

# PHONE LINEMAN DROWNS IN QUARRY POOL AT ROCHELLE

**PAUL HOLMES, 21, OF TUSCOLA,  
LOSES LIFE SUNDAY  
AFTERNOON**

(Special to Journal-Standard)

Rochelle, Ill., July 18—Paul Holmes, 21 years old, a resident of Tuscola, Ill., lost his life yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock when bathing in the old "Stone Quarry" pool in the southwestern part of this city.

The young man, who had been in Rochelle only a week, and was employed as lineman by the Bell Telephone company, had been warned not to enter the water by other bathers, who knew that he could not swim. Disregarding this advice, Holmes was seen to go under the water, and one of the swimmers remarked on his ability to remain under water as it was thought he had dived.

Coming to the surface, it was apparent that he was drowning, and other swimmers went to his rescue, bringing him to land, where medical aid was given almost immediately and everything possible done to save his life.

An inquest conducted by Dr. J. C. Akins, of Forreston, Ogle county coroner yesterday afternoon, and a verdict of accidental death by drowning returned.

## **Water Is Deep**

Testimony at the inquest brought out the fact that the water in the pool of the abandoned quarry is from 18 to 25 feet in depth, and that signs warning bathers to keep out of the quarry had been destroyed and thrown in the water, some of them only recently.

It was stated by friends of the young man, that a brother of his had also lost his life by drowning a year or so ago. The quarry pool was the scene of another near tragedy several Sundays ago, when an employee of a construction company rescued two girls from death in the water.

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Dec 15, 2024