

Two Drown in Gravel Pit Near Piqua

Girls Die; Companion,
14, Is Rescued

Plain Dealer Special

PIQUA, O., June 18—Two girls were drowned and a third was saved in a quarry near here this evening.

Dead are Christine Little, 12, and Diane Loraine, 13.

Virginia Stanbaugh, 14, was rescued by Joseph Cottrell, 24, son of the owner of the gravel pit where the girls had gone wading.

None could swim.

They were wading on a ledge when suddenly all stepped off into water 10 to 15 feet deep.

Cottrell heard them scream and ran out from his house. He dived in toward the bobbing heads, pulling Virginia to safety. By then the others had disappeared.

Doctor Works Hour

Firemen, policemen and state troopers found Christine's body first, then Diane's. A doctor worked over them nearly an hour before pronouncing them dead.

Christine had asked permission of her mother, Mrs. James Little, to wade in the pit. Permission was refused. She lived at the rear of the quarry.

Diane and Virginia were nieces of the pit owner, Frank Cottrell. Diane lived off the Casstown-Sidney Road. Virginia lives off Route 2 here.

The quarry is on the Union-Shelby Road near U. S. Rt. 36, four miles east of Piqua.