pa. (AP)—After two weeks of nearly continuous searching, two boys have been found dead in an abandoned clay mine.

The bodies of Larry Husted, 10, and Wesley Lowe, 13, were recovered Sunday under a rock fall in the old mine workings at near-by Morgan Run.

Several hundred workers tried to find the youths after they entered the mine on Jan 14. Only for a brief period last Friday was the search halted

Marshall Dixon, a dragline operator, spotted a leg of one of the boys Sunday. Searchers went down into a hole ripped open by the dragline and dug out the badly-mangled bodies by hand.

MOTHER FAINTS

Upon learning that the bodies had been found, Mrs. Eugene Husted, Larry's mother, collapsed. She was placed under doctor's care.

The fathers of the boys, Eugene Lowe and Ernest Husted, were at the mine when the bodies were found. A witness said they were stunned even though they had all but given up hope the boys would be found alive

The bodies were found 17 feet below the surface of the ground, about 15 feet from a hole dug

last week.

Following an autopsy, Dr. Lewis C. Pusch of Philipsburg State Hospital said the boys were instantly crushed to death by the rock fall. He based his findings on a study of blood coagulation

Dr. Pusch said Larry's legs and left arm were fractured and Wesley suffered a crushed chest and fractures of both legs.

CLIMAX BIG SEARCH

A federal mine inspector, Richard Reid, said Larry was found on his back clinging to the leg of Wesley. He said it appeared the boys were standing up when the rock and earth came crashing down on them.

Another mine inspector, Gerald Moody, theorized the youths had been walking from a clubhouse the boys had underground about 65 feet away when the cave-in occurred. The clubhouse area had been the center of earlier searching.

The bodies were identified by the uncles of the boys.

The search was perhaps the biggest in recent Pennsylvania history. Digging was done by the dragline, a bulldozer, and at times, by pick and shovel. Parts of the mine were blasted open by dynamite

At one time a specially-trained dog was brought in to sniff the boys out. Special detection equipment also was used.

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