

## BOY, 10, DROWNS WHILE PLAYING AT OLD QUARRY

Robert Floyd Plunges Into  
Water In Chasing Roll-  
ing Rock.

CHILD'S COMPANION  
UNABLE TO AID HIM

Help Arrives As Victim  
Sinks Below Surface.  
Body Recovered.

Chasing a rolling rock on the edge of the Druid Hill Park quarry yesterday, Robert Floyd, 10 years old, stumbled and plunged head foremost into the water. He was drowned before aid could reach him. The body of the boy, who lived at 211 Scott street, was recovered about two hours later.

Robert and a companion, Wilson Clatterbach, 11 years old, 103 Scott street, were playing on the edge of the perpendicular bank of the old quarry, which is about 12 feet above the surface of the water. They were throwing rocks at a floating bottle.

As Robert started to pick up a rock it slipped from his hand and rolled toward the edge of the bank. Robert darted after it, lost his balance and plunged over the edge.

### Youth Calls For Help.

Young Clatterbach shouted for help, but was unable to do anything to aid his struggling friend in the water. Robert disappeared just as a park policeman, whose beat includes the quarry, answered the call for help.

A sergeant of park police arrived at the scene at about the same time.

Patrolmen were dispatched from the Northern district, as soon as news of the accident reached the station, with grappling hooks and other apparatus.

### Body Recovered After Search.

The body was recovered after a two-hour search by Patrolman John Herschenhan, Northern district, and Park Patrolman W. J. Ellard. A verdict of accidental death was given by Dr. John J. Morrissey, coroner. Robert is survived by his mother, Mrs. Alice Floyd, who is a widow. A sister and two brothers also survive.

The quarry, which is owned by the city, is near the intersection of Forest and Twin Beach roads. Where the drowning occurred the water is about 25 feet deep.

The quarry is supposed to be surrounded by a fence, police said, but this protection is afforded at only a few sections of the quarry, a great part of the fence having fallen down.

### Called "Trap For Children."

Dr. Morrissey commented rather pointedly after investigating the accident. Referring to the quarry as "a trap for children," he said:

"The city has been anxious to force owners of private quarries to put safeguards around them, but has neglected to take care of its own quarries.

"This quarry is in a park, which is generally supposed to be a safe place for children to play in. It is not in use and should have been filled in long ago."

This is the second drowning in a city quarry hole within less than a year. The other occurred May 18 last year, when James Ellsworth Peddicord, 10 years old, was drowned in the old Schwind quarry at the west end of Twenty-eighth street.

### Mayor Promised Inquiry.

This drowning, the end of a long series of such accidents in quarry holes and other pools in and near the city, came shortly before Mayor Jackson was inaugurated. At that time Mr. Jackson said:

"I do not know the proper procedure in a case of this kind, but I certainly will make early inquiry as a means of checking the evil.

"It is a shame that such a situation exists, and the matter deserves immediate attention."

1924 Apr Robert Floyd drowns at quarry  
MD

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