

# Missing Peckville Boys Are Found in Old Mine



**SAFE AFTER ORDEAL** — David Paolucci (left) and Gerald Tyson, manage weak smiles after their rescue from an old abandoned mine in Peckville yesterday. The 12-year-old youngsters, missing since Sunday afternoon, were found huddled in the darkness some 250 to 300 feet underground by searchers.

(Tribune Photo by Alwyn T. Davies)

## Pair Becomes Lost While 'Exploring'

By EVERETT KELLER  
AND DANNY ORR

Two adventurous lads, missing for more than 24 hours, were found safe but "plenty scared" near the bottom of an abandoned mine in a wooded section of Peckville at 2:30 p. m. yesterday.

The youngsters, David Paolucci, 147 Ontario St., and Gerald Tyson, 706 River St., both of Peckville, had been the object of an all-night search by police and volunteers.

They were reported "in remarkably good shape" by Dr. Roy Simpson, Peckville, despite their frightening ordeal which began Sunday afternoon when they went exploring in the old Rushbrook Mine in Peckville's Prospect Hill section.

The 12-year-old boys were found soaking wet and grimy some 250 to 300 feet inside the mine workings by a search party headed by Blakely Patrolman James Calvert and a volunteer, Joseph Pastulak, Simpson St., Peckville.

Between gulps of hot coffee and sandwiches at the Blakely Borough Building, the boys told rescuers that they had gone into the mine to explore but were unable to find their way back out after a candle they used blew out.

They said they were afraid of wandering too far in the darkness for fear of being separated. "We were plenty scared," one boy admitted.

Blakely Police Chief George Novitsky said search parties had been in the mine during the night but had not gone deep enough.

Both boys confessed that they had been in the mine before with other youngsters.

After questioning by police the boys were ordered to bed for 24 hours by Dr. Simpson, who is Health and Safety Chairman of Mid-Valley Council of Boy Scouts.

The mine, located in the rear of the Lucas Lumber Yard on Sturges Rd., had been abandoned some 18 to 20 years, according to authorities.

Blakely and State Police began the search Sunday night when relatives of the boys reported them missing. They had last been seen leaving the Paolucci home about 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon, apparently for a hike in the Prospect Hill section.

Some 150 Boy Scouts joined police, relatives and friends in the

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### Taxicabs Halted Operations

## Rain, Sleet Turn Regional Roads Into Hazardous Traps

Freezing rain and sleet turned regional highways into virtual death traps early last night and driving conditions were reported as extremely hazardous. Four were injured in City accidents caused by slippery conditions.

State and City Police warned motorists to stay off roads unless absolutely necessary.

Scranton taxi companies halted operations between 8 and 10 p. m. when roads became impassable, particularly in the hill sections. The 700 block of Madison Ave. was barricaded as too dangerous or travel.

Bus and truck companies also reported delays due to road conditions.

State Police on the Northeast

lacerations of the left ear and forehead and was discharged after treatment.

Jerry Connolly, 31, 513 Broadway, a passenger in the Walsh machine, also was slightly injured, according to the ambulance crew.

Robert May, 28, 416 Putnam St., was fortunate in not being injured when his car crashed into a tree in the 400 block of River St. But his fortunes turned bad as he got out of his wrecked car as he slipped and incurred a laceration of the head. He was treated at State Hospital. Patrolmen William West and James Hart investigated.

Frances Jura, 36, 508 Main St.,

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