

UNIDENTIFIED MAN DROWNED IN OLD QUARRY HOLE

Grappling Irons and Dynamite Fail to Bring Body To Surface.

MAY ENGAGE DIVER

Despite hours of grappling and the use of dynamite, the police have been unable to recover the body of an unidentified white man, believed to be about 30 years old, who, shortly after 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, divested himself of his clothing and plunged into the water of an old quarry hole, at Fourteenth and Pine streets.

Deputy Coroner Elliott this afternoon said there has been no inquiry made for missing persons. At the police station the clothing of the man, consisting of a dark blue suit with a red pin stripe, together with a white shirt, size 14, soft collar, size 14, underwear of the athletic type; straw hat, size 7, and a new pair of shoes purchased from the local John Bright Shoe Company, are being held for identification purposes. A black necktie worn by the man was purchased at the Ben Wolfman store, 503 Market street. The pockets of the coat of the suit were braided with black silk braid.

This afternoon the police conferred with Deputy Coroner Elliott relative to resuming grappling for the body. While the police suggested that a diver be used in the search, this method the deputy coroner said would be of little or no value in that the quarry water is muddy.

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The man was seen to prepare for the plunge by three small colored boys, and Lawrence Downes, 15 years old, of 203 East Seventeenth street. It was first reported that the drowned man was C. H. Luff, a fireman, employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad on the Maryland Division. At the engine dispatcher's office, however, it was said that Luff had recently moved and his address is not known.

Deputy Coroner Elliott said that the man was seen to come to the surface of the water for the third time, and then disappear. The police were then notified.

Last night the patrol crew comprising Patrolman Dawson and Hawke, with Special Officer McAleer, hurried to the scene. Traffic Policeman Moore with Motorcycle Policeman Boyd, were also detailed to the place by Captain of Police Keyser. Patrolmen McAleer and Moore then searched the vicinity for a boat, finally locating one along the banks of the Brandywine, several hundred feet from the scene of the drowning.

They carried the boat overland and launched it in the quarry hole and proceeded to grapple for the body. After working steadily for several hours without success, during which time it was necessary to bail out the boat, it was decided to try dynamite for the purpose of raising the body to the surface.

John Corrigan, 114 Concord avenue an employe of the Arundel-Hubbard Quarries near the Augustine Paper Mills, was located and with a quantity of dynamite from the quarry immediately set to work with the explosive in an effort to raise the body. Ten charges of four sticks each were set off near the place where the man was seen to enter the water but failed to do any good and shortly after 9 o'clock last night it was decided to give up trying to locate the body until this morning, when another effort was made.

Safety Council Acts.

W. D. Smith, secretary of the Delaware Safety Council, stated today that a committee of safety engineers appointed by the Delaware Council two weeks ago had made a survey of the quarry hole in which an unidentified youth was drowned yesterday.

The committee reported to the owners, the Farmers Trust Company, that it would be advisable to construct a "cyclone fence" around the pond so as to prevent anyone from gaining an entrance to the abandoned pit. There was a further recommendation that City Council be asked to co-operate by having the pond filled in with ashes and refuse, if possible. Mr. Smith said that the owners were to have taken definite action upon the safety committee recommendation at a meeting next Tuesday, August 19. At the present time there are signs near the quarry hole which warn persons to keep away.

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