

BOY DROWNS IN QUARRY**FRED OWENS, JR., 9, SLIPS INTO
HOLE FILLED BY RAINS,****One of 10 Children, His Search
for Bottles to Help Family
Finances Ends
Tragically.**

Fred Owens, jr., 9 years old, was drowned yesterday about noon in an abandoned rock quarry filled with flood water on Swope parkway between Prospect and Montgall avenues.

Fred was with his brother, LeRoy, 8 years old, and his sisters, Dolores, 12, and Mabel Marie, 6, hunting bottles among the rubbish dumped around and at the bottom of the quarry, LeRoy said. Certain kinds of bottles can be sold to drug stores and groceries for 2 cents each. This helps in a family of ten children, two of whom are overseas with the army. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Owens, sr, now living in a vacant store at 4806 Prospect avenue.

Fred was reaching for a bottle in the water from a ledge at the foot of the quarry, LeRoy told the police, when he apparently slipped and went in. The recent heavy rains swelled the puddles to an estimated 9-foot depth in some spots, police said. He could not swim. Fred reappeared above the surface and clung briefly to a log, lost his grasp on it and did not come up again, it was said.

Dolores, who with Mabel Marie was near the top of the quarry, told LeRoy to run for help. As the boy ran toward his home he met a man and told him of the accident. The man, whose name was not learned, returned with LeRoy, removed his shoes and stockings and waded in water up to his waist in search of the boy until firemen and police arrived.

Firemen found the body with poles and applied artificial respiration. The boy was pronounced dead about 12:55 o'clock by a physician from General hospital.

Mr. Owens was called from temporary work he was doing at the home of William C. White, 3420 East Fifty-fifth street, and arrived after the body was found. Dolores and Mabel Marie ran home before firemen and police came, to summon their mother. A crowd was at the scene when Mrs. Owens arrived.

The Owens family formerly rented a house at 5432 Kensington street. It burned in March, destroying most of their belongings. The other sons and daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Owens, sr., are Pvt. Alvin Owens, 36, and Pvt. Herbert Owens, 26, who are overseas, and Rosemary, 18; Maxine, 16; Betty Jean, 15, and 15-month-old Shirley Jean of the home.