

2 AREA BOYS DROWN AS ONE TRIES RESCUE

ATTEMPT TO SAVE FRIEND'S
LIFE ENDS IN DOUBLE
TRAGEDY AT QUARRY

TOLD BY COMPANIONS

Authorities established today that the drowning of two West Manchester township youths occurred Saturday afternoon when the older, larger boy tried to swim the icy waters of a quarry hole and his smaller companion made a vain attempt to save him in view of two younger friends.

Police Chief Harry Kochenour said the victims, Kerry Lynn Smith, 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence A. Smith, 2440 Marion street, and Kenneth W. Lemmon, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald L. Crumbling, 1183 Margaret street, had been playing around the quarry on the property of Medusa Portland Cement Company, north of the East Berlin road, since about 10:30 a. m.

Accompanied by Stephen Giuf, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Giufreda, 1630 South drive, and Jeffrey Kidder, seven, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lynn R. Kidder, 1840 South drive, the boys bought some lunch at a near-by store and returned to the quarry to eat it.

Shortly after the boys ate the lunch, Chief Kochenour learned, the Smith lad told the three others he was going to swim to the other side of the quarry, a distance of about 25 feet. About halfway across, Kochenour said, the boy apparently developed a cramp and started "going up and down," shouting for help.

Could Not Swim

The Lemmon boy, who could not swim, told the younger two boys he was going to go in and save the Smith youth. Chief Kochenour said Lemmon was only about five feet, two inches and weighed 60 pounds, while the Smith youth was five feet, 10 inches and weighed about 185 pounds. The younger boys saw the Smith boy grab his intended rescuer's arm, and both foundered wildly.

The Kidder youngster, Kochenour said, waded in as far as he could and extended a stick toward the sinking couple, but he could not reach them. The younger boys then ran about a half-mile to the Medusa office and told a company employe what had happened.

Chief Kochenour, contacted by the company officials, went to the scene after putting in a call for Wayne Ruppert, of the York Skin-diving Club. Ruppert, a city patrolman, came to the quarry with three scuba companions, William Murgans, William Adams and Ralph Unger, and, assisted by Robert Herman of Lake Clarke Boat Club, they started searching the mucky, uneven quarry bottom.

Skindivers Aid Search

The bodies were found about 4:30 p. m., less than two hours after the boys sank in the water. Ruppert said the Smith youth was found in about five feet of water, while the younger boy's body was at a six-and-a-half foot depth.

Dr. Andrew P. Corcoran, deputy county coroner, said the boys died from asphyxiation due to accidental drowning. Kochenour praised the work of the skindivers in recovering the bodies as soon as possible, but said the time the boys had been in the water made attempts to revive them out of the question.

Paul E. Hoke Jr., president of the township supervisors, said the accident was "unfortunate and tragic." He noted that the property was posted with signs prohibiting trespassing, but he doubted that even a fence would keep out adventurous boys who like to play around the quarry.

The Smith boy, a ninth grade student at West York Area High School, besides his parents is survived by his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Cora Dauberman, York R. D. 7, and his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Smith, Red Lion R. D. 1.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. Wednesday at the William E. Small Funeral Home, Roosevelt and Madison avenues. The Rev. Robert L. Close, pastor of Zion E. U. B. Church, will officiate. Interment will be in Springville Cemetery, Lower Windsor township.

The Lemmon youth, in addition to his parents, leaves two half brothers, William L. Crumbling and David W. Crumbling, and a half sister, Karen M. Crumbling, all at home; his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Carrie Fogle, 241 Oak lane; paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Everal C. Crumbling, York R. D. 8, and a paternal great-grandmother, Mrs. Edith Crumbling, 1228 South George street.

Funeral services will be held for the Lemmon boy at 10 a. m. tomorrow at the Dodson Funeral Home, 517 North George street. Brother Leon Hess, of Jehovah's Witnesses, will officiate. Interment will be in Mt. Rose Cemetery.